

REMOTE LEARNING

We know students learn best in the classroom with a specialist teacher but, unfortunately, we have had a dramatic increase in Covid-19 cases recently where previously we had very few. Many classes are being taught by non-specialists and in some cases, due to staff absence, we are asking for external supply cover to come in. In light of this, we have made the difficult decision to keep the students, staff, families and EBS community safe by moving to remote learning from Monday, December 14th. As a further consequence of moving to home learning for the final week, families will have control over ensuring their child stays safe in the lead up to the holidays, meaning they can enjoy time with their loved ones with confidence that they will not spread the virus on to vulnerable members of their family. If you feel there may be a day where childcare will be extremely difficult we will do our best to accommodate your child if they are not self-isolating. Please do contact enquiries@eastbarnetschool.com with your request. Happy Holidays!

C. Hunt, Acting Headteacher

CHRISTMAS COLLECTION



A huge thank you to all students and staff who contributed to our Homeless Action in Barnet Christmas Collection. A massive donation was delivered to the shelter on Tuesday 8th December, the likes of which the shelter had not seen before. An array of gift sets, socks, clothes, food and drink were warmly received by the volunteers at the HAB Centre, who will be distributing packs to homeless people in Barnet in the coming weeks. A big thank you goes to Mrs Irish and the Murray House Ambassadors (Sarah Higgins, Dhvani Shah, Esha Mistry and Freia Cooper) for organising, promoting and coordinating the event. Please click [here](#) to find out more about the charity and how to make further donations.

G. Carrington, PE Teacher

WINNERS OF THE LIBRARY BOOKMARK COMP!

Year 7s have participated in the annual Library Bookmark Competition producing a lovely colourful array of characterful bookmarks. There was some stiff competition within some forms and four prizes were awarded in each form. All prize winners will be awarded House Points. First prize winners get an additional prize to be collected from the Library. Thank you to our wonderful Year 7 students for taking part and helping win their Houses valuable points. The winners names are: 7A Tutu: Evelyn Ivanova, Gabriella Demetriou Do Carmo; 7B Chama: Naomi Penn; 7C Murray: Itsebus Campbell; 7D Keller: Daisy Smith, Gabriella Narvaez-White; 7E Chama: Marlon Halil; 7F Keller: Mihalia Polycarpou; 7G Murray: Nikayla McLeod-Lynch and 7H Tutu: Riya Mistry.



BBC BROADCASTER SPEAKS TO STUDENTS



On Thursday 10th December a group of Year 12 Business Studies and English students were fortunate to attend a virtual talk by Joe Lynam. Joe is a respected broadcaster and moderator who was the BBC's senior Business Correspondent for a decade. He now presents the current affairs show *The Newsroom* on BBC Radio 4 and the World Service. He has won many awards for his original journalism including the 2018

Headline Money Award for his BBC1 exposé of how RBS treated many of its own business customers and the *Wincott Prize* for Journalism in 2016. Prior to his talk, Joe had been broadcasting on the BBC into the early hours on Boris Johnson's trip to Brussels to negotiate a Brexit trade deal. In his talk Joe spoke about his journey into broadcasting and how he undertook a number of other jobs before he decided to follow his passion and seek a career in broadcasting. He faced many set-backs along the way, including damning criticism from his own boss early in his BBC career. Unwilling to let this derail him from his aspirations, Joe used this as motivation and went on to become one of the most respected Business Journalists in broadcasting. He explained to students that sometimes in your career (and in life) you have to take one step back to move forwards as he did when joining the BBC at the bottom of the ladder, having previously worked in Irish broadcasting. He spoke about the importance of seeking a career that you will enjoy and the importance of building up a network of friends and family. He also encouraged students to build themselves a reputation for getting things done. Our students were then given the opportunity to ask Joe questions. These ranged from "what will happen if there is no trade deal negotiated with the EU?" to "What news platforms are best for students to gain a balanced viewpoint on current affairs?" Joe answered further questions on Sir Phillip Green's business interests, fake news and how panicked he was when his wife gave birth to his son in the front seat of his car! It was a great experience for our students and we are hoping Joe will return in the new year to inspire more students at EBS.



You can still access support over the holiday period

We're online every day including **Christmas Day**
Sign up for free at [Kooth.com](https://www.kooth.com)



YEAR 7 BREAKFAST CLUB

Breakfast club is taking place every day for Year 7 students. Students need to be at the main gate at 7.50 and they are escorted into the building by a member of staff. All Year 7 students are welcome and, families who have been in receipt of free school meals in the last six years, will be able to access breakfast without charge. Students are escorted from breakfast club at 8.25 to be with their year group.

M. Fry & A Felsenstein

BARNET RESILIENCE DOWNLOADS

As part of our commitment to the Barnet Resilience Programme, we are sharing their latest focus papers for your information on [Physical Activity](#) and [Digital Resilience](#). You can access the individual papers by clicking the links above. We hope you find them useful.

J. Connick, Head of Wellbeing



ARE YOU FOLLOWING US ON TWITTER?

Follow for all the latest news: [@EastBarnetSch](https://twitter.com/EastBarnetSch)

A 2020 POEM

One of our Science Technicians found this poem online and wanted to share it with the EBS community:

T'was a month before Christmas,
And all through the town,
People wore masks,
That covered their frown.

The frown had begun
Way back in the Spring,
When a global pandemic
Changed everything.

They called it corona,
But unlike the beer,
It didn't bring good times,
It didn't bring cheer.

Contagious and deadly,
This virus spread fast,
Like a wildfire that starts
When fuelled by gas.

Airplanes were grounded,
Travel was banned.
Borders were closed
Across air, sea and land.

As the world entered lockdown
To flatten the curve,
The economy halted,
And folks lost their verve.

From March to July
We rode the first wave,
People stayed home,
They tried to behave.

When summer emerged
The lockdown was lifted.
But away from caution,
Many folks drifted.

Now it's November
And cases are spiking,
Wave two has arrived,
Much to our disliking.

Frontline workers,
Doctors and nurses,
Try to save people,
From riding in hearses.

This virus is awful,
This COVID-19.
There isn't a cure.

There is no vaccine.

It's true that this year
Has had sadness a plenty,
We'll never forget
The year 2020.

And just 'round the corner -
The holiday season,
But why be merry?
Is there even one reason?

To decorate the house
And put up the tree,
When no one will see it,
No-one but me.

But outside my window
The snow gently falls,
And I think to myself,
Let's deck the halls!

So, I gather the ribbon,
The garland and bows,
As I play those old carols,
My happiness grows.

Christmas ain't cancelled
And neither is hope.
If we lean on each other,
I know we can cope.

PTFA NOTICES

A big thank you to all parents, teachers and friends of EBS, who have kindly entered the EBS Raffle and supported the school with generous donations of prizes. Prizes this year include a Christmas Hamper, a Cycling Safety Camera, as well as a gift token for two for a 1 month Gym Membership. There is still time to enter the draw, and please see full details shown in EBS News Issue 444, of 26th November 2020, as well as on EBS Twitter. The Raffle will be drawn on Friday 11th December 2020, and winners will be contacted by the mobile number they used to enter. The PTFA would like to take this opportunity to convey their best wishes to everyone for the festive season.

B. Daruwalla, PTFA Chair

P.S. Don't forget if you are still Christmas shopping, you can nominate the EBS PTFA via smile.amazon.co.uk to donate at no cost to you, or via [The Giving Machine](#).

GIVE MORE THAN JUST PRESENTS THIS HOLIDAY SEASON.

Visit smile.amazon.co.uk and nominate **East Barnet School PTFA** as your preferred charity, buy your gifts or holiday essentials, and Amazon will donate **0.5% on most purchases** to fund shiny new things for our students!



DURING DARK EARLY EVENINGS:

Walk on main roads, keep to well-lit routes home, walk in a group or with a friend, tell a trusted adult if you feel unsafe.