

15th June 2020

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020 8344 2100

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STAY HOME ▶ PROTECT THE NHS ▶ SAVE LIVES

WELCOMING STUDENTS BACK

The time is finally here to welcome back some more students, today we will be welcoming in students from 10A and look forward to seeing students in the other forms and year 12 over the next two weeks. We are incredibly excited and have done everything in our power to mitigate the risks. It has been a mammoth task to organise, especially as you can imagine as we are essentially operating as three institutions in one. We have our key worker school which has been open every day since Friday 20th March. We have our online school, where staff are working hard to ensure a high quality delivery despite the challenging circumstances and now we have our traditional school with year 10 and 12. We have a significant number of staff shielding and an equally high number with caring responsibilities, so I must extend a sincere thank you to all staff who, like many of you I am sure, have had to juggle home and work life. We have a depleted number of staff able to be in the building and despite this colleagues have pulled together to ensure that we can keep going! We are learning and evolving everyday and strive to continue to improve our provision. Despite some of the negative press out there at the moment about schools and teachers, I can categorically assure you that EBS has been working harder than ever to try our very best to support your children.

Last week I mentioned Black Lives Matter, as part of my commitment to equality we are establishing a working party. The aim is to gather views, opinions and experiences of the East Barnet School community including staff, students and parents; to evaluate current practice including a review of the whole curriculum and look at modifying, if appropriate, current policy and procedures. We will keep you updated on our progress and will always endeavour to 'do the right thing'.

Keep safe and take care,

L.Swaine, Headteacher



Well-being days 20th and 21st June

Before we went into lock down, we were informed that East Barnet School had been awarded the Carnegie Centre of Excellence for Mental Health in Schools 'School Mental Health Award' – Silver Status. This is a prestigious award and we had intended on marking the occasion with well-being activities in school. In addition as students have not been able to engage in trips and enrichment activities we have decided that the last two days of term 20th and 21st June will be well-being days. We will share a variety of activities that we want the students to engage in. We will also ask students to share photographs of themselves involved in the activities so that we decorate our 'lockdown memories' board in school. We look forward to sharing all the exciting activities with you in due course.



House 'Music' Quiz

Music is a great way to relax, as well as motivate you, and over 600 students from ALL year groups accessed the House 'Music' quiz recently. Year 8 again had the highest number of students taking part, followed closely by Year 7. House Points were awarded to all students for entering, with an additional 10 points awarded to each of the Winners in each year group - with a majority achieving top marks of 23 (they sure do know their music)!

Top Scoring Winners for each year group were:

Year 7: **Chrystian Clemente (23)**
Year 8: **Natasha Newstead-Smith (23)**
Year 9: **Georgia Betts (23)**
Year 10: **Rohan Joshi (23)**
Year 11: **Kimia Daneshi (22) & Lottie Reynolds (22)**
Year 12: **Katie-Mia Diamandi (22)**
Year 13: **Joseph Zelinger (18)**

Congratulations to all of you and well done for those that took part. Look out for future opportunities to get involved in and win points for your House. The overall winner of the House Cup will be announced at the end of term, and it was very close at the last count: **Tutu 10321, Murray 9965, Chama 9818, Keller 9681** points.
Ms Bailey/Head of Keller House



Barnet and Southgate College is running a virtual open day on Thursday 25th June.

The Online Open Day will give students the chance to hear from experienced teachers, find out about full-time courses, apprenticeships and discover more about the college's facilities. Please share this event with any students who may be considering our college as their next step.

You can view the event here: <https://bit.ly/2UxumNz>

STUDENTS! - IMPORTANT INFO.

Every student has been sent a digital consent form to their email address.

Please make sure to complete before attend any online sessions.



IMPERIAL COLLEGE LONDON Design Engineering Home Study

Are you an interested School leader?

A parent of a 13- 15 year old?

Or a 16 -18 year old who loves doing hands-on things?

If so, we would love to invite you (or your child) to take part in a designing and making project at home!

Do you have any of the following toys lying around to help you for the project?

LEGO / Nanoblocks / Wilko / Megablocks / Flexo / Laser Pegs / Kre-O/ Arckit K'Nex / Zoob / Qubits / Zometool or Meccano?

If so, great! If not, don't worry you can still take part and use other things!

If you are interested, please click on the link below which will take you to the study:

<https://www.imperial.ac.uk/design-engineering/opportunities/>

and go to the 'Participate in Studies' tab where more information is provided and the links to the study!



This week's full VTALKS schedule:

<https://www.speakersforschools.org/inspiration/vtalks/upcoming-vtalks/>

HOW TO JOIN THE VTALKS...

Join 10 minutes before the VTALK to be ready

You can join without needing an account, watch how here:

– <https://vimeo.com/418436143>

VTALK LIBRARY & MORE

Watch pre-recorded VTalks from our library here:

<https://www.speakersforschools.org/inspiration/vtalks/vtalks-video-library/>

Please see our Schools Guide here:

<https://www.speakersforschools.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/04/School-Guide.pdf>



SPEAKERS
for schools
INSPIRATION

Poem by Lucy Pritchard Yr-11

Hope Is Our Beacon of Light

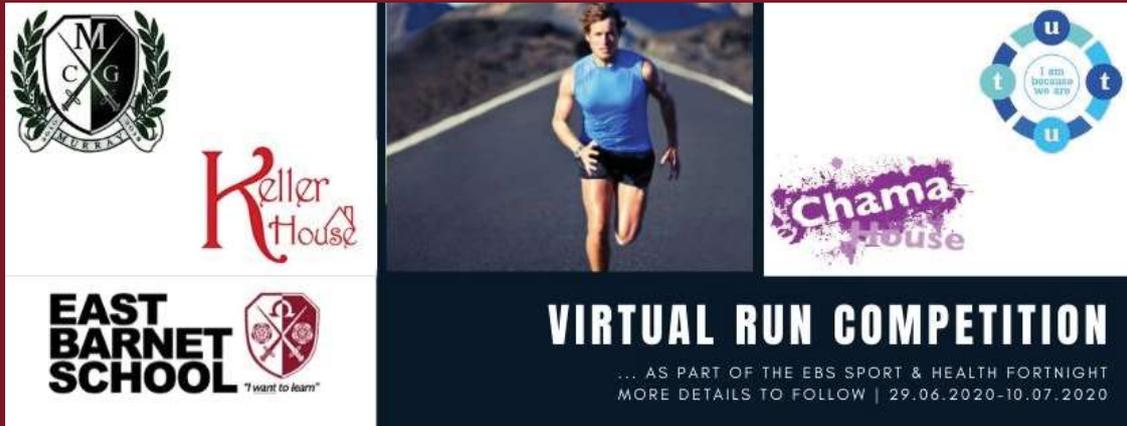
'Hope' is our beacon of light –
That hangs in the celestial blue –
And shines throughout day – reflects at night –
And beams down upon you –

And it's presence – through deep midnight – remains –
In the gleaming pallor of the moon –
That's gently illuminated by Her all the same –
We know she'll return soon –

I've glimpsed it in the barrenest land—
And shone upon the stormiest Sea—
Yet, never, I make no stand,
It asked a crumb—of Me.

Lucy wrote this poem 'Hope is Our Beacon of Light' as an original re-writing of a poem by Emily Dickinson.





History at EBS

Recently, there has been quite a lot of criticism in the media and on social media about the way History is taught in schools. I just wanted to reassure you that your child attends a school where black history is taught well by an excellent team and that it is not taught as a separate topic. Instead it is integrated and integral to a very diverse curriculum that is constantly changing to reflect the world around us. The very purpose of studying history is to help us understand the modern world and by studying the past we help our students to understand the past by making connections with the present.

In addition to studying the history of kings, queens and significant individuals our students learn about key events and developments through the eyes of ordinary men, women and children. We have study units at Key Stage 3 that could be seen as more specifically related to black history such as the development of the slave trade and the civil rights movement in the 1950s and 60s but these topics form part of a wider study of the development of the British Empire and the industrial revolution. This allows us to celebrate British innovation and progress as well as criticize the hardships endured by countless subjects of the empire on West Indian plantations, Yorkshire mills and as a result of British occupation around the world. We also don't just focus on the negative impact of slavery on Africa, we also explore the rich cultural heritage of Africa before the slave trade. Our staff know that you cannot teach the abolition of slavery without talking about Olaudah Equiano and Sojourner Truth as well as William Wilberforce, just as you cannot talk about Thomas Edison being the creator of the lightbulb without mentioning that Lewis Latimer designed the filament that made the lightbulb work.

When we study the first and second world wars we recognize the role of Indian and African troops who risked and in many cases lost their lives alongside their British counterparts. When we evaluate the role of individuals our students are taught to understand that people are complex, not simply good or bad. Our students are able to comprehend that Winston Churchill can be criticized for his actions in South Africa and Ireland as well playing a pivotal role in defeating the Nazis in the Second World War.

As I have shown above, our Key stage 3 curriculum integrates black history it also explores the impact of immigrants on Britain including Jews and Huguenots, the Irish and the Windrush generation. At GCSE our study unit on 19th Century Whitechapel also explores the impact of immigration and the racial tensions that arose. We also study Nazi Germany and not only do we look at the persecution of Jews, we also include the impact on other minorities such as homosexuals, gypsies and the disabled. Our A Level curriculum includes a whole exam on South African history which includes the fight against the racist apartheid regime, role models such as Nelson Mandela and much more. Our US History paper has a quarter of the topic devoted to the black civil rights movement in addition to Hispanic, gay and native American civil rights. We also focus on the discrimination and related campaign for a majority, women, who are still facing discrimination and await the ratification of the Equal Rights Act.

Our "history" curriculum takes us right up to the present day and our lessons are constantly being revised to reflect recent developments. Whilst I accept that there is still much more to do to reflect all of our students' backgrounds into our teaching and there is much more that can be done on a national level to improve the quality and provision of black history. Please rest assured that our students are studying a rounded and diverse history curriculum and our teachers understand that black history plays an important and essential role.

Mr Richman, Head of Humanities