



Weekly Student Bulletin for Braintree Sixth Form Students Friday 3rd November 2023

Dear BSF Students,

I hope that you all enjoyed your half term breaks and took the opportunity to get yourselves organised/consolidate learning/ catch up with friends/sleep (delete as appropriate). By now, Year 12 should be feeling settled in your chosen subjects and have hopefully adjusted to the higher expectations of Level 3 courses. It is really important to stay on top of your work – keeping effective notes, completing independent work, revising as you go and undertaking academic reading; failure to do this now will make life very difficult later in your courses. Year 13, as well as the above, your focus should be on getting your UCAS applications sent off by the end of this month. We set this early deadline to give your application the maximum chance of success and to ensure you are not still working on the application when you should be focusing on preparation for your mocks in January.

Open Evening

Our Open Evening is next Wednesday from 5.30-7.30. All prefects and subject ambassadors are expected to attend but we would love to see as many of you there as possible. Please let subject staff and Ms Arthur know if you will be there.

Careers Talk

On Wednesday 15th November, there will be a talk about Paramedic Science as a career from 1.45 until approximately 2.30 in 201. If this is a career area you are considering, please email or speak to Mrs Woodward so that we know how many people to expect. It really is an invaluable opportunity to be able to speak to a career expert and can help you make more successful applications so don't miss this chance.

Maths video of the week #6

This week's video is a particularly interesting one because it spans two very different areas of mathematics. Steve Mould considers a system of two springs and asks what would happen if the rope between them were cut. He then applies the somewhat counterintuitive and unexpected result to the question of speeding up the flow of traffic through a road network.

Steve Mould mainly creates videos on Physics, Chemistry and Biology which frequently overlap with Mathematics, so it is worth checking out his channel if you are interested in these areas too!

The Spring Paradox - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Cg73j3QYRjc>

The traffic analogy he mentions is Braess's paradox, after German mathematician Dietrich Braess. For further reading, see https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Braess%27s_paradox

Year 13 mock interviews

The timetable for the year 13 mock interviews, which will be taking place on Thursday 7th and Friday 8th December, has been printed and is displayed on the white board opposite Ms Watson's office. All year 13 students need to check their time slot and ensure you arrive to your interview on time.

All interviews will be face to face and will take place in the theatre. A letter will also be given to you nearer the time, with the date and time of your interview. Please make sure you have handed a letter of application, such as you would send to an employer, and have been practicing in tutorial to your tutor by Friday 24th November.

Movember

Are you interested in taking part in or supporting Movember?

The Order of Mo pushes men's health forward through acts of fun, bravery and connection. See how some of our members have gone above and beyond to champion the cause. Then channel their energy to inspire your own fundraising efforts – no matter how big or small.

BE INSPIRED [click here](#)

You can also speak to Sixth Form staff about getting involved in supporting this cause at Sixth Form.

Opportunities for you

Taster Days with the BBC

See link below for 'Taster Days' with the BBC. This would apply to year 13's and they have opportunities on 23rd November in Chelmsford. Short closing date midnight on the 5th November.

[Get In Taster Experiences | BBC Early Careers](#)

Free medic mentoring – Year 12 students

In2MedSchool is a registered Charity (1197973), which supports aspiring medical students from disadvantaged backgrounds. We are inviting students at your school to sign up for our **FREE MEDIC MENTORING** scheme. So far, we have around 2,400 mentors, all of which are doctors/medical students who have been through the application cycle and will do their best to help your students with their application. All our mentors have agreed to follow our Code of Conduct, which can be found on our [website](#).

Should you have any aspiring medics at your school that would be interested please get them to apply here: <https://bit.ly/I2MS-Mentee>

Whilst we primarily offer a mentoring service, we also run events open to **all** students who would like to learn more about **life as a doctor/medical student, our tips and tricks, UCAT/BMAT/exam support and much more**. You can find more information on our website: www.in2medschool.com.

Year 12 student can sign up directly; we will then obtain their parent/guardian's permission and match them with one of our medical student or doctor mentors.

To find out about the work we do here please visit our [website](#). If that doesn't answer your questions, please do get in touch so I can address your queries directly.

Join the Speakers for Schools Youth Council

Young people are at the heart of what Speakers for Schools do and **our Youth Council amplifies the voices of young people** across a range of topics relating to careers education and future careers.

Whether it's helping our charity to influence national policy, representing young people like themselves, or giving feedback to improve our programmes, our Youth Council members make a huge difference, **and your students can too.**

We are currently looking for 20 new members to join our Youth Council

to ensure that our charity continues to provide the very best support it can to young people from state schools and colleges across the UK.

We'd like representation from all regions UK-wide, and they don't need to be an expert on our charity or have taken part in any of our opportunities previously to be considered.

Are you currently aged 15-17?

Are you studying at a UK state school or college?

Are you passionate about giving young people a voice?

Click here for more information:

https://www.speakersforschools.org/youth-council/?utm_source=Iterable&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=youth%20council

FREE lecture by the former Head Of Technology at British Cycling

The lecture will take place at Anglia Ruskin University on Wednesday 6th December from 2pm to 3.30pm. It is most suited to students with an interest in Science, Maths, Engineering or Sport.

The Team GB track bicycle for the Tokyo 2020 Olympics caused a stir on its announcement. Its wide forks and unusual titanium-carbon frame were a radical departure from convention. Professor Tony Purnell, former Head of Technology at British Cycling, will talk about how engineering helped Great Britain top the cycling medal table at the Tokyo Olympics.

Full details of the lecture and of Tony's prolific career can be found here. [Opportunity for students to hear a FREE talk by former Head of Technology at British Cycling - CSES](#)

Please email contact@cses.org.uk to book.

Essex 60th Anniversary Gameday - Saturday 18 November, 4pm

The University of Essex is turning 60 and on Saturday 18 November they are hosting their first community celebration of this special anniversary, when their women's basketball team who compete in the top-level women's basketball league in the UK, take on the Oaklands Wolves at 4pm, and their Division 3 men face local rivals Anglia Ruskin University at 6.30pm. They are offering free tickets to the event. Book here: [University of Essex 60th Anniversary Game: Essex Rebels Women & NBL D3 Men Tickets, Sat 18 Nov 2023 at 16:00 | Eventbrite](#)

Residential Insight into University 2024 courses

Residential Insight into University courses are Industrial Cadets accredited summer schools which can help you decide which degree course might be right for you and also enhance your UCAS application. Courses run over 4 or 5 days where Yr12 students get a

taster of university life and an insight into a specific STEM subject. Please see below the list of courses available for 2024, with some dates still to be confirmed:

- Materials Science at the University of Oxford, 17th June – 21st June 2024 - 4 nights residential
- Materials Science at the University of Cambridge, 30th June – 4th July - 4 nights residential
- Broad based Engineering at the University of Sheffield - 4 nights residential
- Aerospace Engineering at the University of Liverpool - 4 nights residential
- Maths at Lancaster University, 29th July – 1st August 2024 - 3 nights residential
- Mechanical Engineering at UCL - 3 nights residential
- Ocean & Earth Science at the University of Southampton, 21st July – 25th July 2024 - 4 nights residential

Additional courses coming soon.

It's just like studying at university: you will get the opportunity to experience university style lectures and work on activities and group projects with the support of academics and student mentors. Throughout the duration of the course, you will stay in halls of residence and will take part in social activities in the evenings.

For dates, cost, requirements, content of each course and the application form, please click here: [Summer Residential Courses by EDT \(etrust.org.uk\)](https://etrust.org.uk)

Applications are open for a limited time and will close on the 31st of January 2024.

Newcastle University Lower Entry Offers

PARTNERS has helped over 9,000 students study with at Newcastle University. If you are eligible to join the programme, you could receive a conditional offer from us that's typically up to three grades lower than normal entry requirements. You'll also take part in an Academic Summer School to prepare you for university study and be supported throughout your journey to Newcastle. Find out more here: [PARTNERS Supported Entry | PARTNERS Supported Entry | Newcastle University \(ncl.ac.uk\)](#)


Newcastle University Pathways to Medicine or Law

Pathways to Medicine and Pathways to Law are two-year programmes offered in partnership with the Sutton Trust. Year 12 students will complete a work experience placement and summer school and get academic and sector-specific support. You could also receive a conditional offer that's typically up to three grades lower than normal entry requirements. Find out more here: [Our Programmes - Sutton Trust](#)

Newcastle University Mini Medical School

FREE online lectures for students aged 15+, exploring the world of medical science and their latest research. Running on 2, 9, 16, 23 and 30 November (18:00) with an additional Applying to Medicine session on 7 December. Book here: [Mini medical school | Faculty of Medical Sciences | Newcastle University \(ncl.ac.uk\)](#)

Have a great weekend.



Ms C Dunton
Head of Sixth Form