

Dear Parents/Carers

This will unfortunately be our final newsletter for the foreseeable future. We are in incredibly uncertain times as a nation and this has definitely been the most challenging period of school leadership my team has faced.

There are obviously still many questions that need answering but currently we appreciate the very kind messages of understanding and support from numerous parents.



As well as those families facing very difficult times through these circumstances, our thoughts go to our Year 11 and 13 students that have recently found out they will not be sitting examinations this summer. As a parent of a Year 11 child, I know many of the students will have mixed emotions, ranging from relief that the pressure has been removed, to frustration that the culmination of over 11 years of education has no end point.

We have reassured students that we will still be here to support their learning journeys. We will do all we can to ensure their final qualifications are a true representation of the effort they have put in during the years they have been with us.

We hope all students remain safe by following the government guidance on social distancing, and we look forward to being able to update you with news from our amazing school in the near future.

Thank you once again for your support.

Regards

Mr Roberts - Head of School

Celebrating Student Achievement

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

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

Gabriel A - RC Ellie K - JME Chloe M - PPE Lenny C - DFA Alexandra I - GW Kieran-James I - JME

Jamie L - HR Kimberleigh E - NHA Megan M - RAW Stacie F - SF Shanira H - BI Stacey L - DL

Kian P - DFA Michaela W - ML Abbie S - AMW Jessica B - RAW Rebecca M - JLJ Sophie B - RC

Amy R - SC Luke C - ACH Mason T - DL Jamie-Leigh C - EB Frankie M - GW Lennie C - SC

Bella O - RAW Lewis C - EB Tamsin P - SC Lucas C - GW Simba R - SC Annabella C - RC Liam C - RAW

Congratulations to our highest credit achievers this week:

Ellie-May L - HR Lenny C - DFA Renee J - GW Ross B - LPA Georgina Q - KP Stanley M - BI

Eddie C - KP Piotr Z - JLJ Ryan S - NHA Alfie L - HR Keane S - SGO Edward T - DD Kiara S - JEL

Sila M - JM Stanley T - DFA Anna N - SGO Michael W - HR Eduard A - SGO Jamie H - BI Megan H - SC

Callum D - HR Ayla S - ER Hadley S - RAW Bayleigh W - ER Devon M - RC Morgan S -

SC Mussa M - LCA Kyle S - JEL Katie M - KP Mante S - ACH Kian P - DFA

Maddison S - DD Ellie P - RC





Word of the Week



‘Collaboration’

(Tier 2 word)

The action of working with someone to produce something.

Use the Word of the Week in context as many times as possible throughout the week and you could receive #WOW positive points every time!

Synonyms

- Teamwork
- Alliance
- Cooperation
- Partnership

REWIND Community Film Project

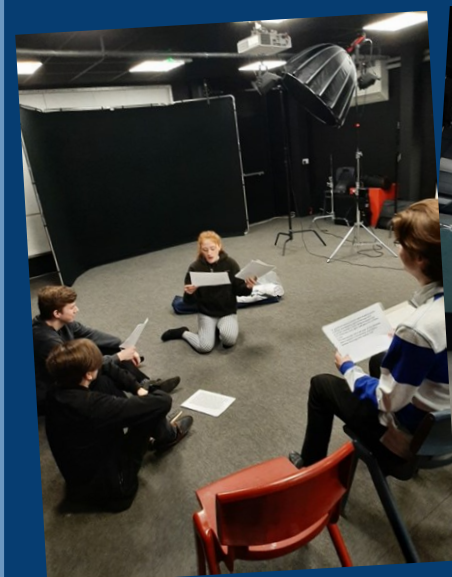
On Thursday 13th and Friday 14th February, Barnwell's Media Department hosted local community film crew *Rewind*. They are currently producing a film about Margaret/Betty Pickersgill, a Stevenage New Town Pioneer and poet, to commemorate and promote her legacy. Amongst many other vibrant community projects, she set up the Canyon, campaigned against Road 9 and Poll Tax, and she was a founder member of Parnassus, a local arts group. Her history proves that you can bring about change, even if it sometimes feels that you can't. This was the inspiration to seek funding for this project from Heritage and Council sources.

A diverse range of students were involved from KS4 and KS5. Directors Craig and Gemma Maret asked us to consider 2 key questions:

- How can anyone make a difference and change the world?
- What do you dislike about the way things are in your local, national and global surroundings?

Students were given the opportunity to assist with various aspects of technical production, to contribute to voiceover work, or to respond to questions and answers in discussion and interviews. They were also able to observe the film-making process in action. Without exception, Craig and Gemma were thoroughly impressed by everyone who contributed to the production process. Jamie B in Year 12 was commended by the crew for his outstanding work as production assistant throughout the residency.

KEY LEARNING:
PAY ATTENTION TO THE PROCESS (Studio time)
SPEAK SLOWLY & CLEARLY (VO)
SPEAK IN SENTENCES! (Q&A)



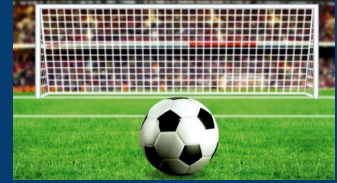
Science

9x1 made the most of having a high equipment to students ratio and made huge parallel circuits!



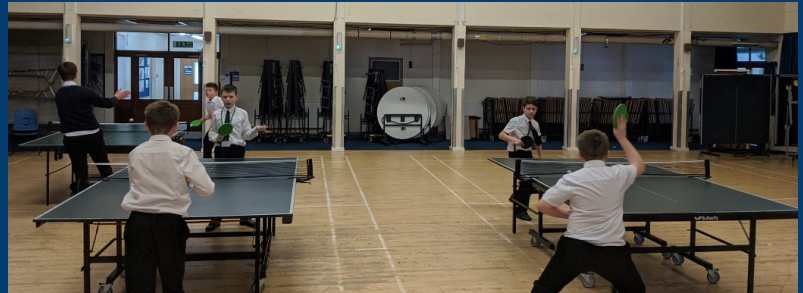


This Weeks PE News



FRIDAY 13TH MARCH - Y7 SPORT

RELIEF - Thanks to all of our Y7 students who competed in today's charity table tennis tournament. It was closely contested all the way to the final with some excellent play throughout. Congratulations to Riley who won the final 15-13



THURSDAY 12TH MARCH - STEVENAGE SPORTING

FUTURES - Partner schools took part in The Mini Red Tennis Competition today hosted by [@Listertennis](#) . Congratulations to the winners St Ippolyts. Led by Barnwell leaders with Mr Hardiman and SFT Apprentices and Anne W.



Year 11

Just in Case this was Their Last Day...

Today, we held a “Just in Case” Leavers Assembly for our Year 11’s.

We hope this isn’t the last time we see them all together at Barnwell, however the near future is uncertain and we couldn’t let them leave here today without wishing them well.



Year 11 2020

Just in Case this was Their Last Day...
A Thank You and Goodbye from our Amazing Year 13's!



Year 13 2020

Looking After Your Wellbeing

As organisations are working tirelessly to manage the continuously changing and developing situation of Covid-19; we wanted to share with you some helpful links that focus on how we can all look after our mental health and emotional wellbeing during this time. We are aware that you have already been provided with significant medical and practical advice on how to manage the virus pandemic within your setting and therefore are focusing here on looking after mental health and emotional wellbeing.

Due to the unprecedented nature of this situation, there are many unanswered questions, and lots of media attention, which can lead to anxiety and stress among children, young people, parents/ carers and colleagues.

We hope that you will find the following information about how to look after our mental health and emotional wellbeing helpful not only in supporting your children and families, but also for yourself, friends and families alike.

- 1. Young Minds** have published great resources and ideas about things adults and young people can do to manage any stress and anxiety they may experience in relation to coronavirus: <https://youngminds.org.uk/blog/what-to-do-if-you-re-anxious-aboutcoronavirus/> They also have a mental health advice line available for parents operating between 09:30am-4pm, Monday- Friday: 0808 802 5544
- 2.** The following **Young Minds** link addresses how to look after your mental health when self-isolating: <https://youngminds.org.uk/blog/looking-after-your-mental-health-while-selfisolating/>
- 3. Centres for Disease Control** and prevention provide some helpful messages on how to talk to children about Coronavirus: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019ncov/community/schools-childcare/talking-with-children.html>
- 4. Every Mind Matters** provides general information about looking after your mental health which would be relevant during this challenging time as much as at any other time and provides top tips to improve emotional wellbeing: <https://www.nhs.uk/oneyou/every-mindmatters/>
- 5. Mind** website provides useful information about how to cope if people feel anxious about coronavirus, how to manage staying well at home if being asked to self-isolate and taking care of your mental health and wellbeing among other tips and advice: <https://www.mind.org.uk/information-support/coronavirus-and-your-wellbeing/>
- 6. Education Support** website is dedicated to supporting the mental health and wellbeing of education staff in schools, colleges and universities. It contains free information including a free 24/7 helpline – 08000 562 561: <https://www.educationsupport.org.uk/> It also has financial advice information for supply teachers: <https://www.educationsupport.org.uk/helping-you/information-supply-teacherscontractors-coronavirus>

Looking After Your Wellbeing - Continued

7. Mind Hertfordshire Network provides a crisis helpline for anyone experiencing mental health distress or requiring emotional support and signposting. Professionals, family/ friends can call on someone's behalf with the individual's consent. Crisis Helpline number: 01923 256 391 or visit <https://www.hertsmindnetwork.org/>

8. The Anna Freud Centre 'Schools in Mind' have worked closely with settings to help promote whole-school and college approaches to wellbeing. They are conscious that the Coronavirus is creating increased pressure and additional workload for school and college staff at an already busy time of the school year. Therefore, they have produced this following document which they hope will give some guidance about how to maintain children's wellbeing at a time of uncertainty. You can access it here: <https://www.annafreud.org/media/11160/supporting-schools-and-colleges.pdf>

They have also developed three videos which will hopefully be helpful to share as follows:

Video for school staff:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SjSh5SYWFqM&feature=youtu.be>

Video for parents:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZnANLAcPRZ4&feature=youtu.be>

Video for children and young people:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ME5IZn4BAk&feature=youtu.be>

9. WHO & UNICEF Address the social stigma associated with Covid-19:
https://www.epi-win.com/sites/epiwin/files/content/attachments/2020-0224/COVID19%20Stigma%20Guide%2024022020_1.pdf



Sixth Form News

Apprenticeship News

Mayer Brown Solicitor Apprenticeship Programme is a great alternative for those wishing to pursue a career in the legal profession, without the huge financial burden incurred by fees and student loans. Deadline: 31 March 2020



Click here for more information: bit.ly/38Mtda2

Amazing Apprenticeships - We're pleased to announce our new resource, an interactive Student Apprenticeship Guide for years 12 & 13. 10 hours of self-directed learning activities means the guide can be used for distance learning or classroom-based development.

Download for free: <https://tinyurl.com/twzxya4>

School Leavers - Do you want to progress without A-Levels? Try an advanced apprenticeship.

Search today: [allaboutschoolleavers.co.uk/jobs/advanced-apprenticeships ...](https://allaboutschoolleavers.co.uk/jobs/advanced-apprenticeships...)

Careers News

National Careers Service - Our advisers offer free careers action plans, which gives you the steps you need to take to get the job you want.

Click here for more information: <http://nationalcareers.service.gov.uk/contact-us>

BREAKFAST CLUB

Dear Parents/Carers,

As you are all aware, school's will be closing their doors due to the outbreak of COVID-19. This is with the exception of key children and young people.

Breakfast Club at Barnwell will still be playing a key part in the daily routine for students, every morning, 8.30am-9am.

We were delighted to receive a delivery of Bagels this week from a new supplier. Students reported how tasty they were!

Breakfast will continue to be a FREE intervention for students that will be attending school.

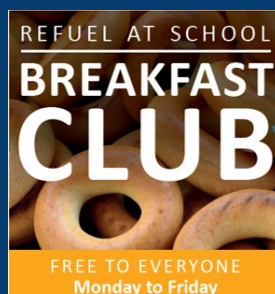
A Breakfast Club update will be shared with you when we have more information available.

Best Wishes,

Magic Breakfast Club Staff

Location: LRC

Time: 8am - 8.25am



What BREAKFAST is available?

Bagels
Porridge
Cheerios,
Shreddies
Cornflakes
Rice Crispies

**ALLERGY
ALERT**

If your child has an allergy, can we please ask that your child makes Breakfast staff aware.

Please make contact for ingredient content on specific items.

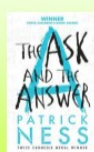
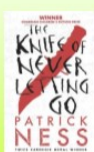
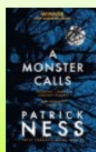
Thank You

Learning Resource Centre

Author of the month

March 2020

Patrick Ness



To borrow the books visit the LRC



Barnwell Whole School Read.

'Of Mice and Men', by John Steinbeck.

The compelling story of two outsiders striving to find their place in an unforgiving world.

Available in both Middle and Upper LRC's

OWN IT

THE OWN IT KEYBOARD AND APP

The Own It app comes with a special keyboard. This can be used like any other keyboard, but it also gives you helpful tips and friendly advice as you write!

- Track how you feel and improve your wellbeing.
- Packed full of gifs and emojis to help express yourself!
- Lots of fun quizzes, videos and articles to enjoy.

Best of all, the Own It keyboard and app is personal to you. Everything you type is kept completely private, and never leaves the Own It app on your phone.

<https://www.bbc.com/ownit/take-control/own-it-app>

Fundraising at Barnwell School



Our school community actively supports the school by raising money to benefit the school environment and enhancing every student's education.

We hope to raise £25,000 through our current fundraising campaign to generate funds to replace our school minibus. To help with this campaign, we intend to run a rolling calendar of fundraising events to be enjoyed by parents, staff and students.

As a school, we understand that with increasingly busy lifestyles it is not always easy to commit to events and activities, so we have also set up a donation scheme on Schoolcomms for our current fundraising campaign.

You can donate by going to the School Bus Donation page by using the **Schoolgateway Link Click Here**

Details for setting up a schoolgateway account can be found on the Barnwell website <https://www.barnwellschool.co.uk/parents-info/communications/>

If you are interested in getting more involved with the Schools activities, we are always on the look-out for new and enthusiastic people to join our Parent Partnership.

If you are interested in becoming involved or would like to suggest new fundraising ideas please contact us by e-mail: communication@barnwell.herts.sch.uk

Thank you, in advance, for your support.

Let's Celebrate Success!

We would like to celebrate your child's outside achievements in school.

If you would like your child's outside achievements celebrated and recognised by the school, please email details, with photo's if possible, to v.pettifer@barnwell.herts.sch.uk



Do you have an old working bike?



We are currently seeking **fully working** bikes that are suitable for young people over the height of 4ft 10.

If you have a functioning bike that you would like to donate, we would love to hear from you.

Contact Miss Sayer – s.sayer@barnwell.herts.sch.uk



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.



THANK
YOU
TEACHERS
AND STAFF

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.

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](#)