



THURSDAY 28TH MARCH 2024

## Acting Co-Headteacher's Welcome to EBS News!

As we approach the end of this term, we would like to take a moment to reflect on some significant events and updates. Whilst we usually use this space to celebrate the successes within our community, we find ourselves experiencing mixed emotions.

Our Year 9 students recently participated in a highly successful Careers Day. This event provided them with invaluable insights into various career paths and opportunities, helping to inspire and inform their future aspirations. We extend our gratitude to all the professionals and volunteers who generously shared their time and expertise to make this day possible.

We are delighted to announce that one of our students, Sylvia Bega, has been selected as a Barnet Youth Ambassador. This is a testament to their outstanding leadership skills and commitment to making a positive impact within our local community. We congratulate her on this achievement and look forward to seeing the positive contributions she will make in their new role. Well done, Sylvia!

We are also thrilled to report the phenomenal success of our recent performance of *Oliver!* Our students showcased their exceptional talent and dedication, delivering a memorable and captivating show that left audiences in awe. We commend all the students, staff, and volunteers involved in bringing this production to life.

And finally, last week our school community was deeply saddened by the untimely passing of one of our students. In this difficult time, let us come together to support and comfort one another, drawing strength from our shared bonds and memories. Our thoughts continue to be with Lloyd's family and loved ones.

As we approach the Easter break, we hope that everyone takes the opportunity to rest, recharge, and spend quality time with loved ones. We encourage students to use this time to reflect on their achievements and set goals for the remainder of the academic year. In closing, we would like to express our gratitude to the entire school community for your ongoing support, resilience, and dedication.

Warm regards,

L. Coffill & R. Lashley Allen  
Co-Headteachers

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...and lots more!





### The Legendary Ski Trip 2024

On the evening of Saturday 10th February 79 students and 9 staff set off by coach for the ski resort of Les Orres in the French Alps. The previous two days had seen a good amount of snow fall so ski conditions were very good. The journey took a total of 20 hours and we arrived in time to get ski boots and skis fitted and have our first three-course meal. Staff and students were up, bright and breezy at 6.50am every morning and out on the slopes by 9.00am to meet their ski instructors and start ski lessons. We had a range of abilities and the progress some of our students made was tremendous. It was particularly wonderful and very EBS, the way students supported each other and the staff in their group, whether they knew them or not before the trip. In the evenings we had various après ski activities ranging from bum boarding (don't know who had more fun, the students or staff), shopping, quiz nights and on the penultimate night an impromptu disco – the mix of year groups was an amazing thing to see and everyone went to bed having had huge fun. Ultimately, the EBS Ski Trip 2024 was another roaring success. I wish to thank all the amazing students who went on the trip and of course the staff who worked hard to make it run so smoothly: Mr Baxter, Miss Bailey, Mrs Inchenko, Miss Tzouliou, Mr Warr, Miss Brady, Miss Williams and Ms Tivnann. If you wish to see more photos and videos of the trip please look on the [EBS X page](#).



### Oliver Back in Barnet

Well, the EBS Production for 2024 was, yet again, a triumph! This year we staged *Oliver! The Musical*, a true classic, that the team re-invigorated with great EBS spirit. It was a sell-out show yet again with over 800 tickets sold! Confident performances were seen from students across all year groups with the lead, Oliver, being played by the brilliant Leon Vispap in Year 7. It is so great to see how, year after year, we have such emerging talent at EBS, and it's just as exciting to see new older faces on the stage, such as Year 12 Jay O'Neill, who played a fab Bill Sykes. We saw some perfect double acts in Mr and Mrs Bumble (Sam Board and Anna Volstad) and besties Nancy and Bet (Imogen Worrell and Erin Smith-Appollis) and Klee Theodorou was a perfectly loveable and cheeky Dodger. There were simply too many great performances to mention! If you would like to have a read of the full list of performers, a letter from the director, Mr. Messios (and much more), our *Oliver!* programme, more details about the show and more pictures can be seen on our website [here](#).







### World Book Day

As we continuously strive to promote a culture of reading for pleasure (RfP), teachers read a five-part storybook to students in Years 7 to 11 during the day of World Book Day. Students heard the first part in period one, and this continued for the five periods of the day. After hearing the final section, students were asked to invent a title for the story, and to see if it matched with the actual storybook. This was a new initiative, but seemed to be fantastic as students were eagerly looking forward to the next part of the story in subsequent lessons, encouraging the love for reading. When asked about the experience, most of the students responded positively noting that they enjoyed the story and it was a fun way of celebrating World Book Day. The titles of the books read were: *The Boy, the Dog and the Spaceship* (Year 7-9), and *Sound of Thunder* (Year 10-11). Our Sixth Form students also took part in the day's activities by reading on their own. Our students said:

"I could not wait to listen to the next part of the story, it was fun!" - George, Year 10

"I actually enjoyed listening to some teachers reading out loud the story, I can always remember it." - Kayden, Year 9

At EBS, we recognise that all staff are teachers of literacy and supporting students to read for pleasure is at the core of our literacy policy and World Book Day presented a fantastic opportunity to celebrate the love of books/reading.



### Chick Madness!

EBS went chick mad in March as we partnered with Living Eggs – an ethical chick hatching programme! Their 10 day 'Ready to Hatch' programme has supported our KS3 Science Lessons and has brought some springtime fun to EBS. On 26th February 2024, 10 eggs and two hatching experts from Living Eggs arrived to a very egg-cited Miss Coffill who was our very own Mother Hen. They set up the incubator and carefully placed 10 eggs inside at a 'just-right' temperature. We waited, and we waited, and we waited and Miss Coffill could often be heard talking to her 'little chickies' whilst they remained unhatched and in their eggs. Then, on the opening night of *Oliver! The Musical*, we had our first arrival... and yes, we called him Oliver! It wasn't long before Oliver found his feet and his wet fur turned into a little yellow ball of fluff. He hopped around the cage rolling around all his brothers and sisters in their eggs. Then crack after crack, and within 48 hours we were extremely lucky to have 10 fluffy chicks born. The chicks were transferred, out of the incubator and into their new home with their food and water where they were adored by all. To find out what happened to the chicks and to see more pictures, see our website [here](#).



### International Women's Day

We celebrated International Women's Day on 8th March by taking over our social media accounts all day. Staff

and students posed with the heart symbol to represent #Inclusion, which was the theme of the day. For KS3 assembly, we welcomed Lauren Blakely from Lendlease who is a civil engineer. Lauren spoke about her experiences on-site as a female engineer and how she was inspired to follow her chosen career path. Catherine Hart, Head of Development for ZSL spoke to KS4/5 about her time at East Barnet and how her experiences led her to a career in fundraising and consequently her new role working for ZSL. Her first day was having photographs taken with the penguins who weren't as friendly as she had hoped! To conclude the day, the Kitchen created a delicious purple dessert to mirror the colour of International Women's Day.



### Dance at the Depot

The EBS dance troupe showcased their exceptional talent and dedication at the renowned Barnet Dance Festival held at the Arts Depot on Monday, the 11th March. Their performance transported the audience through time, seamlessly performing choreography and music from the timeless classic, *Oliver!* With precision and grace, this talented group brought the beloved musical to life, captivating the audience with their polished and enchanting performance. To read more about the performance, [click here](#).



### Students in Mock Trial

EBS students recently took part in a Mock Trial competition organised by Young Citizens, which is a citizenship education charity, that informs, equips and inspires young people across the UK to be active citizens. The programme aims to help young people understand how the law touches every aspect of their lives, and hopefully:

- improve life skills such as critical thinking and public speaking;
- gain an insight into how the legal justice system works;
- be able to interact with legal professionals;
- develop employability skills and boost social mobility.

Miss Pasterny advertised the event to students in Years 8 and 9 and had a lot of interest to take part. Students were given a specific legal case and had to develop and prepare legal arguments during lunchtime sessions. As a team we were lucky to get the support of two fantastic lawyers – Judge David Radford and his wife, King's Counsel Nadine Radford who came to support us during our sessions in school and later came to support us in court, on the day of the trial. Did the EBS Team win the trial? Click [here](#) to find out.



### Geography Sinking Islands Lecture

On Wednesday 13th March, the Geography Department took A-Level students from Year 12 and 13 to a lecture at the Royal Geographical Society (RGS). The lecture 'Beyond sinking islands: climate change geopolitics in the South Pacific' was led by Dr Liam Saddington of University of Cambridge. This Lecture enabled students to see the current discussions around the vulnerability of low-lying islands that are affected by the climate crisis. It highlighted the importance of political leaders, geopolitics and climate diplomacy in ensuring these low-lying islands do not disappear. Dr Saddington focussed on 'Tuvalu', a small island state in the South Pacific. The lecture explored how Tuvaluan climate adaptation and diplomacy has sought to create alternative futures and has become an important actor within international climate governance. Overall, students found it fascinating to see how what they have studied in their Geography A-Level topics such as Carbon Cycles, Coastal Landscapes and Global Systems and Global Governance being discussed in an expert setting! We hope this inspires students to make their own climate pledges and/or pursue further study in the field.



### Microsoft Career Opportunities

We were excited to welcome two representatives from Microsoft in the latest offering from our bite-size career talks. Students were amazed by the range of options that are available at Microsoft. A particular area of interest for the students was the role of software engineer. There were many great questions asked to our presenters, and it is safe to say we definitely have some budding software engineers that might end up working at Microsoft one day!







### Year 9 Speed Careers

We teamed up with Business Education Events and were delighted to invite 14 guest speakers to the school to work with our fantastic Year 9 students for a fast-paced and impactful workshop on the world of work, careers and money. Architects, doctors, engineers, business experts (and many more) joined the students to discuss all things work related, from qualifications, interests and hobbies, to career routes and future aspirations. Working in groups, business volunteers spent six minutes with each table (think speed dating, but speed careers!), and talked to your students. Students were sharp, engaging with a wide range of professionals in the room, asking insightful questions and making their mark. After the first session, the volunteers gave examples of why they thought our students were great, and they included: great eye contact – better than professional business people, fantastic, warming smiles and insightful questions about sustainability in architecture! We asked the organisers what they thought about the day spent with our Year 9 students:

“The business volunteers had a blast! The students were full of curiosity and insightful questions. What an absolute pleasure working in your brilliant school. We were welcomed warmly, treated with exceptional hospitality and all of us would come back to support the work-related journey of your amazing young people in a heart-beat!”



### Barnet Youth Ambassador

Our EBS students excelled at the Barnet Youth Ambassador and Youth Parliament Awards Evening. We are delighted to announce that EBS students triumphed on Thursday 21st March at the Barnet Youth Ambassador and Youth Parliament Awards Evening. Eight EBS students nominated themselves to stand as candidates, designed a manifesto and campaigned for votes in assemblies to the whole school throughout the month of February. With votes cast across all of the schools throughout Barnet by the 15th March deadline, candidates and families were invited to Hendon Town Hall for the Barnet Youth Ambassador and Youth Parliament Awards Evening. Congratulations to all of our candidates who participated with such composure



and courage, and a particular HUGE CONGRATULATIONS to Sylvia Bega in Year 8 who won and is now in post as Barnet Youth Ambassador. It is a fantastic achievement for Sylvia and her family and the school wish her the very best in her campaigning endeavours – brilliant news!



### #Technognition Day

A day to thank all of our school technicians in D&T, Science, Art, Food & Textiles, IT or Audio Visual. Mr Potter is our AV & Expressive Arts Technician:

“I assist with shows and concerts; anything with a mic, screen or smoke is me! I love working at EBS due to the family feel and comradery. I started as a student, then freelance, apprenticeship, now a job!”

Cali Eggleton, Emma Tombling and Kelly Locke are our Food & Textiles Technicians:

“Hello from the Food and Textiles Department on this lovely Friday! We are a team of three magicians. We love working with the amazing kids, creating beautiful food and textiles”

Trusha Kothari, one of our fab team of Science Techs, is pictured pouring agar plates in total aseptic conditions.

What a team! #TeamEBS



# ECO UPDATES



## Updates from this Half Term

The Eco-Council and Sustainability Leaders have had some great meetings this term! We debated ideas over several lunch meetings and put into place our Eco-Council Action Plan for the rest of the academic year. We are currently focusing on our 'Lights Out' Campaign whereby we are conducting reviews and audits of classrooms and offices left empty with lights on. To tie in with this, the whole school took part in our EBS Earth Hour last Friday 22nd March whereby we asked everyone to switch off their lights for the whole of Period One. We asked students to take this idea home and join in with the official Earth Hour on Saturday 23rd March at 8.30pm.



### WHAT IS EARTH HOUR?

- Earth Hour is a worldwide initiative to raise awareness of the need to look after the planet that we live on.
- Participants are encouraged to give back 60 minutes to the Earth and many organisations worldwide mark this by turning off non-essential lights for one hour. The official Earth Hour is Saturday 23rd 8.30-9.30pm.

### HOW ARE WE DOING EARTH HOUR AT EBS?

- One of our key school priorities is SUSTAINABILITY so EBS will mark this hour by turning off lights in **classrooms** and in **offices** where it is safe to do so TODAY, for the whole hour of Period 1.

### HOW DOES TURNING OFF THE LIGHTS HELP THE EARTH?

- By raising awareness that we all need to conserve energy wherever possible. Turning off non-essential lights is just one way to reduce our carbon footprint.

**JOIN 'EARTH HOUR' AT HOME TOMORROW TOO! 8.30PM**

The students also met to have a fun design session in which we created 'Lights Off' reminder signs, which will be going up in classrooms and offices over the Easter Holidays. The students came up with their own ideas which were fantastic. Watch this space for the final designs, but here are some of the designs in progress..







### Netball Qualifiers

The Year 8 Netball Team qualified for the borough finals held at Copthall School on Thursday 14th March 2024 after winning their league. The girls showed great game play, marking their opponents and making quick accurate passes up the court. They successfully won two matches and after a close battle against Wren Finchley they narrowly missed out on first place. This meant the girls finished second place overall in Barnet. Congratulations to the whole team, we are all very proud of you!



### Girls Football Cup Champions

Congratulations to the Year 8 girls who won the Middlesex Football Cup this year! They performed exceptionally in every stage winning the trophy whilst scoring 33 goals and conceding only four across five games. The girls have shown incredible team spirit, phenomenal footballing ability and have played every minute of each game with a perfect attitude. These girls should be incredibly proud of how they have represented both the school and themselves. Well done girls, we're hoping for more silverware next year!



### Staff vs Sixth Form Football

Thank you for those who donated and attended the Sixth Form vs Staff football match for Alzheimer's Society. We chose to raise money for this charity as we felt passionate about the cause and wanted to put it into the spotlight. The rain didn't stop the players' effort to put on a good show, as the students put up a great performance, leading 3-1 at half-time. However,

the staff bounced back, scoring four goals in a matter of minutes. This led students distraught and motivated to redeem themselves by scoring two more. At a 5-5 score line, neither team backed down as they both scored one more each to fight for the win. The game ended 6-6, going to penalties which resulted in a student victory (6-5). After the game there was a 'Player of the Match', rewarded to Mr Mukarram. The whole game he was cutting students left, right and centre. He scored three goals for the team and was fighting for the badge the whole time. We had hundreds of spectators down by the Astro donating and cheering for the staff! We also had Ravisan S. and Orestis P.-X. commentating the beautiful game in front of them. Our team (Evan H., Lorita M., Erind G., Andreana C. and Leo M.) would like to thank everyone who donated as we managed to raise over £300 for our charity. For more pictures, click [here](#).

Andreana C., Sixth Form



### A Final Game Win

A huge congratulations goes to our Year 11 Boys Football Team who secured victory in the Barnet League Plate Cup final with a win over Wren Academy, Finchley. The game finished 4-2 with goals from Elliot B, Riley C, Milo M-B and Nick P. This will be the last time they boys will play together as a team so it was a superb way to finish off what has been a brilliant five years together. Congratulations boys we are incredibly proud of you! When you become famous footballers, don't forget where you started!

**Want to advertise your business here? All funds raised go back into the school to benefit the students. Please email [info@eastbarnetschool.com](mailto:info@eastbarnetschool.com) for the attention of Nina Bain for more info.**