



### A message from our Headteacher

Dear Parents,

As we wind down for the summer holiday I would like to take this opportunity to thank all professionals and families for helping us to support our pupils. At the end of April, we were thrilled to receive our 'Outstanding' OFSTED report, affirming our commitment to providing exceptional educational services for children with medical needs in Brent. The report recognises our unwavering commitment to supporting pupils and praised our holistic approach to education, our nurturing environment and innovative teaching methods where every pupil can thrive academically, socially, and personally. OFSTED highlighted Ashley College's inclusive and welcoming environment where pupils are proud of their school and where they appreciate the way adults care for them, fostering a sense of security and enabling them to build confidence for the future. We are proud to be an education provision that parents and carers speak highly of.

It has been a privilege leading this school since 2016, and the 'Outstanding' OFSTED rating serves as a source of immense pride and is a testament to the hard work, dedication, and passion of our staff, students, and wider community. This achievement reflects our steadfast commitment to providing the highest standards of education and support to children and young people.

With the European football and Wimbledon tennis the summer has been full of exciting moments in sports and we now have the Olympics to look forward to over the holidays. Whatever your interests, sports or otherwise, I hope you all have a restful summer break together and you enjoy this newsletter which is full of the amazing opportunities, trips and events that have taken place over the summer term. We look forward to seeing our pupils return on :

**Wednesday 4th September @ 9.20am**

Best wishes

**Ranjna Shiyani**  
Headteacher



## Nature Walks

### Welsh Harp conservation area

Part of our curriculum is to broaden pupils' experiences, specifically using the local environment. As part of this remit, we visited the Welsh Harp wetland conservation area; here, students walked around the reservoir, through the woods and eventually into the aquarium in the local garden centre. Pupils "bravely" fed the fish. Mohamed said "I liked playing with *the fish* but I was scared of the black, shark fish". Luckily, he didn't get his finger bitten off!

Pupil: "It was really nice going out to a park where it is far away from loud noises and stress at the end of the week, looking at the trees and different plants was really calming and

fun. I did not know that there was such a place near where I lived, as I thought that this part was just only buildings and shops, seeing a really huge reservoir where I thought there wasn't any green areas. So really enjoyed it."



**Frank Ofori Sampong**  
Activities Lead

I am delighted to announce that we have a few budding playwrights at Ashley College. Furthermore, they have been published and their work has been performed by professional actors!

Papatango are a London based theatre company who run work experience projects for young people. Our Key Stage 3 and Year 10 students were fortunate enough to benefit from the expertise of a director, Gemma Rogers, and a performer during the summer term.

Gemma guided the pupils to write some excellent monologues. Not sure what a monologue is? Ask your child and they will give you an excellent definition.

All of the pupils who were involved have been given a little book of their monologues and there are spare copies in the school library.

It was wonderful to see these performances come alive. Alexa used a very clever technique and by switching from the third to the first person we got a real sense of her character's disassociation with the events he was experiencing. Shannon's monologue was really funny and had the whole class laughing although her excellent cliff hanger made us wonder what on earth had happened next... Ruckhsa was able to step into the shoes of an older librarian who met her soul mate. The group felt it was a real skill to be able to step into the shoes of another and that this demonstrated the ability to be able to empathise with others. Shaiel's monologue was certainly very topical indeed – it involved a young footballer but he just could not get his head around the off-side rule!

Papatango were overwhelmed by the creative talent of Ashley College pupils.

**We are so proud of them!**

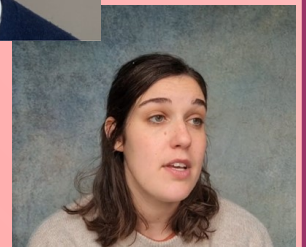
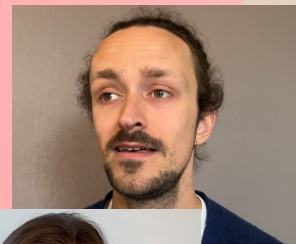
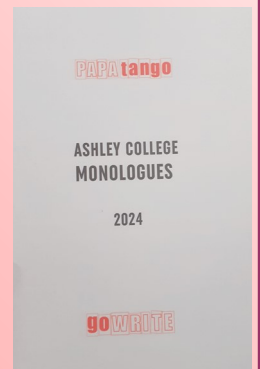
**Anne-Marie Mika  
Deputy Headteacher**

**PAPAtango**  
ALL YOU NEED IS A STORY

The monologue were performed by professional actors. You can view them here:

<https://www.dropbox.com/scl/fi/11sg06xg4cvdvvljerg4a/Ashley-College.mp4?rlkey=y45mehdsi9vfbnzdmb0zuhfni&e=2&st=o4snyslm&dl=0>

## Budding Playwrights!



## Saying Goodbye to our Year 11s

We are extremely proud of the Year 11 cohort this year and we celebrated their success at the end of June. Family, friends and mainstream school joined us at the afternoon event, to congratulate them and say our goodbyes. The afternoon was full of laughter, where they all reflected on their time at Ashley College as well as appreciating the amazing musical performances. Food and leaving gifts.

We wish you all the very best for your futures!

**From all the Staff at Ashley College**





On Monday 24th June, the students and staff visited Thorpe Park located in Chertsey, Surrey, England. It was a bright sunny day with blue skies and the perfect temperature for most of the day. The hot weather was an advantage as rides such as Tidal Wave showed no mercy, leaving students and TAs absolutely

drenched. There were a wide range of attractions we got to experience throughout the day, including the thrilling roller coaster rides such as Stealth, Colossus, The Walking Dead Experience. Some also managed to go on Derren Brown's Ghost Train which is a live-action experience designed by the famous illusionist which was so terrifying for most of us but Dhruv laughed in the face of it!

The students found it an enjoyable day as there was flexibility between going on the thrilling rides for those who felt more adventurous, and for those who wanted a more relaxed social day, there was time with their peers at the beach. The beach had sand as soft as velvet which kept us cool and comfortable on such a warm day. Lucas, Mohamed, Milosz and Andi decided to have their lunch with staff at the beach enjoying the cool breeze sat under the umbrella as the sun was beating down. There was a sense of calmness with soft laughter among the peer group who really appreciated the last time they would have as a group on this trip.

On the other hand, we had Alexa, Shannon, Plamen, Rukhsar, Cameron and Shaiel who were very keen to go on some of the more daring rides.

*I hadn't really been to an Amusement Park when I was little and when I did I would only see my older cousins getting on the rides because I wasn't old enough to get on them yet. And now that I got to go on a roller coaster for the first time it was thrilling, even if I felt I was going to fall at any time, now that I know that I am not really that scared of heights I know that I will definitely be getting on one again. **Shaiel***

**Nisha Patel, Joe Ashe and Jeanne Morrison**  
**Teaching Assistants**

*Thorpe Park was okay just a bit of a long journey, I didn't go on any rides as I was not feeling well from the journey but the interactions between my peers at the beach and in the shops was fun. **Milosz***

*Thorpe Park was fun and exciting to visit. The weather was nice and hot on the day we went. It was a little busy in the morning but then later in the afternoon, it got busier. I was with the year 9 and year 10 group the whole day. We managed to get on a few exciting rides and walk around the park.*

*It was a fantastic day to celebrate a brilliant term of achievements and spend the last trip with our year 11's and other school leavers. We are so proud of our all our students and their achievements made this academic year and wish them all the best and a beautiful relaxing summer holidays to look forward to. **Shannon***



*I really enjoyed the beach at Thorpe park. The beach because was clean and sand was super soft which we really enjoyed playing with and making a sand castle. We had lunch under the shaded umbrellas and had our frozen Fanta drinks. It was nice to have a trip where we could talk to our peers as it was a social trip. I went on the tea cup ride which was so fun! **Mohamed***



*I got to go on the Flying Fish ride which I sat right at the front and the breeze on my face cooled me down as it was a very hot day. I enjoyed seeing our ride pictures after getting of the ride. It was the best social trip so far. The coach was nice to sit in and talk with my friends. It was an entertaining journey on the coach and a good social time for us all although on the way back most of us feel asleep.*

## Reading Can Change a Child's Life

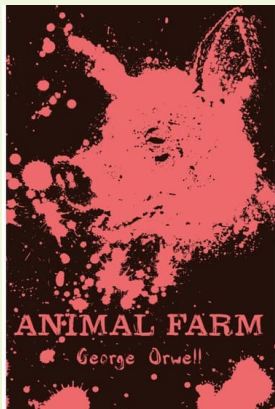
There has been a greater focus on reading for enjoyment in the government's revised Reading Framework (DfE, 2023). We have continued to promote reading for pleasure and alongside this, our pupils are supported to access a range of academic texts across all subjects.

80% of our students have made progress in their reading ages during the academic year 2023-24

*"Leaders have prioritised the development of reading across the curriculum and for pleasure. Pupils have confidence to use a wide range of texts across the curriculum and appreciate many styles of literature"* (Ofsted Report, March 2024)

### BOOK REVIEWS

Our pupils have reviewed some books they have enjoyed reading from our library.



**ANIMAL FARM** by George Orwell

Review by Mohamed

Animal Farm is a novel written by George Orwell, that allegorically represents The Russian Revolution. The characters are allusions of figures from the Revolution.

I personally enjoyed the historical aspect of this novel as it broadened my knowledge of the Soviet Union and the Russian Revolution. The book is very well written as it made me feel as if I was there and could imagine each event playing out. Although, at the beginning, there was initially a plan, there were many plot twists which kept me guessing what the animals' next move was.

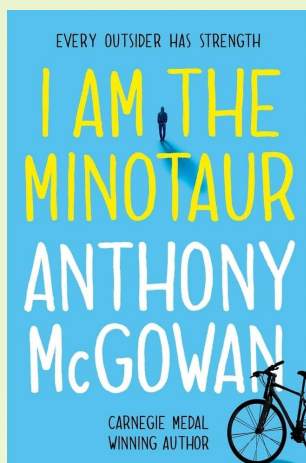
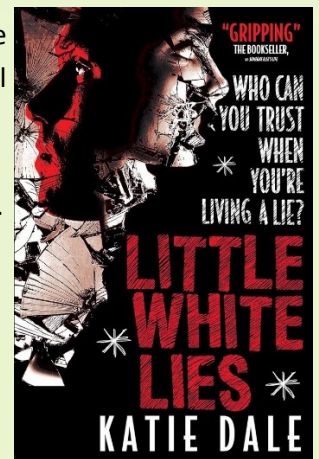
I think someone who is interested in dystopian and philosophical books, as well as the Russian Revolution would thoroughly enjoy this novel.

**LITTLE WHITE LIES** by Katie Dale

Review by Shaiel

I remember reading this at the start of Y9 back in September. I personally like books that are thrilling, mysterious, romantic or belong to the genre of crime; this book had these four characteristics. The plot twists in this book were truly something that I didn't expect. The story was so good that I would read it during my free time, the author writes it in a way that makes you feel you have been transported to the setting and in the presence of the characters. You go through a whole roller coaster of emotions.

I recommend this to anyone who likes to wait for the plot to slowly build up without you knowing what is going to happen, and then out of nowhere it will all make sense.



**I AM THE MINOTAUR** by Anthony McGowan.

Review by Shannon

The book is both a romance and a comedy. The main character in the book is called Matthew but he bullied other pupils in his school. They do this by calling him names like Stinky Mog. He moves to a different school where the name still follows him but finds himself falling in love with a girl called Ari. However, things don't go to plan.

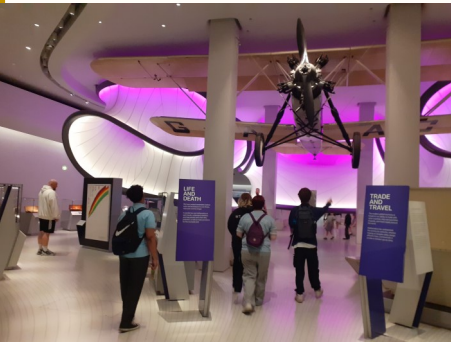
I enjoyed this book because it had so many different plot twists. Young people will relate to this book because it involves bullying and I would recommend it for 13 to 15 year olds.

Caroline O'Gara  
English Lead

# Maths and Museums

Our students had a great time at the Science Museum where they experienced for the first time the Winton Gallery which is linked to Mathematics:

The gallery addresses “How mathematics shaped our world?”



The bold and thought-provoking gallery, designed by Zaha Hadid Architects, examines the fundamental role mathematicians have had, and how their tools and ideas have played a part in building the world we live in.

From War and Peace to life, death, money, trade and beauty and the objects in Mathematics: The Winton Gallery reveals how mathematics connects to every aspect of our lives.

The Winton Gallery tells powerful stories about the work of mathematicians in the broadest sense, from salespeople to sailors, aircraft engineers to bankers, and gamblers to garden designers.

These stories span 400 years of human ingenuity from the renaissance to the present day, with objects ranging from intriguing hand-held mathematical instruments to a 1929 experimental aircraft.

Featuring three thousand objects and covering an area equivalent to 1,500 hospital beds, medicine: The Welcome Galleries is the magnificent new home for the most significant medical collections in the world.



Showcasing extraordinary medical artefacts from the collections of Henry Welcome and the Science Museum Group, including the world’s first MRI scanner, Fleming’s penicillin mould, a professional pianist’s prosthetic arm and even robotic surgery equipment, the galleries explore our relationship with medicine and health through more than 500 years of history.

## Andi- Mae:

*The Medicine section was good because it was interactive; I was able to see images and explanations of ultrasound, X-RAY and MRI of the human body. We found out that the first ultrasound of the human baby was in 1981.*

## Dhruv:

*I realised how so many jobs are related to Maths. For example, mathematics was used in Hampton Gardens to carry out land surveys and to help design the gardens. Greek Gods were the first to discover mathematical patterns of proportion.*

## Mohammed:

*I enjoyed examining the 3D hologram in the Space Room. In the Mathematics Room, I was fascinated by the old abacus.*

## Lucas:

*I enjoyed how interactive all the exhibitions were. I particularly enjoyed looking at the medical rooms and looking at the hospital equipment from the past.*

## Plamen:

*I liked the steampunk part at the beginning of the trip since the moving contraptions were interesting to see in motion*

## Shaiel:

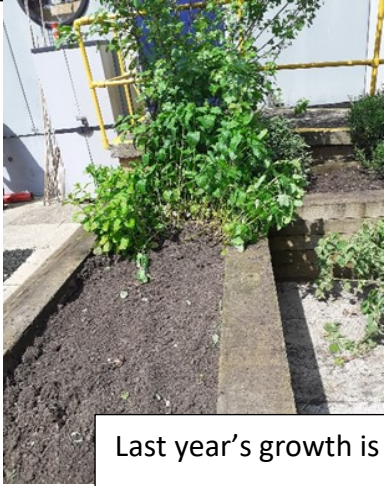
*I enjoyed my day today especially the medicine part and the space section. It was a very informative and a positive learning experience*

## Milosz:

*I learned about how MRI imaging works from the wax models of the human body.*

**Abdelkader Benamara**  
**Maths Lead**

# Welcome to Summer and Our Gardens



Last year's growth is stripped out.  
And fresh nutrients dug into the soil.



Last year's residents (mainly slugs and snails) are rehoused elsewhere by the students.



Even the hostile edge of the playground dug up and made ready



A visit to the local garden centre for fresh supplies of plants



Planting takes place



Some plants get a 'special' temporary home

And finally the harvest!



## Food Glorious Food!

This year in food there have been some very exciting recipes being produced. We introduced a new curriculum for any students wanting to gain a GCSE in Food Preparation and Nutrition alongside our Level 2 Home Cooking Skills BTEC.

We have also invested in a special UV light to help us boost the growth of a wide variety of herbs that we can then use in our cooking.

I was really proud of the work that was produced by the Year 11 students for their final exam. Their brief for their BTEC qualification was to create a two-course birthday meal which would also showcase the versatility of eggs.

Dhruv immediately decided on an Indian theme so that he could show off the culinary skills he has learnt from his own heritage. He thoroughly made use of the research and practice time in order to refine his recipes to perfection. He really challenged himself by making a range of recipes which demonstrated a wide range of cooking methods and techniques

Dhruv's Pav Bhaji, Bread Rolls alongside Onion Bhajis, Tamarind Chutney, Poached Egg and Roasted Vegetables

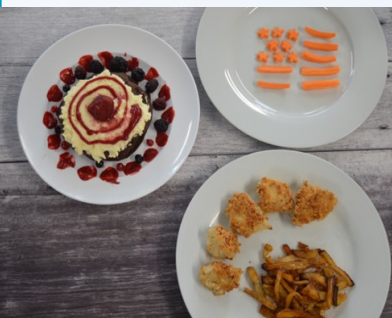


Blanka enjoyed the chance to make a delicious chocolate cake for her birthday meal which was a Swedish recipe, developed to ensure full chocolatey gooeyness! Blanka is particularly talented in the artistic element of plating up- creating garnish and drizzle to beautify the meal. Her main dish was a perfectly encrusted chicken breast served with cucumber twists and delicate heart shaped carrots.

Lucas demonstrated a range of high skills in his choice of dishes, which he made three of in order to submit this for the GCSE Food. Lucas has a real talent for baking and creating beautifully decorated cupcakes yet he also executed his main dish to a very high standard- fresh ravioli with a delicious mushroom filling. All of Lucas's dishes were garnished and presented in the most thoughtful and careful manner.



Milosz let his creativity shine with a fun children's party themed meal featuring chicken nuggets with a creative carrot garnish and Mickey Mouse pancakes. The meal demonstrated both his imaginative flair and his ability to cater for specific audiences.

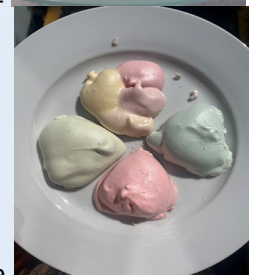
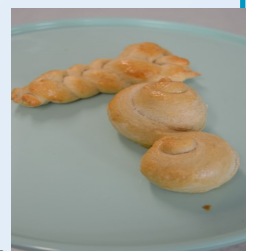


**Year 10s-** also made some really fun and creative dishes. They learnt a wide range of cooking techniques earlier in the year in order to start learning some more advanced culinary techniques this term.

We have had some exceptional baking done as pupils learnt all the technicalities behind bread making, from the functions of ingredients to technical processes, different design techniques and nutritional value. Rihanna's bread designs were superb. She has demonstrated such impressive technique and focus in all areas of the culinary arts and has been a great addition to our home cooking lessons. Shannon is also a natural chef and has a particular flair for baking and beautiful presentation. Her highlights have been her dazzling rainbow heart meringues and Oreo eclairs which she designed the recipe for.



**KS3** –Pupils have also learnt about bread making and were asked to create an innovative bread and pizza design that would appeal to children or teenagers. Ruby produced these adorable glazed bread bows and Mohamed created this fantastic T-Rex pizza which I'm sure would appeal to any age group!



**Lauran Brannigan**  
Food Tech Lead

## Here to listen: our safeguarding team

## Useful Information



Designated safeguarding lead (DSL): **Louise Togher**  
Contact details: **07735826382**  
**ltogher@ashleycollege.brent.sch.uk**



Deputy DSL: **Ranjna Shiyani**  
Contact details: **07900192271**



Deputy DSL: **Anne-Marie Mika**  
Contact details: **07866217122**

During the summer holidays the [safeguarding@ashleycollege.brent.sch.uk](mailto:safeguarding@ashleycollege.brent.sch.uk) email address remains open and is checked daily. The safeguarding mobile phone 07735826384 is turned on and checked daily for messages and calls. Please do not hesitate to reach out during the summer holidays if you need support. The school is not closed in this respect. These contact details will also be shared with students.

### Child Protection Concerns over the Summer Holidays

If you believe a child is in immediate danger you should phone the police. Call **999**.

If you are worried that a child or young person is at risk or is being abused, contact the Brent Family Front door as soon as possible to discuss your concerns: Office hours (Mon – Fri 9am - 5pm):

Call **020 8937 4300** (option 1) Outside office hours:

Call emergency duty team on **020 8863 5250**

If you need help outside of these hours for support with your child's mental health please contact the CAMHS Urgent Advice Line (Freephone): **0800 023 4650** which is open 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year

## KIDS EAT FREE

Or for less, Summer 2024

	Kids can eat a 95p meal every day after 11am (except Fridays)		Kids eat free all day every Thurs. And for £1 4-6pm Sun-Weds
	Kids eat for £1 when you download the Harvester app		Up to 2 kids eat free all day when 1x adult purchases full priced meal
	Kids eat free all day with every £10 adult minimum spend		Free kids meal with every adult meal purchased
	Kids get 3 courses free with every full priced meal purchased		Under 12's eat free kids pizza with every adult pizza purchased
	Kids eat free in the Cafe with every adult £4 spend		Kids eat for just £1 all day at Asda Cafes, no adult spend needed
	Up to 2 kids eat breakfast free when 1x adult buys a full breakfast		Kids eat for just £1 after 11:30am in the Cafes with an adult meal
	Up to 2 under 15's eat free breakfast with 1x adult breakfast purchase		Kids eat free in the Cafe with every adult meal purchased
	Up to 2 under 16's eat free breakfast with 1x adult breakfast purchase		Kids eat free all day with the purchase of one adult meal over £5

### Who is doing School Uniform discounts this Summer?



25% off School Uniform, starting on Tuesday 23rd July.



25% off School Uniform until Thursday 27th June.



20% off all School Uniform from Thursday 2nd July.



£5 School Uniform Bundle available from Thursday 4th July.

Results will be available to collect from Ashley College at Ashley Gardens, Wembley HA9 8NP on Thursday 22nd August 2024 between 10.00am to 2.00pm. A Connexions Advisor and Ashley College staff will be around to support.

## EXAM RESULTS DAY - THURSDAY 22nd AUGUST 2024

You will be provided with a provisional statement of results achieved in each subject.

If you wish any other person (including family members) to collect your results on your behalf, they must bring photo ID (e.g. passport) and you must send in a signed letter of authorisation with the collector.

No results will be given out by telephone under any circumstances.

Results not collected on the day will be posted to candidates at the address we have on file, through the normal **post**.

### Certificates

Certificates arrive in school about three months after you have received your statement of results, October/November time. Once the school has received your certificates you will receive written notification inviting you to come in to collect these Certificates will be retained by the school for two years, unclaimed certificates will then be destroyed

**Applications for replacement certificates must be made directly to the Awarding Body; there is a charge for this service.**

If you have any further queries, please contact [lbhudia@ashleycollege.brent.sch.uk](mailto:lbhudia@ashleycollege.brent.sch.uk)



## ....More Information

Funded by



Department  
for Education

## Holiday Activities and Food (HAF) Programme

Brent Council Holiday Activities and Food (HAF) Programme is part of a national scheme funded by the Department for Education. The aim of the programme is to support the physical and mental health and wellbeing of children and young people, encouraging them to engage in interactive and fun activities over schools holidays.

The programme offers free places at holiday activities, alongside a meal, during the summer holidays to Brent children and young people in Reception to Year 11 who are eligible for and in receipt of benefits-related free school meals, or who have been identified as otherwise in need of the programme. See here for more

The Brent Youth Zone run activities for children of all ages over the summer holidays. These are usually paid for by families but if you have a social worker then please consult them as they may be able to support with the financial implication of this.

[Click here](#)



### Urgent and other support available

**shout**  
85258

Shout offers confidential 24/7 crisis text support for times when immediate assistance is required  
Text "SHOUT" to 85258 or [visit Shout Crisis Text Line](#)

**SAMARITANS**

Samaritans 24/7 365 days a year - they are here to listen and provide support  
Call: 116 123 or email: [jo@samaritans.org](mailto:jo@samaritans.org)

**Crisis Tools**

Crisis Tools helps professionals support young people in crisis - short accessible video guides and text resources  
Sign up for free resources [here](#)

**PAPYRUS**

Papyrus provide confidential support and advice to young people struggling with thoughts of suicide, and anyone worried about a young person  
Call: 0800 068 41 41 or Text: 07860 039967 (opening hours 9am to midnight - 365 days a year)

**childline**  
ONLINE, ON THE PHONE, ANYTIME

Childline confidential telephone counselling service for any child with a problem  
Call: 0800 1111 anytime or [online chat with a counsellor](#)

**Good Thinking**

Good Thinking is London's digital wellbeing service and provides a range of resources for young people to help improve mental wellbeing including free NHS-approved apps

**THE MIX**  
Essential support for under 25s

The Mix provides free, confidential support for young people under 25  
Call: 0808 808 4994 (11am - 11pm every day) or [Email](#)

**Beat**

Beat provide support to help young people who may be struggling with an eating problem or an eating disorder  
Call the Youthline (under 18's) 0808 801 0711 or Studentline 0808 801 0811 (9am - 8pm during the week and 4pm - 8pm on weekends and bank holidays)

**kooth**

Kooth is a free, safe and anonymous online mental wellbeing community including live chat with the team, discussion boards, magazine with helpful articles and a daily journal a magazine

## Looking for fun, free ways to get moving more this summer?

We have got you covered! We run Beezee Families, a free healthy lifestyle programme designed to help families like yours make healthy habits and discover the joy of movement.

We have got a week's worth of Olympics-inspired activities for you to try.

**DAY 1** Try an online yoga workout and practise your balancing.

**DAY 2** Put on your favourite tune and dance!

**DAY 3** Go for a bike ride.

**DAY 4** Warm up with five minutes of stretches.

**DAY 5** Have a thumb wrestle!

**DAY 6** Play a round of crazy golf.

**DAY 7** Walk or run 100m - and time it!

**DAY 8** Forget cross-country running and take a stroll through the countryside instead.

Sign up today!

Scan the code -or click here to find out more

[bre.maximusuk.co.uk](http://bre.maximusuk.co.uk)

Check out our website to find out how we can help you and your family get moving more\*.

\*Our courses are for families with children aged 5+ and above their ideal weight.

## IMPORTANT DATES FOR THE AUTUMN TERM 2024

Term Starts : Wednesday 4th September— All pupils return ( Staff INSET on 2nd and 3rd September)

Parent Evening: Wednesday 11th September—Parent/Carer Progress Review and Target Setting  
@ 3.30pm – 7.00pm.

**HALF TERM : MONDAY 21st October - FRIDAY 25th October 2024**

Term Ends: Friday 20th December 2024

## Checkout Brent's summer holiday activities in the attached leaflet

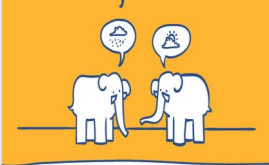


### Elefriends (part of MIND UK)

A supportive online community where you can be yourself. We all know what it's like to struggle sometimes, but now there's a safe place to listen, share and be heard. Whether you're feeling good right now, or really low, it's a safe place to share experiences and listen to others. Elefriends is moderated daily by the Ele handler team from 10am-midnight.

<https://www.mind.org.uk/information-support/support->

Whenever you need to talk

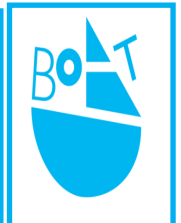


### Hub of Hope

The Hub of Hope is the UK's leading mental health support database. It is provided by national mental health charity, Chasing the Stigma, and brings local, national, peer, community, charity, private and NHS mental health support and services together in one place for the first time. <https://hubofhope.co.uk>

For Activities over the holidays and outside of school hours for pupils with ASD please visit the BOAT website: [www.brent.gov.uk/boat](http://www.brent.gov.uk/boat)

Or contact them : [boat@brent.gov.uk](mailto:boat@brent.gov.uk)



### Kooth Parent Helpline:

0808 802 5544

Monday to Friday 9.30am – 4pm



## ASHLEY COLLEGE

ASHLEY GARDENS

WEMBLEY HA9 8NP

Tel: 020 8937 3330

Email: [admin@ashleycollege.brent.sch.uk](mailto:admin@ashleycollege.brent.sch.uk)



[info@brentfoodbank.org.uk](mailto:info@brentfoodbank.org.uk)

Tel: 0203 7455 972

<https://brent.foodbank.org.uk/get-help>

