



Head's Newsletter

Dear Parents, Guardians and Carers

New Head of School

The process for selecting a new Head of School was rigorous and gruelling. Over the course of the day there were four panels as well as a visioning exercise and presentation. I would like to congratulate Mr Cole and know that the school will go from strength under his leadership. I will enjoy working with him in my capacity as CEO and know that he is 100% committed to taking the school forward through into the next decade.

Lottery

If you wish to take part in the Brine Leas lottery then click on the link to sign up. It takes less than 5 minutes to register and the school does benefit. In the meantime somebody from school wins a prize every week (last week it was £45 to Mr W) and you have the chance to scoop a £25000 prize as it is linked to a national school draw as well. It does not have to be restricted to families in school; you can try and ask family and friends if they fancy taking part as well. The more people who buy a lottery ticket the more the school benefits and the more the weekly prize money goes up.

Click on <https://www.yourschoollottery.co.uk/lottery/school/brine-leas-school> to find out more details of how to take part.

Inter House

The Inter House Cross Country was run on a beautiful autumn day. It was lovely to see so many children involved. The next event is the Menai Cup, strictly for Year 7, and then there is one of the really big events with Inter House Music taking place straight after half term.

2018 Examination Results

We are waiting for the 2018 provisional tables to be published this month. We are still appealing a number of A level grades so the headlines for A level are likely to rise in the final figures published in January. Meanwhile, with GCSE, the measure that we have been waiting on is the progress figure as this is our data compared to other schools in the country. It is linked to the starting points on entry into Brine Leas based on Key Stage 2 scores. That figure looks like a massive increase from last year with the provisional Progress 8 being 0.36. This is up from -0.09 last year. Congratulations to all the students, teachers and parents who helped to contribute to this figure.

Golden Corner

- Congratulations to Laura Kirby (Year 11) who has been selected to take part in the National County Team Swimming Championships on Sunday 7th October. We wish Laura and the Cheshire team the best of luck.
- Well done to Craig Shaw who recently competed with Audley Brass Band at the National Brass Band Championships of Great Britain at Cheltenham Racecourse, having qualified with a fantastic second place at the Midlands Area contest earlier in the year. The band came 13th place nationally which is a great achievement. Craig is also due to tour Switzerland with the Lions Youth Band.

Anti-Bullying

We have to keep revisiting what we do in order to keep it fresh and relevant. You should receive a leaflet about strategies that the school employs to help to prevent bullying and what to do if your child is a victim of bullying. If you have any concerns, the Progress Tutor is usually the first port of call.

Extra-Curricular

This info is on the website under information for parents and it has also been tweeted out this week. I am very grateful to all the staff who give so freely of their time.

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Lunch	Japanese Anime Club Maths Catch-up	Train Club Book Club Flute Choir Art Club	Latin & Classics Club 24 Club Choir Guitar Club	Science Club Lionhearts Media Club Choir	Chatterbox Club Games Day Countdown Folk Club Lego & Chess Club
After school	Gymnastics (week 2 only) Jazz Band Musical Theatre Club	Badminton Club Boys Football Theory club/GCSE revision Dance Club (grade 5 plus)	KS3 Spotlight performance Company Girls football Yr 10-11 Basketball Yr 10-11 Rugby Code Club	Yr 7-9 Basketball Boys Dance Club Netball School Band Dance Club (beginner to grade 4) Art Club	Yr 7 -9 Rugby Ye Olde Blacksmith Workshop Chamber Choir - Instrumental Chamber Group

Staffing Changes

I finish my role as Headteacher on 6th January 2019 (that sounds rather final!). Mr Cole starts his new role as Head of School in January and Mr Whitehead has been appointed as Deputy Headteacher with effect from January 2019. We have a few members of staff that have left this term to start maternity leave; congratulations to Mrs Travis and Mrs Bentley on their new arrivals, and best wishes to Mrs Cooper who has commenced maternity leave. In addition, we have said goodbye to Mrs Waters and Mr Boulton who both left the school this half term.

Curriculum Enrichment, Work Experience and Menai

A lot of work has been put into planning for all the activities going on week beginning 22nd October. Wales awaits Year 7 for their annual visit to the Conwy Centre. We have been going there for about thirty years - when we started seems unknown - maybe it's on some cave painting somewhere. If you were at Brine Leas in the 1980's maybe you could let us know if you went. I do remember the dormitories that used to run the whole length of the building. They have been divided up now, into smaller rooms. The smell of damp dog down by the docks is, however, a constant.

Students in Year 11 are going far and wide for work experience and we hope that they both enjoy their time out of school as well as it being a good motivator to do well in the summer exams.

We have a wide range of activities for the other Year Groups, that will help to broaden and enrich the curriculum, and access things that we do not normally have time or manpower to do.

Academy Awards

It was an absolute delight to see such a packed hall at the Academy Awards Evening last night. Well done to everyone who received an award.

Finally.....

As usual, we have had a busy start to the academic year and I do sincerely hope that your child is settling well into their new Year Group.

Dates for the Diary

Friday 5 th October 2018	- INSET Day
Wednesday 10 th October 2018	- Open Day and Evening
Friday 19 th October 2018	- BL6 IAG Sessions commence
Monday 22 nd October 2018	- Curriculum Enrichment Week begins (Year 8-10 and Year 12-13)
Monday 22 nd October 2018	- Year 7 Trip to Menai departs
Monday 22 nd October 2018	- Year 11 Work Experience Week commences
Monday 22 nd October 2018	- Year 13 Geography Field trip departs
Friday 26 th October 2018	- Year 7 return from Menai
Friday 26 th October 2018	- Year 13 Geography Field Trip returns
Friday 26 th October 2018	- School Closes for Half Term
Monday 5 th November 2018	- INSET Day
Tuesday 6 th November 2018	- School Re-opens to Students
Monday 19 th November 2018	- Year 11 Parents' Evening
Thursday 29 th November 2018	- Year 11 Mock Exams commence
Thursday 29 th November 2018	- French Exchange arrive
Friday 30 th November 2018	- Deadline for BL6 applications to be in time for option block building (this not a final application deadline)
Thursday 6 th December 2018	- French Exchange leave
Thursday 13 th December 2018	- Year 13 Parents' Evening
Tuesday 18 th December 2018	- BLS Christmas Concert at St Mary's Church
Wednesday 19 th December 2018	- A Level Certificate Evening (tbc)
Friday 21 st December 2018	- School Closes for Christmas

Midday Assistant Vacancy

**Salary: Grade 2 SCP .6 - £ 8.50 per hour
10.5 hours per week – 38 weeks per year**

We currently have a vacancy for a Midday Assistant who has the knowledge and skills required to ensure the safety and supervision of pupils during the lunchtime period. This post will also include some cleaning duties on a rota basis.

Brine Leas School is committed to safeguarding and protecting the welfare of children. The successful candidate will be required to have a DBS check.

Application details can be accessed from www.brineleas.co.uk or by e-mail: job.applications@brineleas.co.uk

The closing date for receipt of applications is 12 noon, Friday 26th October 2018.

We are committed to equality and welcome applications from all sections of the community.