



## **Weekly Student Bulletin for Braintree Sixth Form Students Friday 17<sup>th</sup> November 2023**

Dear BSF Students,

It has felt a bit more like winter this week and, judging by the soundtrack of coughing and sneezing around the building, there are a lot of you suffering from various winter ailments. Well done to those of you who keep coming in despite this! If you really can't make it in, please ensure you call 01376 556300 and then choose option 1 for student absence, so that your absence can be authorised. It is also the expectation that you contact teachers when you have had time off to arrange to catch up with missed work - it is not your teacher's job to chase you when you miss a lesson. Please try to contact teachers as soon as you are well enough to return to sixth form or are able to work at home.

There are now only two weeks until our BSF deadline for UCAS applications so please make this your priority, Year 13! Please consider making an application even if you do not currently think you want to go as you would be surprised how many people change their mind in the next 9 months; it will be much easier for you on results day next summer if you have lots of options. Hopefully the visit from the University of Suffolk on Tuesday inspired some of Year 13 to make applications and Year 12 to start thinking ahead!

Just a reminder that our expectation is that, if you are free periods 1 and 2, you should be silently studying in either the library, the common room or the Café. You all have exams coming up in two months' time, so there should be plenty to keep you busy - not to mention the academic reading books that you have all been issued with. Using this time wisely now will mean you are much better prepared (and considerably calmer!) later in the year when expectations and workload start to build further.

### **Charity days**

Thank you to those people who donned spots (was it just me?) or yellow today to show your support for Children in Need and all of you who supported our collection for the charity.

We have another charity dress day next Thursday organised by Tom C who asks you to wear purple, pink or blue to support Movember which is raising awareness and funds for men's cancer and mental health charities.

### **Maths video of the week #8**

You may have heard of or seen some examples of fractals before. If not, it is well worth going on Google images and searching "fractals" before you watch this video to get a feel for the beautiful and intriguing patterns that can be created.

This week's video is an introduction to fractals, or "self similar" shapes, in particular the Sierpinski triangle and the Koch snowflake curve. In future weeks we'll be sharing further videos on other types of fractal such as the Mandelbrot set and the Dragon curve. Fun with Fractals -

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XwWyTts06tU>

## Opportunities for you

### Considering applying for Oxford or Cambridge next year?

Y12 students are invited to take part in Oxford and Cambridge University's Next Steps Essex webinar series 2024. This annual programme is run in collaboration by Hertford College, Oxford and Emmanuel College, Cambridge and aims to give students the tools to make a competitive application to Oxford/Cambridge.

The programme will consist of online sessions run by Oxford and Cambridge Outreach staff, each with a Q&A with current undergraduate students:

- Weds 17th January: Introduction to Oxbridge (Y11 & Y12)
- Weds 31st January: Critical Thinking, Study Skills & Super Curriculars (Y11 & Y12)
- Weds 28th February: Personal Statements & Applying to Oxbridge (Y12 only)
- Interview Workshop (September 2024)

All sessions take place online between 17:00 and 18:30.

The deadline for signing up is **12pm on Friday 15th December**. Sign up here:

[https://cambridge.eu.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV\\_eIjDbCVd4MbokaG](https://cambridge.eu.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_eIjDbCVd4MbokaG)

### Nuffield Research Placements for Year 12 students

The Nuffield Research placement Scheme is offering on site two week STEM/Social Science summer placements in industry, universities or local organisations. Taking part in such a scheme could help you get a place at a top university.

Who is eligible?

Applicants should meet **one** of these criteria:

- From low income family
- Have been in receipt of free school meals
- Living or have lived in local authority care
- Do not have a family history of going to university

You must also have achieved at least 5 GCSEs at grade 6 or above and be studying a STEM (including Social Sciences) subject at A level.

Bursaries are available to those who meet eligibility criteria and travel expenses can be claimed.

If you are interested, please make an online application on the website: [Welcome to Nuffield Research Placements](#) | [Nuffield Research Placements](#)

## BBC Career Opportunities

UpReach are holding a webinar on “**Launch your Career at the BBC**”. The webinar is a unique chance for students to learn more about the [BBC’s award-winning apprenticeship](#) schemes with opportunities across the UK, in the fields of journalism, digital technology, engineering, production and business.

Hiring more than 250 apprentices each year, attendees will have the opportunity to ask questions about the application process to current BBC apprentices and find out more about the applications process.

### Event Details:

**Title:** Launch your Career at the BBC

**Date:** Monday, 20th November

**Time:** 5:00 pm - 6:30 pm

**Who Should Attend:** Anyone interest in learning more about careers at the BBC

Registration for the webinar is open here: [Live Webinar | Aspire \(upreach.org.uk\)](#)

## Insurance Work Experience

**Marsh McLennan Insurance London are now recruiting for their July 2024 work experience programme, which is targeted at Year 12 and Year 13 students** . Those who perform well during the placement will be fast tracked to the Assessment Centre should they apply for the apprenticeship programme in Summer 2025.

Applications are also open for Year 13 students.

- Entry requirements are 96 UCAS points or equivalent. This is initially a Level 3 Apprenticeship but these Points are required since Apprentices will be working towards Professional Exams and need to evidence ability to absorb information.

Here is a link to Marsh McLennan website article.

This includes the short video and the registration link for the **2024 WEX programme, [Marsh's Energy & Power Work Experience has expanded | Marsh](#)**

This is the link to their recruitment page detailing the apprenticeship opportunities currently on offer, **starting October 2024**

[Marsh Apprenticeship Programme 2024 - London job in Tower Place, East Tower, London, EC3R 5BU, United Kingdom | Operations jobs at Marsh McLennan](#)

Have a great weekend.



Ms C Dunton  
Head of Sixth Form