



Brockington College

Learning to Live Life to the Full

Website: www.brockington.leics.sch.uk

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Brockington Bulletin September 2015 Edition



*Mr Chris Southall,
Principal*

A warm welcome to the first college bulletin of the new school year, especially to new parents and carers. We strive to form a good home/school relationship with all our parents and carers, as we appreciate the impact that this has upon each child's academic and social development.

In some respects we are a different school this year. There are now four cohorts of pupils; a Key Stage 4 curriculum (GCSEs); new members of staff and new classrooms. However, we remain unchanged in other ways: we will continue to drive forwards on teaching and learning (from a high starting point); we expect pupil progress at Key Stage 4 (14-16) to be as strong as our progress at Key Stage 3 (11-14); our distinctive Christian ethos and values remain at the heart of the school and we are intent that pupils will 'learn to live life to the full', as well as make good academic progress.

I am delighted that our new Year 7 cohort has settled so quickly at Brockington College. They are working hard and do seem to be very happy in their new environment. Likewise, it is exciting to witness our first GCSE pupils first starting their accredited courses and facing new experiences. I am really impressed by their enthusiasm, which if maintained will be re-paid with some great grades. We have set them very ambitious targets and these will be shared with Year 10 parents when the first set of reports are issued at the end of October.

As mentioned, we value strong relationships with parents and carers and you are invited to attend our first Parents' Forum event on Monday 28 September 7.00 pm to 8.00 pm. Equally, we hope that you will support your child by attending Parents' Consultation Evenings and we will contact you about these events with plenty of notice. If you are a Year 9 parent/carer, the first essential event is the Year 9 Options Information Evening on Wednesday 7 October. Parents/carers and pupils will be able to hear about the process and speak to members of staff, from all curriculum areas, as the first step in choosing option subjects.

Finally, I would welcome your support in ensuring that all pupils arrive at and depart from the college site as safely as possible. You can help this process by encouraging your child to walk or cycle to school. There are obvious health and environmental benefits and the less traffic coming onto the college site, the better.

If your child does need road transport, then school buses are preferable and safer for everyone. If you have to bring/collect your child in the car, please organise 'car shares' to cut down on the amount of cars coming onto the college site.

Our Values

Justice
Learning
Compassion
Forgiveness
Perseverance

Wisdom
Koinonia

Peter Winkless

We are very sorry to have to announce the death, during the summer holiday period, of one of our longest serving governors and greatest advocates, Peter Winkless.

Peter was a Local Authority representative on the governing body, from 1987 onwards, dating back to the days when the Local Authority supplied governors to all secondary schools within Leicestershire. During his time serving Leicestershire, he was Chairman of the County Council for a year and he also served as Chair of Governors at Danemill for a number of years.

Peter's affinity to Brockington College grew over the years that he served. When we became an academy in 2012, Peter was very keen to remain as a serving governor despite no longer being a Local Authority representative. Peter was a very strong advocate for the college in the local community and for progression within Brockington College. He pushed for us to move to an 11-16 school several years before this was achieved and his last words within a governing body meeting were, "Now we have achieved 11-16 status, I hope that we will shortly become an 11-18 school". As an ex-military man who served in the Second World War, Peter was very particular about his appearance, punctuality and supporting his colleagues. He never missed meetings or the opportunity to support the college through being a very active member of the governing body and our responsible officer (finance checks), as well as providing 'under the radar' personal donations to the Kash4Kenya fund.

We will miss Peter greatly, but will fondly remember his passion and morals that have helped to take Brockington College forwards.'

Attendance Matters

Welcome to the new Year 7 pupils and parents, and welcome back to everyone else. Attendance for the last academic year ended at 95.39%, which is a little below where we would like to be, and our overall school target for this academic year is for pupils to achieve at least 96% attendance. I am fully aware that for some pupils this is not possible and so individual targets are set in a different way.

I would like to put some attendance figures into perspective and to give you some examples of how the attainment of pupils can be affected when attendance does drop.

- 90% attendance equates to missing 20 school days during the academic year- this is 4 weeks' absence and missing 100 lessons, which on average is half a day missed each week.
- Over a 5 year period, 90% attendance would mean ½ a school year missed.
- Figures produced show on average missing 17 school days a year = a one GCSE grade dropped in achievement.

If attendance levels drop below a certain level, you will be contacted to alert you to this and to inform you that a period of monitoring will take place. Attending school is a legal requirement and is subject to various education laws. If your child is absent from school, then please contact us as soon as possible and then on each day that your child is absent. Regular and/or prolonged absence due to illness will require medical information from the GP/hospital. Where possible, please arrange non-urgent medical appointments outside of school hours to minimise disruption to learning.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any concerns, or would like to talk about any issues with pupils attending school.

Absence Requests During Term Time

As you will be aware from information circulated by Brockington College and all catchment primary schools, in 2013 the Government removed the discretion for Headteachers to grant absence for pupils to take a holiday during term time.

The only exception to this is for a reason considered to be 'exceptional' by the Principal. Having taken advice on this matter, Brockington College will consider the following as exceptional circumstances:-

- a holiday for a terminally ill child or sibling
- a family holiday with a terminally ill parent/carer
- a family holiday following the recent death of a parent/carer

Other exceptional circumstances will be considered on an individual basis, but will **not** include:-

- Family holidays
- Financial reasons for taking a holiday in term time
- Visits to family and friends living abroad
- Holidays in term time due to the work commitments of parents/carers in school holiday periods
- Holiday taken as part of a family wedding

In the first instance, please send any leave requests to myself in advance and I will consider the circumstances with Mr Southall and write back to parents/carers with the outcome of his decision. If the reason is not deemed to be an exceptional circumstance, or holiday has been taken without notification, then the written response to parents/carers will indicate that the absence will be unauthorised, if the holiday is taken. Medical evidence will therefore be required for absences of 4 days or more.

Parents/carers are also at risk of being issued with a Penalty Notice as per Leicestershire County Council Code of Conduct. (Although we are an Academy, Leicestershire County Council retain responsibility for pupil attendance at school). As a result of the change to Government legislation, the updated Code of Conduct states that the County Council are very likely to issue a Penalty Notice for 5 days or more of unauthorised absence due to a family holiday. In this case a Penalty Notice of £60.00 is issued to each parent/carer for each child and must be paid within 21 days or will increase to £120.00. A further period of 7 days is then allowed for payment prior to prosecution. Please be aware that these new regulations are as a result of the changes in Government legislation and are being implemented nationally.

Thank you for your support in this matter. Mrs Marion Bullivant, Attendance Manager

Governor Update

The Governing Body held its first, full meeting of the new academic year on 14 September 2015. The governors were pleased to hear how well Year 7 pupils had settled into their new school and that Brockington's first cohort of Year 10 pupils had begun the year with a focused and mature attitude as they begin their Key Stage 4 studies. Governors also praised the amount of hard work and good project management that Dale Richardson, Site Manager, had contributed over the last year to ensure that the new building was installed on time and to Brockington's high standards.

Governing Body 2015-16:

Mr R Andrews	Mrs E Hawthorne	Mr C Southall
Mrs C Bates	Dr R Heames	Mrs F Speake
Mrs J Briars	Mr P Johnson	Mr G Spencer (Chair)
Mr M Brown	Mr M McAllister	Mr J Swinfield-Wells
Mrs Y Doores	Mrs C Nash	Rev J Taylor
Mr R Dunnett	Mr U Patel	Mr M Walton
Mrs H Gleave	Dr K Saadat	Foundation Governor Vacancy
Mrs P Graham (Vice)	Mrs K Slipp	

Mrs L Nixon (Clerk to Governors)

The Exams Office



I would like to introduce myself: my name is Beverley Cuppelditch and as part of the college's transition to 11-16, I have been appointed as Exams Officer to ensure the smooth running and administration of all public examinations and ensure that the college adheres to all exam board regulations. However, a large part of my role will also be to support students, parents/carers and teaching staff to ensure that all students can perform to the best of their ability and that students' hard work, and your support, leads to the results they deserve in August 2017. I have twelve years' experience as Exams Officer at a local upper school and therefore have the knowledge to support our students to achieve their full potential as exams approach. There will be a range of information being given to Year 10 students in the next few weeks regarding the rules and regulations for exams and there will also be an exams area on the school website so that parents/carers can access all relevant information.

As you may be aware, Year 10 students who are following the Double Science course will be sitting their first GCSE in Summer 2016. You may wish to look at the exam board websites for lots of information that will help support your son/daughter, including past examination papers. Therefore the first piece of information in the exam area on the website will be the list of subjects Year 10 students are following, with the associated exam board, specification details and website links.

I look forward to being part of the continued success of Brockington College and contributing towards the first ever GCSE results for our current Year 10 students. If you have any queries or concerns as your son/daughter works towards their GCSEs and other qualifications, please do not hesitate to contact me by email at bfc@brockington.leics.sch.uk by telephone at 0116 2846120 or my office is located in the college library.

Beverley Cuppelditch
Exams Officer

Brockington College Enrichment Programme Autumn Term 2015

is now available on the Brockington website and the following link
<http://goo.gl/uqoTyn>

Latest Catering News



Competition Winners

Morgan Gibson (8C) and Max Worger (9C) recently took part in a competition run in conjunction with one of our catering suppliers, Pasta King. We were informed last week that both boys had won a £10 Google Play voucher, which we are sure they will put to good use. Congratulations boys!

Mrs Cassidy, Catering Manager

Reminder

In the interests of other pupils with nut allergies, please do not include nuts or nut products in your child's packed lunch. Thank you.



Lunch Loan Vouchers

Should your child forget their lunch or catering top-up, we will endeavour to contact you and request your permission to give them a voucher, if you are unable to 'top up' their account. This voucher must be paid back the next school day. Payment will be automatically taken from your child's catering account as soon as it is 'topped up'.

RS News

Brockington College School Values

Each morning during Form Time, pupils spiritually reflect on a theme of the week that has a link to our school values.

It is a nice, calm start to the day and encourages our pupils to learn to live life to the full! If you would like any further information on our school values, please see our school website.

We have had a great start to this academic year and with many changes for all year groups; our pupils are definitely showing our school values!

Mrs McKenzie



Justice
Learning **Wisdom**
Compassion
Forgiveness **Koinonia**
Perseverance

Term Dates

	2015-16	2016-17
Autumn Term		
School Opens	1 September 2015	30 August 2016
Mid-term Break	19 - 23 October 2015	17- 21 October 2016
School Closes	18 December 2015	16 December 2016
Spring Term		
School Opens	5 January 2016	4 January 2017
Mid-term Break	15 - 19 February 2016	13- 17 February 2017
School Closes	23 March 2016	7 April 2017
Summer Term		
School Opens	11 April 2016	24 April 2017
May Day	2 May 2016	1 May 2017
Mid-term Break	30 May - 3 June 2016	29 May - 2 June 2017
School Closes	15 July 2016	13 July 2017

Please note that these term dates have been agreed and will be the same as all primary schools in our catchment area, other than for Danemill Primary which has chosen two alternative dates in 2015/2016

Achievements

Congratulations to all students who passed music exams in the summer

Also congratulations to:-
Charlotte Faulkner Year 10
Grade 5 Flute Distinction

Parents' Forum Meeting

The first Parents' Forum Meeting of this academic year will take place at Brockington College on:-

**Monday 28 September 2015
7.00 pm – 8.00 pm**

All parents and carers are invited to meet the senior and extended leadership teams at the college, to hear what their roles are and to view the new extension.

Refreshments will be provided.

Dates for the Diary

Year 5 and 6 Open Evening (All prospective pupils, parents and carers are welcome)	Wednesday	23 September 2015	6.00 pm to 8.30 pm
Parents' Forum Meeting	Monday	28 September 2015	7.00 pm to 8.00 pm
Year 9 Parents' Options Information Evening	Wednesday	7 October 2015	6.00 pm to 8.00 pm
Year 7 Consultation Evening (Form Tutors Only)	Wednesday	14 October 2015	4.30 pm to 7.00 pm
Year 9 Consultation Evening	Wednesday	25 November 2015	4.30 pm to 7.00 pm
Year 10 Consultation Evening	Wednesday	20 January 2016	4.30 pm to 7.00 pm
Year 7 Consultation Evening	Wednesday	9 March 2016	4.30 pm to 7.00 pm
Year 8 Consultation Evening	Wednesday	13 April 2016	4.30 pm to 7.00 pm

Important Reminder: Year 9 Options Information Evening

Wednesday 7 October 2015 from 6.00 pm to 8.00 pm

The letter and reply slip can be found on the Brockington website or link <http://goo.gl/8v4Kb0>

Library After School Club

Library Homework and Revision After School Club

Need to complete your homework or revise for exams?

This free club gives you the opportunity to do just that! Complete homework or revise for exams in a friendly, quiet environment with full use of books and IT equipment available to support your work

Time: 3.10 pm – 4.00 pm

When: Mondays, Wednesdays and Thursdays

Who: All year groups Where: The Library

If you wish to attend, please visit the library the day before to book your place with Miss Cottis

Limited availability: There is a maximum of 20 places available each day

Lost Property

Items of lost property are taken to the main college reception. Named items can be returned to the rightful owner. Lost property is now displayed outside the main college reception at lunch times, giving pupils a daily chance to reclaim any missing items. Parents/carers who wish to come and view lost property should telephone reception (0116 2863722) to make arrangements to come and do so after college. Due to the volume of lost property, anything remaining after two weeks will be donated to charity.

PE KIT

Can pupils remember to bring ALL their equipment and PE kit on the day they need it. Telephone calls home will not be made for forgotten kits and equipment. The PE department has some items of sports wear that pupils may borrow. Please make sure all PE kit is named. Thank you.

Performing Arts

Here at Brockington College, we recognise the importance that learning to play a musical instrument can have on a young adult. It can help to promote a sense of self-discipline, self-esteem and enhance self-expression/creativity. We, therefore, encourage as many pupils as possible to start to learn a musical instrument. If you are interested in booking lessons for your child, then please contact the teacher of the instrument you are interested in. They will then send out their information and contracts in order to start lessons with them. If you have any questions, please contact Miss Styles at the school on 0116 286 3722 or via email ses@brockington.leics.sch.uk

Instrument	Name of Teacher	Contact Details
Flute	Ms Teresa Bexon	01455 239373 07791 456054 tjbmusic@talktalk.net
Keyboard/Piano	Mr Ian Maw	ianmaw@tiscali.co.uk
Drum Kit	Mr Adam Stringer	07941 549962
Guitar (Electric/Bass/Classical)	Mr Dave Jobson	0116 2920622 07948 402728 guitarlessons@tiscali.co.uk
Singing	Ms Sarah Woodall	saz.woodall@ntwordl.com
Clarinet/Saxophone	Mr Patrick White	patrickjwhitemusicteacher@hotmail.co.uk
Violin/Viola	Ms Sally Smith	sasviolinviola@hotmail.co.uk
Ukulele	Mr Mark Ferraby	07901 560215 mark@littleredtruck.co.uk
Cornet, Trombone, Baritone, French Horn	Mr Matt Davis	07928 192650 mattdavisbrass@gmail.com

Orchestra

Every Wednesday after school in Room 022. Open to all Musicians. See Miss Styles or Miss Pilgrim for more information

Drama Club

Year 7 and 8 Wednesday after school in the Drama Studio
Year 9 and 10 Thursday after school in the Drama Studio

Extra-Curricular Activities

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Break	Practice rooms available for <u>all musicians</u> wishing to practice				
Lunch	Vocal Group Room 024	Music Theory Room 024	Practice Room Open		
After School	Department Closed	Practice Rooms available for all musicians wishing to practice	Orchestra 024 Drama Club Years 7 and 8	Drama Club Years 9 and 10 Year 10 Music Catchup	Department closed

Safety

Pupil Safety

It would be a great help to the environment and to child safety, if your child is able to travel to and from school on foot, by cycle or by bus. If this is not possible, we would ask you to consider car sharing and lifts by car on limited occasions.

If you do have to pick up or drop off children, it is essential that you park in the designated areas only and not on the perimeter of the school car park, which obstructs others and creates danger for pupils.

Please also be very careful when driving near to or on the school premises as we all know that children can be very unpredictable.

Please remember that vehicles should only be driven through the barrier to the main college entrance if absolutely necessary.

Drivers should be mindful of the 5 mph speed restriction and proceed with caution, especially just before and after school, to ensure the safety of our pupils as they walk along the driveway. Thank you.

Brockington College – Cycle Use Rules



Pupils who are issued a permit are required to abide by the following rules:

1. **Dismount bike when on the school site (no riding on school property). (3 penalty points).**
2. Always have a lock for your bike and use it (for not using your lock). (3 penalty points).
3. Always ensure your bike is in good repair (has working front and rear brakes, fully inflated tyres with tread and reflectors).
4. Only bikes are allowed on site. (No scooters, skateboards, very small stunt bikes, rollerblades, etc).
5. Always follow the Highway Code when travelling to school. This includes:
 - Riding safely and sensibly
 - Stopping at traffic lights, pedestrian crossings and stopping for school crossing patrol officers
 - Not weaving in and out of traffic
 - Not putting pedestrians in danger by riding on crowded pavements
6. Always follow instructions given by school staff regarding bike use on site.
7. Pupils must have their pass available for inspection at all times.
8. Pupils must park in the space allocated (given) to them. **Failure to do so will result in 3 penalty points**

Consequences



Pupils who fail to follow the above rules will receive 3 points each time a rule is not complied with.

If a pupil receives 12 points in a year their pass will be revoked (withdrawn) and they will get a bike ban.

Each year there will be a fresh start, however if a pupil receives 2 bans they will be ineligible (not allowed) to apply for another permit.



Cycle Helmets

It is advisable that all pupils who cycle to and from college wear a cycle helmet for safety reasons.

Please take extra note of point (1) above – Thank you

Emergency Closure of College Through Snowfall Or Other Emergency

Only in the last resort will the college be closed.

Where the decision to close is made it will be communicated to parents/carers via the **Brockington College website www.brockington.leics.sch.uk**

Radio Leicester 104.9 FM and/where possible via our Text Messaging System



SCHOOL NURSE MESSAGING SERVICE Information for Students



There's a new way for you to get in touch with our school nurse - you can now text from your mobile phone. ChatHealth, the school nurse messaging service, is confidential and available Monday to Friday from 9am to 4pm. You can message for advice on all kinds of health issues, like sexual health, emotional health and wellbeing, bullying, healthy eating and any general health concerns. Look out for more information on the posters around school. You can still get in touch with the school nurse in the same way as you might have done before, if you prefer.

The school nurse text number for schools in Leicestershire County and Rutland is: **07520 615 387**

Leicestershire Partnership NHS Trust

Artificial Grass Pitch

Our full size 3G pitch can be used for football and training for a range of sports and is fully floodlit and covered by CCTV. The rubber crumb pitch is available to hire any evening of the week, (where spaces in the timetable permit) for casual pay and play use, as well as weekly team training. The pitch can be hired by the third or in its entirety, (our thirds are approximately three times the size of some operators' small sided pitches). We also hire out the facility on Saturday and Sunday too if you need a surface that won't get muddy in winter! Whether you want a pitch for a one off football game or need a pitch to train on a weekly basis, we offer competitive prices and a state of the art playing surface to suit your sporting needs.

For more information, please contact Steve Buck (lettings@brockington.leics.sch.uk) or 0116 286 3722 for availability and prices.

Sponsors:



Better care together

Leicester, Leicestershire & Rutland health and social care

Consultation about Health and Social Care Changes in Leicestershire

Better Care Together is a five year partnership programme to transform health and social care in Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland (LLR), from maternity services and care for children and young people through to long term conditions and end of life care. In order for all of our partners (UHL, LPT, CCGS, EMAS and local authorities) to continue to provide safe and high quality health and social care we need to change how and where services are provided.

We are currently working towards a large public consultation in the autumn, when we will formally present our plans to the public across LLR. We're keen to let as many people as possible know about the consultation and give them an opportunity to have their say on proposals.

If you would like more information about the consultation or our work please visit the Better Care Together website www.bettercareleicester.nhs.uk

Lunchtime Supervisor Vacancies

We are looking for several Lunchtime Supervisors to join our existing team. Candidates must be able to work for 1.5 hours during lunchtime per day
Monday to Friday
Hours 7.5 hours per week x 38 weeks per annum
Actual salary £2,240- £2,386 per annum

Please visit the vacancies section of our website for an application form
www.brockington.leics.sch.uk

Adult Learning at Brockington

We offer a variety of daytime and evening classes for adults in the following curriculum areas: Health & Wellbeing, Arts, Languages, Skills for Life, ICT & Employability and ESOL.

Our new programme for 2015/2016 courses is now beginning. Why not try:
Portuguese for Beginners starts 26 October
Greek for Beginners starts 26 October
Get Into IT starts 16 November

Alternatively to view our complete programme visit www.leics.gov.uk/golearn

FREE ENGLISH, MATHS AND ICT courses (subject to terms and conditions).
70% to 100% discount on course fees for those in receipt of certain benefits.

For more information or to enrol
please call 0116 3050360 or 0800 988 0308

Kash4Kenya and South Africa

Fundraising update!

The team are busy fundraising and things are going well, but we still have a long way to go! How can you help? By supporting our fundraising events

- Textile Collection Bank in Brockington Main Car Park
- Ride to Africa Bike Challenge: Our aim is to cycle the distance from here to Johannesburg, South Africa (thankfully on static bikes!). This equates to close to 6000 miles and so is a massive undertaking and as such our aim is to raise £3000 (or ideally over this!) for the charity
- Pizza and Ponies Charity Race Night
- Non-Uniform Day Friday 9 October 2015 (£1.00 per pupil)



Please see the website for more details. Thank you for supporting us.
The Kash4Kenya and South Africa Team

KASH 4 KENYA & SOUTH AFRICA PRESENTS

PIZZAS & PONIES FAMILY FUN NIGHT

Sponsored by **smartsolutions**
recruitment



Friday 2nd October

Horse Racing | Pizza | Cakes
Samosas | Prizes

GET YOUR TICKETS NOW!

Individual £3



Family (2 adults/Up to 3 Children) £10

Bets: 50p a go!