

VICTORY IN EUROPE DAY

I hope that you enjoyed the long weekend and joined in with some VE (Victory in Europe) Day celebrations. Friday, 8th May 2020, marks 75 years since the formal surrender of Nazi Germany at the end of the Second World War. On VE Day in 1945, millions took to the streets to celebrate peace after years of devastating war. This period of lockdown has been compared by some to war, the war against an 'invisible enemy' along with the loss and suffering which so many families have experienced can be considered comparable too. The crisis our generation has faced is not one of war, but one where the right thing to do is to remain at home with out loved ones, and for that, I feel fortunate. As VE Day shows us, the suffering will pass and we will be able to celebrate too, perhaps it will need to be a form a socially distanced celebration, but that day will come and 'we'll meet again'.

L. Swaine, Headteacher

OUR FIRST VIRTUAL HOUSE COMPETITION

This week we had our first virtual **HOUSE COMPETITION** giving all the students the opportunity to complete a quiz about East Barnet School and I was overwhelmed by the response!!! **840** students entered from **ALL** the Year groups, Year 8 with a fantastic 193 students, closely followed by Year 7 with 171! House Points were awarded to all students for entering, with additional points for students scoring 15+ and 18+ correct answers.

The winners from each year group were as follows:

- Year 7: **James Choi** (19)
- Year 8: **Ivor Daniel** (18) & **Anastasia Shiamishis** (18)
- Year 9: **Helena Pishiri** (18), **Charlee Campbell** (18), **Daniel Banyard** (18) & **Naina Pryse** (18)
- Year 10: **Nicole Prokopioul** (18)
- Year 11: **Elena Roncarati** (20)
- Year 12: Emily Gentle (19)
- Year 13: Oliver Killip (17) & Elena Estathiou (17)

Congratulations to all of you and thank you to everyone that participated, remember: **'YOU'VE GOT TO BE IN IT TO WIN IT!'** Keep an eye out for your House scores in the Newsletter, the points are getting close...

UPCOMING TRIPS AND VISITS

In response to the Government's advice for school trips abroad we have cancelled both upcoming trips to Berlin and Normandy. As you can appreciate our insurance company is taking longer than usual to process refunds. Once we receive the funds we will write to you individually to let you know when to expect the money back into your ParentPay account. Where appropriate we will look at the viability of reorganising a trip in the near future. We will also look to share updates shortly on the remaining trips set to take place this academic term.

FAQS FOR CHANGE TO THE SCHOOL DAY

Following our letter on 24th April 2020, regarding proposed changes to school day timings, parents and carers were asked for feedback and questions. Now that process is complete, we have compiled answers to some of the frequently asked questions. Please click [here](#) to read the response.

QUESTIONNAIRE FOR STUDENTS TO COMPLETE

Students should have been sent the following link to a questionnaire: <https://bit.ly/2L0FehQ>. It is anonymous and asks students questions about their experiences over the past five weeks. We aim to use the data to support students now and on their eventual return to school. Thank you!

TIKTOK SAFETY - Please click [here](#) for parental advice on TikTok and how to monitor it safely.

MAKE A MASCOT COMPETITION!



Your House is looking for help to create a brand new mascot. This lucky mascot will be used on Sports Day and other events to bring luck and represent your House!

YOUR DESIGN:

To help get you started here are some key things we would like you to include in your final mascot:

Your House Colours

The Mascot should wear, or have your house colours.

School Values or Your House Values

When you explain your mascot you must include how it reflects the School or House Values

School Values:

"Do the Right Thing" and "*I Want to Learn*"

House Values:

TUTU Ubuntu - "I am because we are"

MURRAY "Family isn't just blood"

KELLER "Alone we can do so little.
Together we can do so much."

CHAMA "Children can make the world a better place"

You might want to use the person the House stands for and think about their life and what their mascot might be!

YOUR COMPETITION ENTRY:

Ideally, we would like you to **MAKE** something. You can build, knit, crochet, sew, model, sculpt, 3D print, (or make a design for a 3D print) your mascot in any media. Take 3 photos of your mascot from different angles and upload to Skooler. Keep it safe for when we are back in school.

DEADLINE: 9am Monday 1st June 2020

More about Mascots: <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mascot>

The House Team

FAQ OF AEN STUDENTS AND PARENTS

To all students who come under the umbrella of AEN: Remember we are still here for you, if you want a conversation with a member of the Learning Support Team please email ainchenko@eastbarnetschool.com and we will put you in touch. Keep well.

Barrington Stoke have produced this guide (click [here](#)) to help Dyslexic students which may be of use to some parents and carers.

S. Brennan SENCo

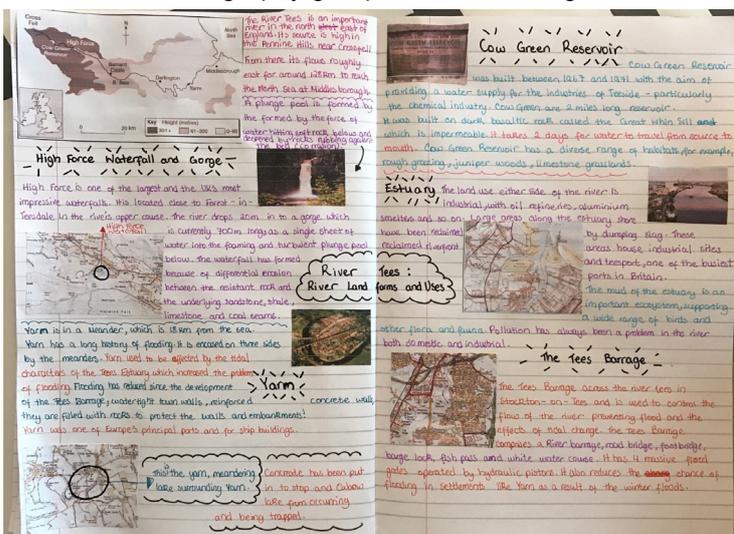
AN UPDATE ON TEACHING AND LEARNING THROUGHOUT THE SCHOOL

We have been amazed by how quickly both staff and students at EBS have adapted to the new norm that is 'home learning'. We cannot underestimate the lengths members of our community have gone to in providing a broad remote education for our wonderful children at such short notice. Not only the teaching staff but those in administration and support roles too, who have worked tirelessly to make everything run smoothly. None of this would be possible without the expertise of individuals who have been on hand to set up groups, remotely train staff and students and troubleshoot any issues that arise with prompt resolve.

The use of Skooler as our main education platform has been a steep learning curve for many and we are very proud of our staff adapting so quickly to the new, and for some, quite alien way of working. We continue to learn day by day to help improve the home learning experience for students, whilst many teachers are juggling home schooling their own children and/or caring for loved ones at the same time. We are regularly sharing planning ideas and how best to provide effective feedback for students during these challenging times.

We have moved towards weekly subject assignments for students in Year 7 to 9 and ask that students use their planners to help organise their time effectively on a daily basis. We encourage our students not to leave each assignment until the day it is due but instead try to work on them from when they are set. This helps minimise anxiety and improve organisational skills which will benefit all students in the long term. Assignments are being set using our own wealth of resources and those from the BeReady and Oak National Academy platforms. Feedback on these from students has been very positive.

For Year 10 and 12 who are studying for their GCSEs and A Levels, we have requested that teachers continue to teach the relevant course content and to prioritise feedback for these groups. By large, the students are working really well and putting a great deal of effort into their learning. An example of this is clearly visible in a recent assignment set for a Year 10 Geography group on river flooding:



We are very proud of our students' positive attitude to learning and their desire to overcome the challenges that Covid-19 has presented us all with.

For Year 11, we have now launched our subject bridging assignments to help prepare members of the year group for their next phase in education. Students have been assigned

to particular groups based on subject choices but also have full access to all subjects via the Sixth Form SharePoint on OneDrive, should they wish to keep their learning experiences at present broad. Students are expected to also continue with a core diet of Maths and English for the foreseeable future, as this will benefit learning in all other areas moving forward.

For members of our Sixth Form, we have provided student access to two excellent courses offered free of charge by Eton. For Year 12 we have selected 'Creative Problem Solving' and for Year 13, a course entitled 'Making an Impact'. Students have been emailed login details and are encouraged to make good use of this additional learning opportunity. Completion of these courses can be referenced in personal statements and skills utilised at future interviews.

A majority of our students across all year groups are coping well with the current workload and we are always looking at ways to enrich the learning experience even further for some. Mr Carrington (Most Able Coordinator), the Heads of House and Mrs Cobb (the school's Librarian) to name a few, are providing lots of different ideas for this and we encourage students to engage where possible with these additional learning challenges on top of their subject assignments.

We also appreciate however, that some students may be struggling to complete the full range of assignments set for a whole host of different personal reasons. We have made teaching staff aware of those known to us through our excellent AEN and Pastoral teams, and have encouraged colleagues to either remove some individuals from group lists or refrain from contacting home if assignments are not completed. These strategies have been implemented to minimise anxiety and stress that home learning may be causing for some families. We want all students to enjoy the learning experience rather than feeling overwhelmed during these challenging times. As conveyed clearly in our recent 'Hello' video we just want our students to do their very best possible and we will find ways of closing any learning gaps on our return to school, whenever that may be!

Having been on a rota myself since the school closure I have been delighted to see the vast range of assignments set for our students, and how engaged the key worker children (who are in school everyday) are, in completing the work being set for them. Assignments are easy to access in the student view but if any student needs a reminder about how to successfully hand in completed work then please click on the following link to watch the short screencast – a visual guide on what to do: <https://autode.sk/2USLNHQ>

Please continue to encourage your children to engage positively with their studies and we will endeavour to provide the best resources and support to enable this to happen. It is vital that we work together as a community and help each other in all ways possible. We very much look forward to being reunited in school, but until then, please keep home, keep safe and keep positive about learning. Your views are very important to us, so if you would like to provide constructive feedback about any aspect of Teaching and Learning - and especially what you feel is working well, please contact me via email so that great ideas can be readily shared amongst the teaching body.

F. Hurst, Associate Deputy Headteacher