

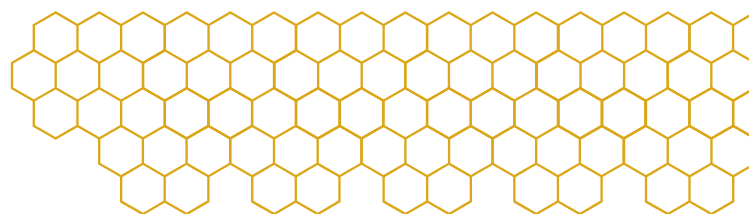


# BRENTWOOD BUZZ

## *Letter from the Beehive:*

**Hello Brentwood community,**

Welcome to our first issue of the Brentwood Buzz, a long-awaited and much-mulled-over anthology - a flash of the quintessential Brentwood student's life. That is what we hope this student-run newspaper will be; a time capsule of everything we hold dear. Within these yellowed pages, you'll discover an oasis of creative pieces and buzzing questions answered. Much like you, we will grow and evolve to include more, and whatever that more may be, we hope you'll enjoy it. In our first issue, you'll find our buzzing questions for term 1, a word search and crossword, study tips, and a getaway to the creative side of life! Our team has curated a design just for you - even featuring a few hidden bees for you to find! There's something so distinctly special about the written word, and about our Brentwood community, with the way we convey our message to you.



In the Brentwood Buzz, we hope to hone our skills with each issue, to further invigorate our community spirit. Ultimately, we aim to embrace the transience of every moment by recording the voice of Brentwood and employ the significance of every sentence, as we are forever fuelled by our voices. We hope this newspaper remains a symbol that our community is buzzing with concern, joy and a fervent desire to be heard.

**Editor Ishi,**

**on behalf of the Brentwood Buzz team, Ayla, Lida, Liv, Tharuki, Claire, Zeph, Tenuki, Ming, Caitlin, Matti, Liliana, Janine, Janiru, Alastair and Avnish**



# WHAT'S BUZZING IN THIS ISSUE?



## WHAT'S BUZZING AT BRENTWOOD?

pages 3 - 8

The Beehive's term 1 recap - just in case you forgot!

## A's, not Bees

pages 13 - 14

Premier study tips directly from the beehive!

## CREATIVE Corner

pages 9 - 10

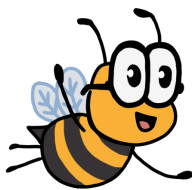
Sharing Brentwood's creative minds, and how you can join in!

## PUZZLES

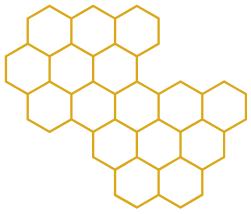


pages 15 - 17

Confident in your Brentwood knowledge? Put it to the test with our puzzles!



We hope you enjoy our thrilling first edition of the Brentwood Buzz!



# WHAT'S BUZZING AT BRENTWOOD?



## Term 1 Community Day: Celebration of diversity!

On the 18th of March, Brentwood celebrated its first Community Day for the year, focusing primarily on spreading the diversity of student's unique cultures and experiences that define who they are.

Coordinated by the Student Representative Council (SRC) and the efforts of our school leadership team, it was splendid to see staff and students in cultural dress, sharing their heritages and history with one another.



### Share Your Story Stall

Working in conjunction, the Art and Library Leadership Teams were inspired by one of Yoko Ono's recent exhibitions and formed the 'Share Your Story' stall. This was a showcase of incredible stories from the community to appreciate the diverse range of individuals that make up Brentwood.

As an interactive exhibition, students were given the opportunity to write about or draw their stories from their lives and stick them up on the walls of the J-Block art gallery to display for all to see.



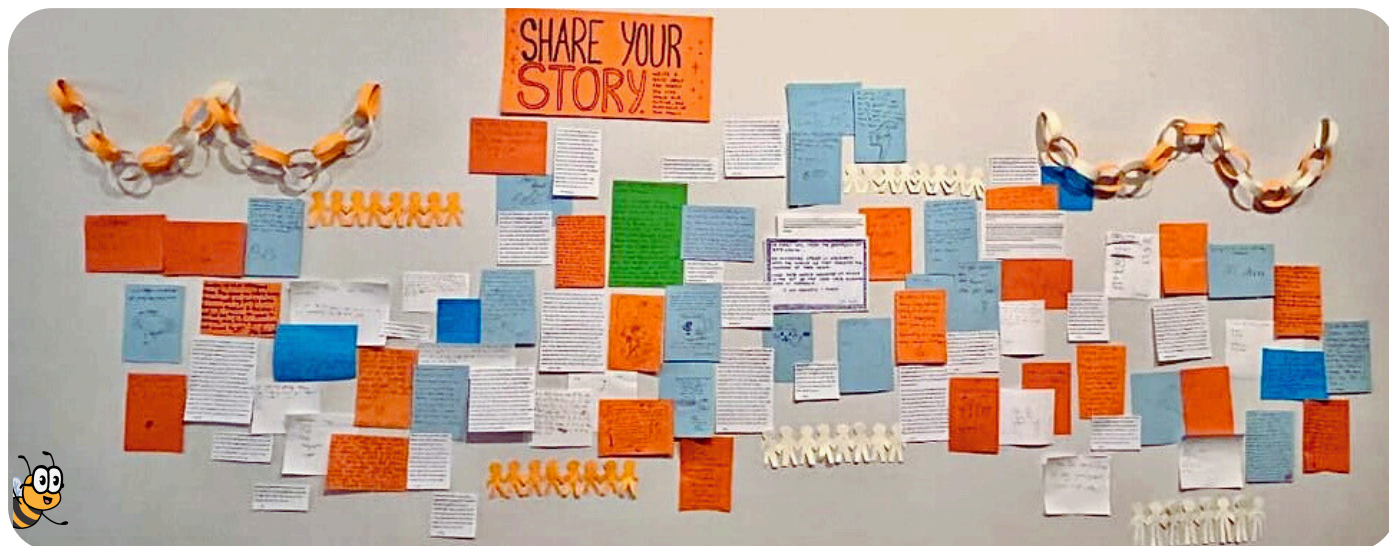
**ABOVE:** Student leaders in front of the 'Share Your Story' exhibition

*"When I was about seven or eight, one of my core memories was wanting to know what it felt like to be a balloon. Literally, a balloon, it was an obsession. So my mom blew up a bunch of balloons in all different shapes, colours and sizes, some rainbow, some big and small some with confetti inside them and somehow pinned them to my clothes with masking tape. I was completely covered in balloons, and well and truly was one too, I still have pictures in some family albums."*

Here are a few submissions from members of our community! We hope you enjoy reading these memories and experiences!

*“The elderly lady next door to me thought the blue mailboxes on the street corners in my old home in Perth were the public trash cans, so she used to sweep up her front yard and dump everything in the mailbox.”*

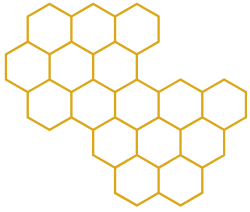
*“I love food. And I think one of the things we sometimes take for granted, is how great the food is here in Australia, and in Melbourne in particular. The food in Australia is some of the best in the world, mainly due to the great multicultural diversity we have here. You can go to Springvale and get yourself a banh mi or a bowl of pho. You can go to Oakleigh and have a delicious souvlaki. You can go to Glen Waverley and have some dumplings or roast peking duck. I may not be able to travel and see all of the world, but my stomach sure can.”*



*“Playing cricket with my little brother in our yard. The windows in the front of the house were in a constant state of disrepair because we kept accidentally striking the ball at them. Dad didn't even try to fix them, he just said that one day both of us will grow out of it. And he ended up being right about that. My little brother isn't even little anymore. He's around 5'10" and MUCH taller than me.”*

*“I won a poetry contest in 3rd grade. The competition was to write about the colour of kindness and I said camouflage because even though you don't see it, that doesn't mean it's not there.”*

*“Watching WW2 documentaries and eating ginger nut biscuits with my Grandad well past my bedtime.”*



# WHAT'S BUZZING AT BRENTWOOD?

## Activities at Lunch

In a remarkable display of community spirit, Brentwood transformed into a bustling hub of activity, with students and teachers alike participating in plethora of diversity related activities. From face painting and henna to an exhilarating scavenger hunt, outdoor games, quizzes and stalls, school leaders planned numerous exciting events, and the school grounds were abuzz with action. An enormous thanks to everyone who orchestrated this Community Day, as well as you - students of Brentwood - for participating and spreading an atmosphere of diversity.



**ABOVE:** Outdoor games



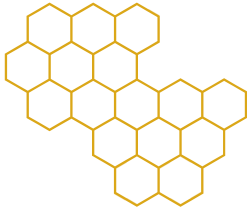
## Live Music Performance

We were extremely lucky to have such a talented group of musicians perform for us on Community Day, sharing songs of diversity as well as their own love for music.

*“It was amazing to see so many people come watch us perform, it’s an experience I’ll never forget.”*



**ABOVE:** Singing on Community Day



# WHAT'S BUZZING AT BRENTWOOD?

## Isle of Thrills: Phillip Island Adventure Camp Delivers High-Flying Fun and Exceptional Conduct!

Early on the morning of Monday 26 February 2024, our year 7 students assembled on the tennis courts, anticipating the journey to Phillip Island Adventure Camp. South-east of Cowes, Phillip Island Adventure Camp, is a pretty resort with nice cabins, pools, a lake, forest and countless Cape Barren geese.

The flying foxes, giant swings, laser strike, and countless opportunities to bond with our new classmates and teachers all excited us, and the energy was at an absolute high!

Students took part in high ropes which tested our strength and balance at about 5 metres above ground, but we conquered our fears of the heights, scaling a 10-metre-high tower to ride on twin 200 metre long flying foxes.



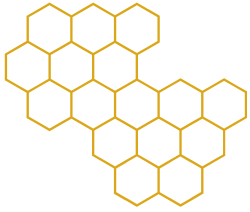
**ABOVE:** Canoeing at the lake

We also did activities outside of the camp. Amaze'n'Things, located next door, provides a selection of illusions, mazes and magic. We enjoyed exploring a tilted room, including optical illusions such as a chair that moved without a motor or magnets. In its large maze we were challenged to find 4 flags before making our escape.

There was also a scary drop slide and a clever waterfall that stopped when you clapped. We completed the 19-hole mini golf course, except for the penultimate hole of the course, which snatched our golf balls with no intention to return them. We begrudgingly admitted defeat, but were resilient and did not let that loss deter us from enjoying the rest of the camp.

The food was great, for example we got to make our own burgers and have ice-cream for dessert, eating together in a dining and overflow room. (chefs for the day!)

In the evenings we visited Phillip Island Nature Park's Penguin Parade to watch Little Penguins return to their nests after a hard day's fishing at sea. They're super cute, and we admired the strength in their tiny bodies to provide for their young. On one of the days we took advantage of the idyllic Phillip Island sands, taking a stroll to the beach where some swam, while others practiced art in the sand.



# WHAT'S BUZZING AT BRENTWOOD?

Team building exercises included raft making on the lake. Teams had a limited number of materials, including wood, PVC pipes and rope, to make into working rafts before paddling those into the lake to a goal whilst racing against each other. Another activity that built teamwork skills was laser strike games, including sessions of 'king of the hill' and 'deathmatch'.

After returning home we were informed by the camp that our behaviour had been outstanding.

We were taught to work in a team, be kind, make friends, and thankfully, no one had any accidents.

The camp was so much fun, and everyone enjoyed it including the teachers. I would encourage all future year 7 students to take the opportunity to attend the camp. Thanks to all the parents, teachers, and staff who continually support us and made this wonderful experience possible.

FYI: I did the high ropes course five times in a row - a new record!

**By Alastair McLaren 7E2**

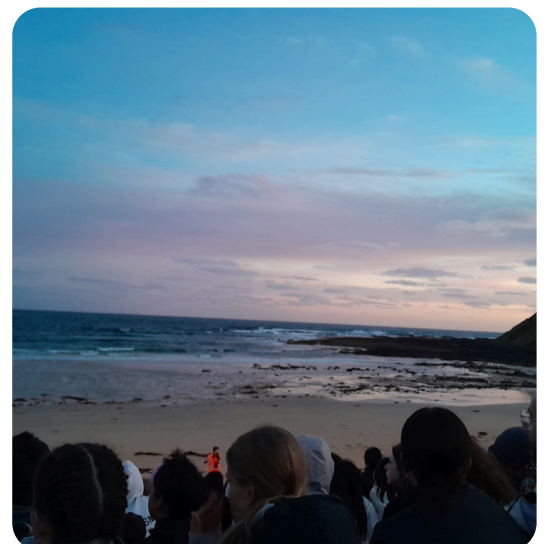


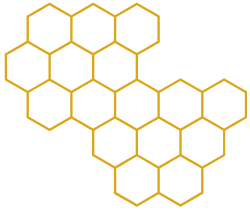
**ABOVE:** Preparation for the Giant Swing



**LEFT:** Group games

**RIGHT:** Penguin Parade





# WHAT'S BUZZING AT BRENTWOOD?

## A Diplomatic Showdown: Model UN Program at CHES Sparks Debate and Discord

On Wednesday the 20th of March, buzzing with nerves and excitement, four students, Ishi, Tharuki, Ming and Rhian from Year 11, entered the Center for Higher Education Studies (CHES) in the city, preparing themselves to enter the turbulent world of global politics as representatives of their country Ireland.

If you're unsure of what exactly a 'Model UN' program is comprised of, it is a simulation model of the United Nations- an assembly of different countries that band together in times of global crisis to address issues and changes- where students who participate can learn about diplomacy, as well international relations related to passing amendments/bills.

Overall, this experience was an amazing insight into the complexities of real world politics, and a fervent reminder of the life-changing and crucial decisions that lie in the hands of world leaders. Being provided the opportunity to act as an envoy for change and revolution was a challenging but worthwhile adventure we'll never forget.

**By Tharuki Govinnage 11E2**



**ABOVE:** Posing in front of Model UN presentation room

Assigned as delegates for Ireland, representing their country with fervor and finesse, students engaged in complex discussions with other Melburnian schools about the prevalence of AI in society, grappling with its implications on ethics, the future and other topics that affect our lives.



**ABOVE:** Position statement group speech



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# CREATIVE Corner

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Calling all Brentwood Students, welcome to the buzzing beehive of creative thought. Any and every piece of creative thought deserves to see the light. Thus, the Creative Corner is your golden ticket to share your creative mind with the school. We encourage not only pieces of writing but every medium of art, including drawings, paintings and writing.

**TO SHARE YOUR BUZZING THOUGHTS AND AMAZING ILLUSTRATIONS, CONTACT MRS. KLADOS VIA EMAIL ([KLD@MS.BRENTWOOD.VIC.EDU.AU](mailto:KLD@MS.BRENTWOOD.VIC.EDU.AU)) AND ATTACH YOUR UN - BEE - LIEVABLE CREATIONS.**

**ANONYMOUS AS WELL AS NAMED SUBMISSIONS ARE ENCOURAGED!**



*"In all works of art, the artist themselves is present"*

C. MORGENSTERN

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**THE BRENTWOOD  
BUZZ' BOOK BEE  
ART BY JANIRU**



# CREATIVE Corner

VALENTINE'S DAY AT SCHOOL, WHAT A THRILL,  
WRITING NOTES IN SECRET, WORDS TO FULFIL,  
TO OUR FRIENDS AND OUR LOVERS,  
SWEET WORDS UNDERCOVER,  
IN ASPIRE, OUR HEARTS WOULD FILL.



ON VALENTINE'S DAY, WE WRITE NOTES WITH CARE,  
TO FRIENDS AND LOVERS, SHOWING THEM OUR LOVE,  
AT SCHOOL, WE GATHER IN A SWEET AFFAIR,  
TO SEND OUR NOTES, LIKE A PEACEFUL DOVE.

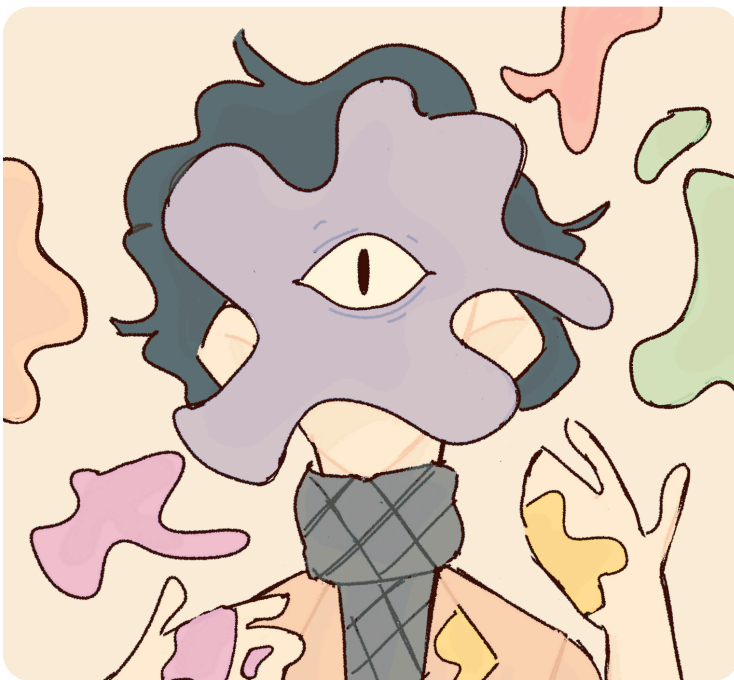
IN CLASS, WE EAGERLY AWAIT REPLIES,  
FROM THOSE WE HOLD DEAR IN OUR BEATING HEARTS,  
THE NOTES PASSED BACK AND FORTH, LOVE NEVER DIES,  
AS WE EXPRESS EMOTIONS IN THESE PARTS.

SO ON THIS DAY, WE SPREAD OUR CHEER  
WITH NOTES OF LOVE FOR ALL TO HOLD SO DEAR.

**LEFT:** Creative poem by a Year Eleven Student about Valentine's Day, which we celebrated in mid February.



**BELOW:** Artwork by some creative students



"It is the spectator, not life, that art really mirrors."





## Buzz Question

This edition's buzz question is:

**“What do you think of the new double periods?”**

*Some positives are:*

- It's great to get lots of work done, and it is also good for senior school assessments or extended work pieces.
- Teachers said that some SACs used to be forced to happen after school and now due to double periods, it is easier to do longer SACs or even hurdles for senior classes. Tasks such as essays can take much longer to complete, especially when students first learn how to write extended pieces of work.
- Double periods can also help students and teachers to complete more work. When we need to get notes done or revise for assessments, double periods can help give us more time to get this done.

*On the other hand, some negatives are:*

- Doubles can be repetitive, an information overload or can be very tiring.
- When doubles are together or split, they can feel as though it is repeating the same work over and over or even feel like Groundhog Day, overwhelming students and making the day less fun.

- Especially when they are together, a break is needed between the 2 periods to keep us sane throughout the 2 hours of learning.
- Double periods are a long time to be learning for, and we often end up doing less work when we have doubles as we cannot focus for the full 2 periods.

*Are split or together doubles preferred?*

- Students and staff both said that it depends on what you want to get done during the time.
- Split doubles are good because you can have a break in between, but they also feel repetitive as it can feel like the day is happening twice.
- Doubles together are great for sacs, hurdle tasks or extended work (e.g. essays), especially in senior classes. If we do work that we know will take more than 1 period, it is great to do it in a double together as it can be a great in-between for single classes and 2 classes.

Overall, we found that people like the new double periods, but it depends on what is getting done as to whether the doubles are better split or together.

**By Olivia, Lida and Ayla**

# Busy Bees



Brentwood is bursting at the seams with fantastic clubs, catering to tons of interests and offering a chance to mingle with new students! Dive into this sneak peek of what some of Brentwood's clubs offer. Joining a club isn't just about chasing a new hobby but also diving into the community and growing your social life and exploring new passions.

**Don't be afraid to get involved!**

## Library Monitor Program!

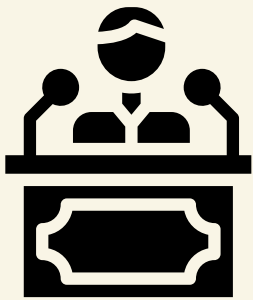
They're the dedicated student team who keep the library running smoothly. If managing the loans desk, perusing the shelves, fixing any errors in our vast collection of books interests you - don't hesitate to join the library monitors!

It's not as glum as that sounds - quite calming actually - and you get a variety of bonus perks such as: being able to borrow an extra book, access during otherwise closed lunchtimes and automatic invitations to any library events! Becoming a library monitor is a great way to connect with the Brentwood community.

**Talk to with Ms. Thien or Ms. Clark for more info!**



## Debating Team!



Debating is fantastic for those who want to build their confidence in public speaking! It's an essential club for students who: study law/politics, want to sharpen their English skills and/or build leadership capabilities.

Common memorable moments are the surprise of winning your first debate and the tumultuous pressure of last-minute collaborative speech making. How fun!

**Meetings are every Tuesday lunchtime at K24 for years 9-12. Years 7-8 will be meeting during semester 2.**

Brentwood Buzz is Brentwood's number #1 newspaper club that is run entirely by the students! This way we can share experiences and stories with the rest of the school! Through this, you will also be able to take on some buzzing roles, like being a reporters, photographers, cartoonists, editors and printers!

**Meetings are every Tuesday lunchtime at K24.**

## Brentwood Buzz!



**By Janine and Matti**



# A's, not Bees

## General Tips + Techniques Pt. 1

Are you feeling uneasy about your next exam? Totally confused about how to study efficiently? Don't worry, the team at Brentwood Buzz has got your back! Consisting of a group of high-performing students with a passion for learning, we've been collaborating on a list of our best study tips, so that you can ace every test, every time.

### Our favourite methods:

- **Limit time spent note-taking** as a form of revision and spend **more time doing practice questions/tests**.
- Make **cue cards** (particularly for **memory-based content**)
- **Consistent practice of skills** so you don't forget them (**very important**)

**PRO TIP** - Note down **mistakes** you make every SAC/exam/hurdle/test so you can **rectify them and don't make the same mistakes again**, try to keep a document of all errors for future reference, trust us, you won't regret it.

### FIND SOME FRIENDS!

Organize **study groups** with friends in the library or at someone's house. **Revising + doing questions together** is super helpful.

sounds challenging?

### WHY NOT TRY:

- Finding **similarities** between your personal interests and other people, sharing common interests is a great way to form friendships!

### YOU CAN ALSO:

- **Join clubs** (like the Brentwood Buzz!)
- Make **online friends** through games and social media

Scour for **resources**, there are plenty available!

Below here we've compiled a list for you to try out :)

- **studocu** is a website that has numerous notes, bound references and practice SACs for all sorts of subjects from students in high schools across Australia.
- **Art of Smart** provides holistic k-12 tutoring, comprehensive workshops, notes and explanations for each area of study for VCE math and science subjects.
- **Olivereducation** is another website that contains free notes and practice questions.
- **Weebly** is an excellent source of notes, practice questions, interactive videos and past exam questions.
- **Edrolo** and **Khan Academy**



# A's, not Bees

## General Tips + Techniques Pt. 2

Remember, even when learning does feel like a competition, it's not a race against anyone else. Rather, it is about challenging ourselves, pushing ourselves, and allowing the talent, skill, and support of others to help us move to the next level and get the most out of our own potential.

- Getting an **early head start on content before a lesson** is useful.
  - Whether this is **reading through the textbook** to get your head wrapped around a concept or **watching Edrolo's**, as it's easy to feel overwhelmed by the amount of content you have to learn
- For senior students **using Edrolo, there are printable practise tests/exams for each AOS/test/exam.**

- **Google Scholar** is an excellent search engine online that:
  - **filters down articles.**
  - **Analyses** highly cited literature works and **materials** for almost everything **academic.****It is a must have tool for students when researching!**



### VCE Tips:

**Read the study Design!** - It is expected that students are to read the study design for their VCE subjects, however many people do not do this.

The study design exists for a reason!

- It gives a brief introduction on what each area of study in a Unit are about.
- It tells you what you need and don't need to know about a topic.
  - (**VERY IMPORTANT** - some subjects have topics that are extremely long and detailed; making it confusing for you to figure out what to revise on for upcoming exams/SAC's - VCAA tells you **exactly** what you need and don't need to know).
  - This saves you time and energy to spend it on more important topics!

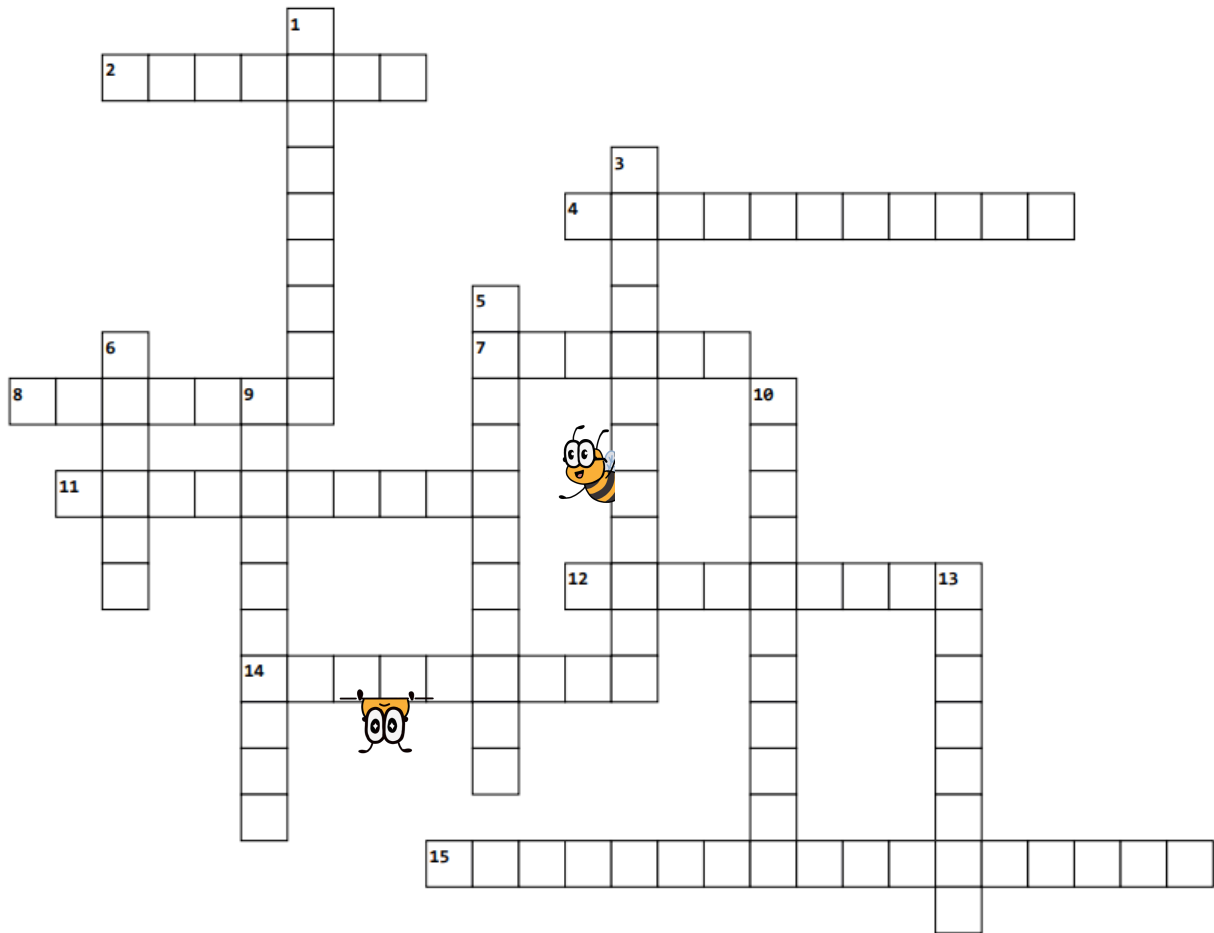


**WORK SMARTER NOT HARDER!**



# CROSSWORD

## Brentwood Puzzle No.1



## Clues

### Down

- 1:** Where you go before school, recess, lunch and after school. Two words.  
**3:** Very close to the front entrance of the school. Two words.  
**5:** Algebra, probability, statistics and geometry are a few examples of this.  
**6:** Near the Tennis Courts, parallel from the canteen. Two words.  
**9:** Defined as "the ability to withstand or recover quickly from difficulties, toughness".  
**10:** Near the TLC rooms. Two words.  
**13:** Takes place in G08 every Thursday.

### Across

- 2:** You do most of your online class work here.  
**4:** You go there to work \_\_\_. But only on Monday, Wednesday and Friday. Two words  
**7:** All students attend this every Monday.  
**8:** A place with many stories, figuratively.  
**11:** Popular game that's played in grids, the version with more players. Two words.  
**12:** What's this type of puzzle called?  
**14:** Every student in Year 8 does this for next year.  
**15:** Students from 7 to 9th grade have a uniform for this. Two words.

# WORD SEARCH



S A E B E S F B B N W B Z H W I X T  
H E N O S E N F R E I J U Y C D N D  
Y P S Y C H O L O G Y Q B U L E G Z  
V V H Y P E R I O D F F R W A N L X  
E I H W L S W A Z G Y M E V S R U T  
N L I E I X F S A J M Q N C S I C Y  
G I S P B J F H F M C U T F R N K H  
L I T T R J O O X B T W W I O K M S  
I G O Z A U S C H O O L O R O I A Q  
S Q R S R H L L A D V T O G M W T F  
H G Y R Y Q U U E S C M D D F L H V  
P S C I E N C E C K H V W L Y Z S Z

## Clues

Find the following words in the puzzle.  
Words are hidden → ↓ and ↘ .

BRENTWOOD  
CLASSROOM  
ENGLISH  
HISTORY

LIBRARY  
MATH  
PERIOD  
PSYCHOLOGY

SCHOOL  
SCIENCE

Answers will be revealed in the next issue!



# MISSING

HELP US FIND BOOK BEE!



HE WAS WEARING THE WRONG UNIFORM WHEN WE LOST HIM!

REWARD: THE SUPREME FORM OF APPRECIATION (x1 HONEYCOMB!)

Hint: He told us that he likes to hide around this issue!