

Dear Parents/Carers

The weeks are flying by and we are nearly at the Easter break. Yet again we have had a jam-packed week at Barnwell with plenty of chances for students and staff to experience opportunities beyond the classroom.



Last Thursday we had a well-attended Year 10 parents evening followed by the Year 11 "Up the Ante" evening which has certainly focussed the minds of the students. This week has seen the start of the Year 11 and 13 practical examinations, which have been very positive – well done to all involved.

On Saturday four members of staff took on an immense challenge by competing in the Lulworth Cove Trail Challenge, a gruelling 29-mile off-road run. Thankfully all four returned to school on Monday (albeit limping) and said they had an amazing experience but would never do it again. A stunning example of Passion, Resilience, Determination and Empathy for each other. Pictures of this can be seen further on in the newsletter.

Next Tuesday we look forward to the exciting Rock Challenge performance and the community wishes all involved the very best of luck.

Have a lovely sunny weekend!

*Mr Roberts—Head of School*

## Dates for the Diary

### Monday 1st April

Inter College Sports Day & Rock Challenge Rehearsals

### Friday 5th April

End of Term

### Monday 29th April - Friday 3rd May

Year 9 Exams

### Tuesday 30th April

Junior Maths Challenge - Years 7 & 8 (classes 7x,7y,8x & 8y)



**This week we celebrate the following students, who have the most PRIDE points for demonstrating our school values**

## Celebrating Student Achievement

### 'Passionate, Resilient, Innovative, Determined, Empathetic'.

Katie P - ND Adam M - JEL Kyle S - EPO Jacek D - NHA David O - KP Denni F - JH  
Tyler P - EPO Leo W - ANC Harry L - PN Mark H - ANC Katie P - ER Nosa I - BI

### Congratulations to our highest credit achievers this week:

Lexi M - HF Katie P - ER Sophie T - HR Eloise B - JH Alessio T - SOC  
Sarah N - EB Leo W - ANC Joseph E - GW Viktoria J - DSM Logan A - KP  
George F - SC Angelee K - EPR Keane S - RPA Kamila S - HF Esther S - GW  
Daniel P - JM Jack W - RPA Harvey R - HF Robert B - BI Tia C - EPO  
Marko B - FWH Ashleigh H - GW





## Vindicated (verb - past tense)



Persuading someone

Clear (someone) of blame or suspicion

### Antonyms

- convicted
- Blamed
- incriminated

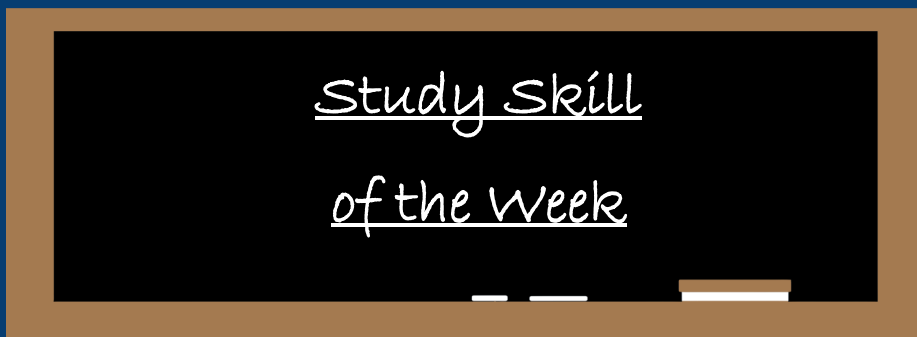
### Synonyms

- acquitted
- cleared
- absolved

### Sentences containing the verb 'vindicated'

After reviewing all of the witness statements, he was **vindicated** of any wrongful doing.

Her claim to the title was **vindicated** by historians.



Using GCSE POD



## STEM Club

### Dream Catcher Assembly at Roebuck School

This morning, 5 students (Branwen R, Ayla S, Daniel P, Callum M and Blu A) from Year 8 visited Roebuck school and gave an assembly as part of Roebuck's 'Dream Catcher' programme.

The children at the school were a fantastic audience and were suitably impressed by the experiments the STEM students had taken along. Their favourite was where Daniel made it look as if he was turning water pink and back to colourless again.

He was actually using phenolphthalein indicator and some alkali to produce the pink colour, then neutralising with some acid to turn the indicator back to being colourless.



The assembly ended with a BANG when the students lit two hydrogen balloons, and the Roebuck children burst into applause.

Well done to Branwen, Ayla, Daniel, Callum and Blu for being prepared to stand up in front of about 100 children and entertain them so well.

The Roebuck children are now asking their teachers for a STEM Club of their own!

Mrs Butterfield

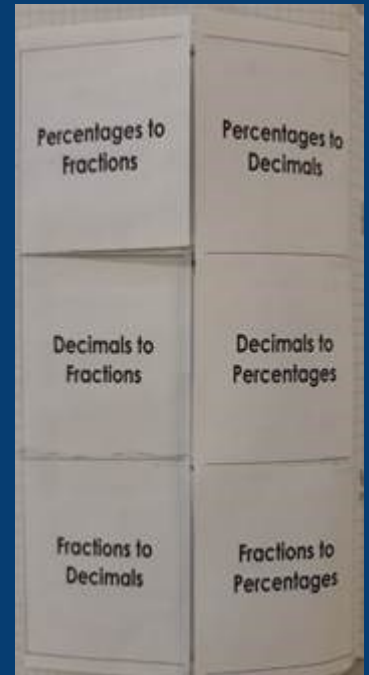
**#PRIDE**

## Mathematics

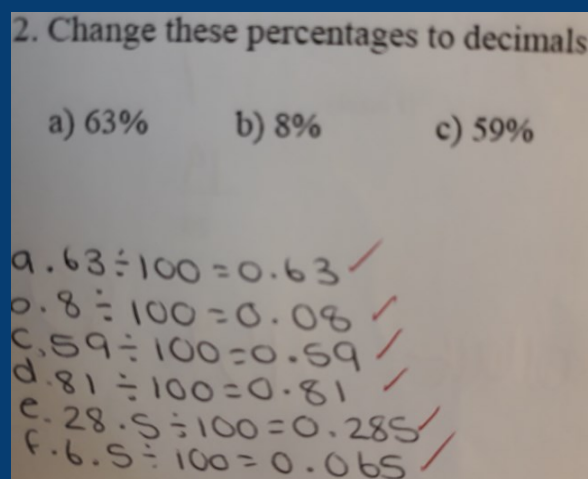
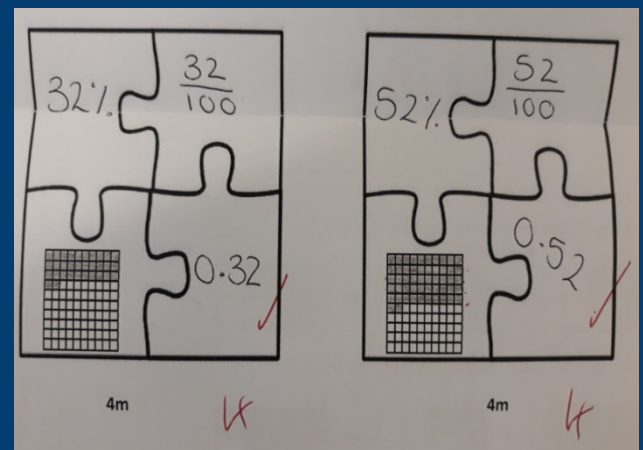
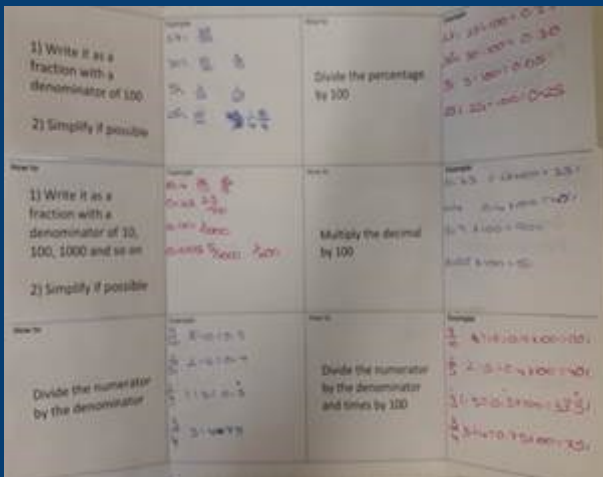
Practical lessons are not possible for many maths topics, but with percentages, fractions and decimals we found a way!

Year 10 students produced some fantastic interactive booklets; explaining the methods and showing examples of converting between the 3.

They then used their booklets to produce some excellent work.



Mrs Gibson



## Save Water: Act Now Project

On Monday, six classes from 3 local primary schools came to our leisure centre to present campaigns they had held about saving water.



Teams of Sixth Form students have been working with these classes since January, with the support of Jon Gibson from Affinity Water, who wrote and trialed the scheme of learning, before training the Sixth Form to deliver it.

The Barnwell Students worked extremely hard, learning the content, gathering the basics on how to teach a class and developing professional relationships with the primary school staff and the children they were teaching.

The photograph shows representatives from Peartree Spring school Eco-schools team winning their prize for the most cohesive campaign, but prizes were also awarded for the Best poster (Longmeadow School Year 6), best use of ICT (Roebuck School Year 4) and best Leaflet (Longmeadow School Year 5).



At the celebration event, the visiting children had the opportunity to work with Affinity Water staff on two different water-based experiments, and to make water saving badges with the sixth form students.

Congratulations to all involved!

## Year 12 A Level Media Studies



Year 12 A Level Media students are currently editing their entry for the Rock Challenge Short Film Competition.

They have interviewed a range of staff and students in various locations as well as recording a voiceover and remixing material from previous rehearsals.

Next week they will be recording footage from the day itself and all participants are invited to send in a favourite selfie from the day to be edited into the finale frame.

Year 10 GCSE Media students have been set an Easter Stretch and Challenge task to re-brand and remix the Barnwell School Logo to commemorate the school's 60<sup>th</sup> Birthday.

### Rehearsal Schedules

For



Please click on the links below:

[Actors & Singers Rehearsal Schedule](#)

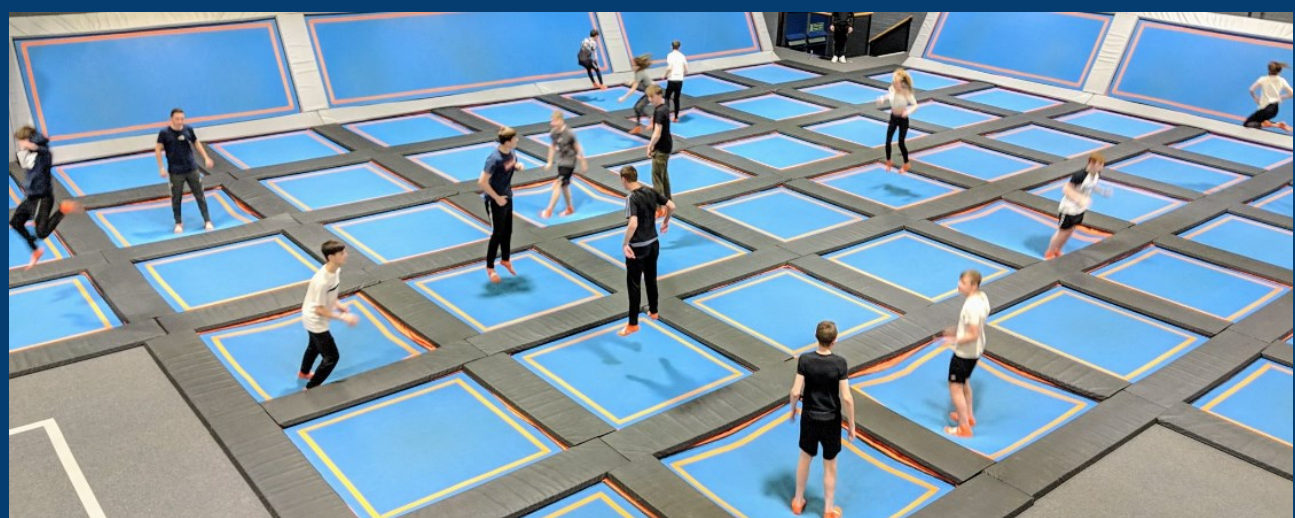
And

[Chicago Dancers Rehearsal Schedule](#)



## PE News

On Thursday our Y10 sports studies students took over Air Space!  
[#hardworkbringsrewards](#)



Also on Thursday we attended the Stevenage  
Healthy Lifestyle Festival!  
Students had a whirley good time



On Wednesday some of our students attended Top Jump in Milton Keynes! Looks like a fun but tiring day!

## Extra Curricular Sports

PE and school sport is about so much more than just physical health. So please encourage your children to sign up to this term's extra curricular sports.

Timetables are available below:

[Click here for Middle School Extra Curricular Sports Timetable](#)

[Click here for Upper School Extra Curricular Sports Timetable](#)

## PHYSICAL ACTIVITY STRENGTHENS THE MIND & THE BODY

### EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING

Our brains release endorphins during exercise, which help improve our mood, sleep, and energy levels.



### MEMORY

Exercise boosts the area of the brain in charge of verbal memory and learning.



### ATTENTION

Being physically active increases our ability to pay attention.



### SOCIAL SKILLS



Physical activity most of the time involves participation in a team, which enhances leadership and empathy skills.

### HEART, VEINS, ARTERIES

The heart is a muscle. Exercise helps it become stronger and more efficient, aids in keeping our veins and arteries clear, and decreases the levels of harmful cholesterol and fats in our blood.



### LUNGS

Working out increases lung capacity, so that our lungs can draw more oxygen into our bodies while releasing more carbon dioxide.



### BONES

Being physically active increases bone density, which helps prevent osteoporosis.



### WEIGHT CONTROL

Regular exercise helps us remain fit and control our weight.

### BLOOD SUGAR LEVELS

When we exercise, the glucose in our bloodstream is used by our muscles which makes it less likely that sugar will build up in the blood.



## Uniform Donations Required



**Do you have any outgrown good quality School Uniform and PE kit that you could donate to other Barnwell families?**

**If so, please send them into school for the attention of Shelagh MacKey.**

**Any help would be so much appreciated.**

## Sponsored Readathon

The sponsored Readathon will be continuing until the end of term.

Please encourage your children to sign up!



**WARNING!**  
Books can seriously change lives!

Join our sponsored read and YOU can change lives too!

Start date: Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> March  
Sponsor money in by: Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> April  
Organiser: \_\_\_\_\_

 [readforgood.org](http://readforgood.org)

Watch the following video for more information:  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=S2vUPYpaZK4&feature=youtu.be>



## Lulworth Cove Trial Challenge

Mr Murray, Mr Naicker, Mr Smith (teacher) and Mr Smith (Site Manager) completed a 29 mile off road run.



## Barnwell Community Gardening Day

Saturday 27th April 2019



Barnwell School are excited to announce we have been successful in our application for a small grant from Stevenage Community Trust to develop an old allotment area into a functioning and working allotment space for our students.

Following a fantastic response from the community, we are delighted to inform you that on Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> April we will be holding a Community Gardening Day at

### **Barnwell Upper Campus**

**10am-3pm**

You do not need to sign up, however we are keen to receive feedback from as many parents/ carers as possible. If you have either the skills, experience, equipment, knowledge and or time to support this project, we would love to hear from you via the google doc below:

### [Community Gardening Day Sign Up](#)



## Free Breakfast!

Monday to Friday from 8am - 8.25am

Breakfast Club has once again had a busy week.

We are keen to see more students attending this Free Breakfast in Year's 10 and 11 on Upper Campus.

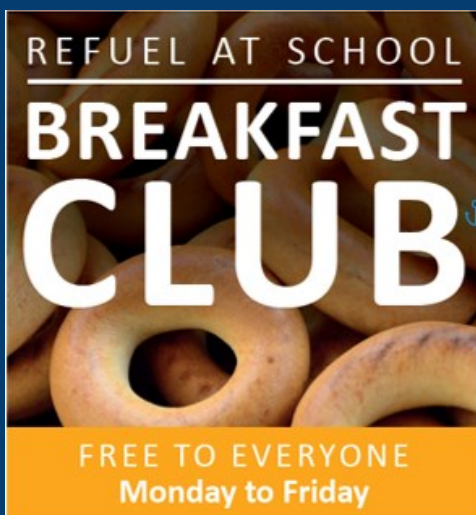
This Breakfast provision is a great opportunity to also complete homework, revise, check emails, socialise, read etc.

Leading up to the exam period this will be especially beneficial. More details will follow after the Easter Break.

We look forward to seeing students there next week at Breakfast Club.

## What food is available?

**Bagels, Cheerios, Shreddies, Cornflakes, Rice Crispies**





## Careers Open Evening at Lister Hospital

The East and North Hertfordshire NHS Trust based at the Lister Hospital, Stevenage, is delighted to offer an NHS careers open evening on

Tuesday 16 April 2019 from 5pm to 7pm

This is open to local school pupils from the age of 14, parents and teachers. They will be showcasing NHS careers including medicine, nursing and midwifery through a mix of lectures and personal conversations with a range of professionals including student doctors, consultants, nurses and many other NHS careers.

Please contact David Brewer at [david.brewer@nhs.net](mailto:david.brewer@nhs.net) to confirm your place – we expect to get to capacity very quickly so be quick!

## Take the Time to Thank a Member of Staff

As a new initiative, we would like to offer parents the opportunity to recognise the hard work individual members of staff put in on a daily basis to ensure your children thrive academically and pastorally.

The Barnwell Staff Thank You scheme will run throughout the year and will be available to access via newsletters and our new school website.

Staff that are nominated will be personally recognised in school.

Please click the picture below to be directed to a simple on-line form to register your nomination.

A graphic with the text 'THANK YOU TEACHERS AND STAFF' in large, colorful, block letters. The letters are arranged in four lines: 'THANK' (top), 'YOU' (second), 'TEACHERS' (third), and 'AND STAFF' (bottom). Each letter is a different color, creating a vibrant rainbow effect.

THANK  
YOU  
TEACHERS  
AND STAFF

## Hertfordshire Fire & Rescue Service Open Day

Hertfordshire Fire and Rescue Site are hosting an open day at **Longfield Training Centre** on **Sat 13<sup>th</sup> April 11am – 4pm**. There will be a host of activities taking place, with Fire demos, Air Ambulance, 'Req's their fire dog in attendance, bouncy castle, meet the super heroes, teddy bear parachute jumps, BBQ, Ice Cream van and much much more.



Working in partnership with Trading Standards, Resilience and Herts Police

HERTFORDSHIRE FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE

# LONGFIELD OPEN DAY

Longfield, Hitchin Road, SG1 4AE (FREE ADMISSION)

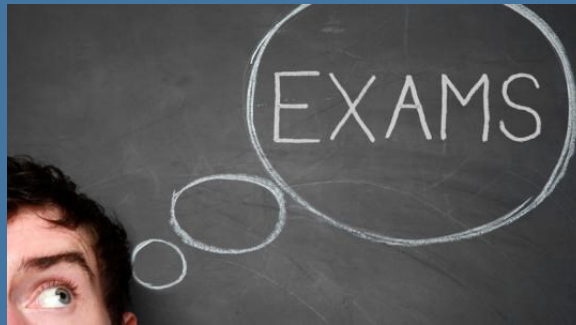
SAT 13TH APRIL 2019 11AM - 4PM

Attendees include Essex & Herts Air Ambulance & other agencies

Bring your teddy bear for a parachute jump (Operational calls permitting) Come and meet your super heroes, Fire Investigation dog, smoke experience, rescue demonstrations, bouncy castle, children's driving experience, BBQ, drone demo and more.

WORKING TO PROTECT. ACTING TO SAVE.  
[www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/fire](http://www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/fire)





Please help prepare students by ensuring that they are aware of the following rules:

- Any pencil cases brought into exams MUST be see through
- All written work MUST be in BLACK biro only
- Mobile phones MUST be switched off and handed in at the start of the exam and exchanged for a raffle ticket and can be collected after the exam has ended
- No watches of any kind are allowed in the exams and must also be handed in and exchanged for a raffle ticket
- Any water bottles brought into the exam must be clear plastic bottles and all labels must be removed before entering

With the Summer exam season fast approaching, it's important that students and parents read the Examinations Student Handbook.

This can be found by clicking the link below:

<https://www.barnwellschool.co.uk/students/examinations/>

## Summer 2019 Exams Contingency Day

Summer exam timetables have now been sent out, but please be aware that candidates must remain available until Wednesday 26 June 2019 should an awarding body need to invoke a contingency plan.

## Exams Continued

# ENGLISH EXAM TIPS

GCSEPod's Top Tips for Good English Exam Habits

EXAM SUCCESS



### GENERAL

#### TRY NOT TO WAFFLE

Avoid overly lengthy responses to the reading questions as you'll lose clarity and focus. Instead, think about the number of marks awarded for a question. A 20-mark question will need a lengthier response to an 8-mark question. An 8-mark question probably doesn't need a four-page response. Remember, clear writing equals a clear mark.

#### KNOW YOUR EXAM BOARD

It's important that you consider the Assessment Objectives (AOs) for each exam question - your teacher or tutor can help you with this. Generally, the highest marks come from discussing the effect of a certain piece of writing or technique. Pay attention to the specific things your exam board's AOs are looking for.

#### PLAN AND PROOF-READ

One reason people lose marks in the writing section is by failing to plan and proof-read their work effectively. It's vital you think about how you're going to structure your response. It's also important to set aside time to read through your work and catch any errors. Proof-reading also provides an opportunity to check the clarity of your work, is it clear? Have you removed any unnecessary extras?

#### REMEMBER YOUR TIMING

Remember your timing. Try to attempt all of the questions. If you're running out of time, remember that answering one question well out of multiple will not be enough. It's better to try to finish off the question you're answering and to begin tackling the others. A castle isn't a castle because of a single tower - it takes a collection of towers and more! Every mark matters.



REMEMBER: PREPARE AND PRACTICE IN ADVANCE WILL PUT YOU IN A MUCH BETTER PLACE TO TACKLE YOUR READING AND WRITING EXAMS. GOOD LUCK!

### TACKLING QUESTIONS

#### PAY ATTENTION TO STRUCTURE

If you're asked to comment on a text's structure, remember that some boards will not award marks for discussing punctuation and sentence length unless you're making a very clear structural (and not language related) point. If you're asked to comment more generally upon the effects of a text, remember you can use language points to inform and develop your structural points!

#### COMPARING, AGREEING AND DISAGREEING

When you compare, remember to focus on comparing the feelings and perspectives of the writers - not just the techniques. It's not enough to note that one used a list where the other used a simile. When you agree or disagree, try to determine where each text would sit on a scale of 1 to 10 with 1 being strongly disagree and 10 being strongly agree.

#### ANSWER CLEARLY AND CONCISELY

There are a lot of ways to do this. Firstly, make sure you've read any text or extract at least twice before or during the exam (depending on whether or not the extract is 'unseen'). You need to understand what the text is about to answer any question well. Also make sure you're specific about the effects the text has upon the reader and avoid phrases which could be applied to any technique in the text, such as 'it has an effect' or 'it creates an image in the reader's mind'. Go into more specific detail than this!

#### AVOID SIMPLY LISTING TECHNIQUES

Always remember to go into detail about the effects and/or effectiveness of the techniques being used. Remember the focus of the text, at all times and make sure you're commenting upon what the question wants you to explore. This may be the purpose or effectiveness of the text.

#### PLAN TO SUCCEED IN YOUR READING EXAMS

You need to show an awareness of what is happening within the text or extract. This means an understanding of what the writer intends and how they achieve it through structure, language and tone. This doesn't mean loads of technique spotting but it does mean noticing how the text starts and develops. If it changes, why? If it doesn't, why?



# MATHS EXAM TIPS

GCSEPod's Top Tips for your GCSE Maths exam

EXAM SUCCESS



### REVISION

#### REVISE MATHS BY 'DOING MATHS'

Practise questions 'little and often' - you can't learn it all by cramming in a couple of long days. Your maths skills are like building blocks which have been developed over a long time.

#### IDENTIFY YOUR KEY AREAS

Use past papers and tests to identify your strengths and areas to improve.

Spend revision time on the topics that you are not good at, seeking help with these areas from teachers or the online resources that you have available to you.

#### LEARN THE SKILL OF 'CHECKING'

Practise checking through your work, or marking other people's work and finding errors; this will help you in your own exam.

#### LEARN YOUR FORMULAE

Check with your exam board to see which formulae are given and which you'll need to learn by heart.



Don't spend too long on one question. If your calculation seems to be over complicated you may want to stop and check that you are going down the right path. The first few pages are the most important part! If time allows, go back and redo the first 6-8 pages; you are bound to have thrown away marks as you weren't fully relaxed when you started the exam.

#### REMEMBER YOUR TIMING

#### WHAT IS THE QUESTION ASKING?

Read the question CAREFULLY and UNDERLINE key words and values. Pause to THINK about what the question is asking. decide which process you are going to use.

#### ACCURATE WORK

Keep your calculations neat and work down the page. Underline values that you are going to use again. Use any given diagrams and mark any information on them carefully.

#### SHOW ALL OF YOUR WORKING OUT

Write down everything that you are doing, even if you are able to calculate in your head. Remember to show all working on graphs and compass constructions, and label diagrams clearly.

#### ALWAYS HAVE A GO

If a long question seems 'too hard', try to write down something that you do know - you will pick up valuable 'method marks'. Sometimes when you come back to a question after a break it can magically make sense.





## Show My Homework

Parents should log in weekly to check:

- What homework has been set.
- Students have handed in on time.
- Did homework meet expectation?
- Get reminders / updates from teachers.

P  
R  
I  
D  
E

Research shows that student progress is more rapid when parents log in at least once a week!

Parents can check their login details by emailing [d.smith@barnwell.herts.sch.uk](mailto:d.smith@barnwell.herts.sch.uk)

*Download the free app to your mobile / device!*

**Monthly prize draw for parents regularly logging-in.**

**Barnwell School**

M I D D L E & U P P E R

*Achieving Excellence Together*

## Barnwell Social Media

If you aren't already, please make sure you follow our social media accounts below for the latest Barnwell news:



Twitter:

@BarnwellSchool  
@Barnwell\_PE  
@Barnwell6thForm  
@GOBarnwell  
@BarnwellY7Adv  
@Barnwell\_Ski



Instagram

@barnwellperformingarts  
@Barnwellfood|

facebook

@Barnwell School (Official)

## Stand By Me Teen Bereavement Support Group

If you feel your child would benefit from some bereavement counselling, referrals can now be made for the June group programme. Referrals are accepted from parents or carers however if you would like support with this process, please contact your child's Head of College or Head of Year.



### Teen Bereavement Group Programme June 2019



#### PLACES NOW AVAILABLE!

Referrals are now being accepted for the 2019 Summer Teen Bereavement Group

#### Who is it for?

11- 16 year olds living in North Herts or Stevenage who have bereaved of a significant relationship at anytime in their childhood

#### Details

The therapeutic group programme takes place weekly over 6 consecutive weeks for between 90 mins and 2 hours

#### Find out more

Referrals from parents and carers are welcomed

#### CONTACT

E: [info@stand-by-me.org.uk](mailto:info@stand-by-me.org.uk) Mob: 07469 255139

## Free School Meals

Your child could get a free school meal if you receive any of the following:

- **Income Support**
- **Income-based Jobseekers Allowance**
- **Income-related Employment and Support Allowance**
- **Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999**
- **The guaranteed element of State Pension Credit**
- **Child Tax Credit** (as long as you're not also entitled to Working Tax Credit and you don't get more than £16,190 a year)
- **Working Tax Credit run-on** (paid for 4 weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit)
- **Universal Credit** (with annual earned income of no more than £7,400 after tax and not including any benefits you get).



**Apply today if you receive any of these benefits. It takes 5 mins and in most cases we can tell you straightaway if your child can get free meals at school.**

**[Click here for information about how to apply](#)**



Barnwell have invested in the award winning resource, GSCEPod, to help your child reach their goals!

Join the thousands of parents encouraging their children to use GCSEPod to support learning, homework and revision.

**[Click Here to Find Out More](#)**

## An amazing Marathon Effort

Two members of our school community have been training hard and will be taking on the challenge of the London Marathon on 28<sup>th</sup> April.

June Owen – Upper Campus Kitchen Queen has been training hard after deferring her 2018 entry due to injury. June is raising awareness and money for the British Lung Foundation.

Donations can be made by visiting her just giving page below:

[https://uk.virginmoneygiving.com/  
fundraiser-display/  
showROFundraiserPage?  
userUrl=JuneOwen&pageUrl=2](https://uk.virginmoneygiving.com/fundraiser-display/showROFundraiserPage?userUrl=JuneOwen&pageUrl=2)



Julia Bunting – Parent Partnership member will be running her 3<sup>rd</sup> London Marathon and is raising awareness and funds for Papyrus, the national charity dedicated to the prevention of young suicide [www.papyrus-uk.org](http://www.papyrus-uk.org).

To donate on Julia's giving page please click below:

<https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/julia-bunting6>

## School Closure Notification System

Hertfordshire County Council operate a Schools Closure Notification System for advising parents should schools have to close for any reason. This system is operated by Everbridge and parents are able to register with Everbridge to receive emails and/or texts sent by schools.

Once registered parents can sign up for any school in Hertfordshire, primary or secondary.

To register please click on the link below:

### [Click Here to Register](#)

This link will direct you to the sign up page where you should click on the 'sign up' button located at the top right hand side of the page on the grey strip and from there follow the instructions. It should take no more than five minutes to register and you can edit your information at any time should you change your mobile number or email address.

Parents/carers are urged to sign up for this service as we will be contacting Everbridge as soon as a decision is made to close the school for whatever reason, such as heavy snow. The system will only be used for School Closures or other serious issues and is a supplement to information currently provided via the Herts Direct website and local radio stations. Our website will also be updated regularly.



## Half Fare Bus Travel for 11-18 Year Old's

To get a SaverCard, you will need to:

- be **11-18 years old**
- be in **full-time education**
- live in **Hertfordshire**
- pay a fee of **£15**.

To apply, click on the link below:  
<https://savercards.hertfordshire.gov.uk/>

