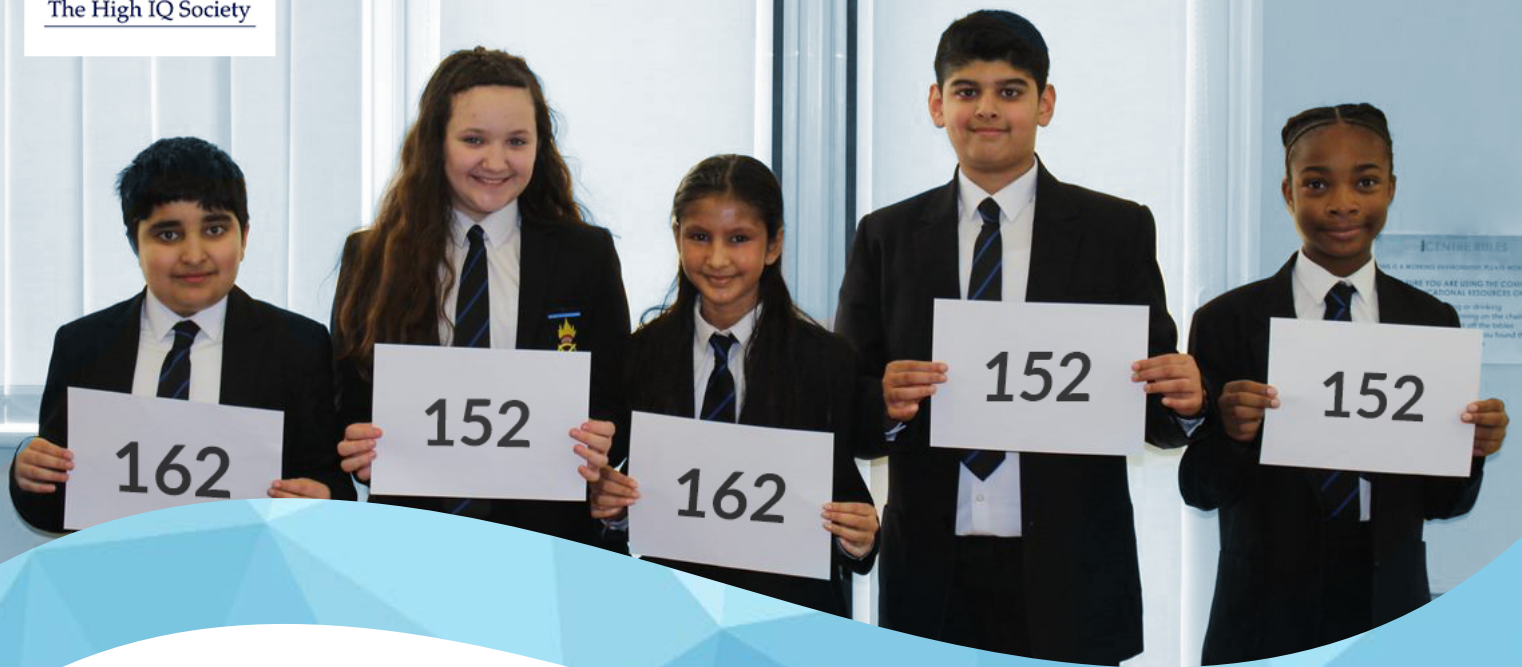




Mensa
The High IQ Society



BARR BEACON NEWSLETTER

**FEBRUARY 2020
FEATURING...**

- 'GENIUS' IQ TEST RESULTS
- NCS GOLD AWARD WINNERS
- ORCHESTRAL EXPERIENCE



BARR BEACON SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

FEBRUARY 2020



WELCOME

Did you know that we are the leading school in the Black Country Careers Hub, hosting regular meetings with leaders from other schools to help them develop their provision?

We pride ourselves on our careers provision and we always try to keep you updated in these newsletters and on the website.

In this issue, there is even more careers content than usual with several of our alumni reporting on how they are getting on in their fields, including in the exciting fields of filmmaking, medicine and science.

We want our pupils to stand out from the crowd when they go to interview, which is why we provide them with opportunities such as the National Citizen Service. So many of our pupils take this up that NCS have given us a Gold Award!

Having what sociologists call 'cultural capital' has never been more important and really helps people to stand out when they are conversing with professionals. This half term, some of our pupils have been to the theatre, some to dance events and some enjoyed orchestral performances at Symphony Hall. And that's on top of all the cultural enrichment that goes on in their subjects every single day.

If you have not yet checked out the careers section of our website you can find it near the top - it's one of the main tabs.

Ms L Draycott
Headteacher



Attendance Information for Parents/Carers

Please remember that if you take your child on holiday during school time you are very likely to receive a fine from Walsall Local Authority. The Local Authority may also take parents/carers to court if their child is persistently absent (below 90%). Some parents have even been arrested, taken to court and fined over £500.

Notices - If your child needs to take prescribed medication please ensure you have signed it in at reception. The forms are available under the Publications tab on the website.

We regularly conduct research in school to identify opportunities for enhancing the learning for all pupils. This includes surveys and group interviews. If you would prefer your child not to be involved, please contact Mr Lowbridge-Ellis.



NCS GOLD AWARD

We are delighted to announce that the National Citizen Service has awarded us with Gold status because so many of our students signed up. As well as a plaque, we received a certificate from the Prime Minister.

The National Citizen Service is open to all 16 and 17-year-olds in England. It helps young people build skills for work and life, while they take on new challenges and meet new friends. They have a short time away from home and take part in a team project that will help their community.



REGIONAL GYMNASTIC SCHOOLS' TUMBLING

Olly in Year 7 has taken the gold medal in the under 14s Regional Gymnastic Schools' Tumbling competition. He will therefore be representing Barr Beacon in the National Schools Finals competition which will be taking place in May. Well done Olly!



ARE YOU SMARTER THAN A 12 YEAR OLD?

Five pupils are celebrating achieving 'genius level' results in MENSA's world-renowned IQ test.

Two of these pupils exceeded the 160 IQ that Albert Einstein and Professor Stephen Hawking were said to have possessed. A. Singh Basra and A. Bhupla achieved an incredible 'perfect score' of 162.

K. Marwaha, K. Ord and K. Tobias each possess IQs of 152 putting them in the top 2% of the population.

Each pupil was delighted by their result.

A. Bhupla "My parents were very proud and I received video messages from family across the country."

A. Singh Basra "I was speechless. My parents kept saying 'wow' and treated me to a family meal."

K. Ord "My Mum has shared the news far and wide. It has inspired my family to try the test too."

K. Tobias "I'm so proud of myself for concentrating hard and focusing. I was treated to a lovely meal out with my family."

K. Marwaha "My parents always advise me that you can do anything that you put your mind to if you work hard."

We use the MENSA test because we are passionate about uncovering potential and nurturing it. We are delighted that these pupils have been recognised by MENSA as being in the top 2% of the whole country. Statistically, of course, not everyone can be a 'genius'. But knowing they have a high IQ will encourage these pupils to push themselves



ORCHESTRAL EXPERIENCE

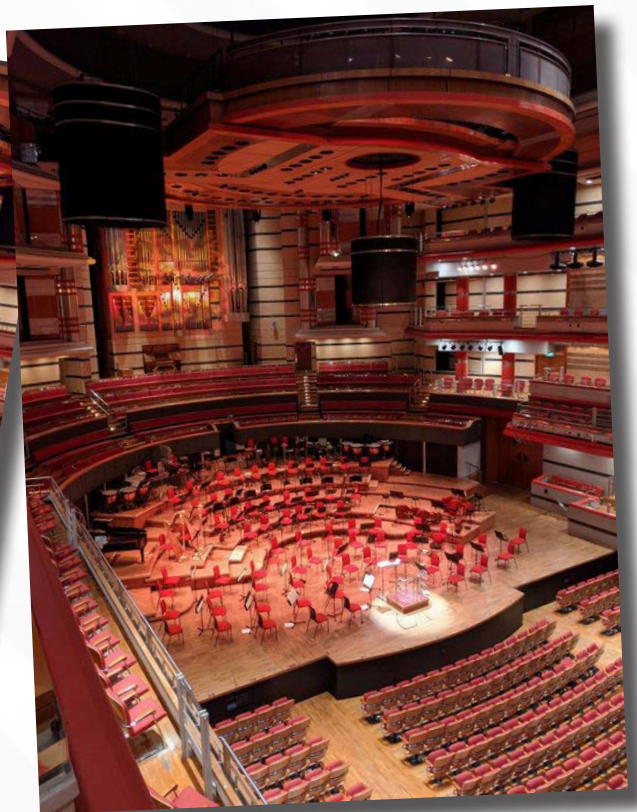
A group of pupils experienced a live orchestral performance by the world-renowned City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra (CBSO) at Symphony Hall in Birmingham.

After opening with a thunderous rendition of Alan Silvestri's theme from The Avengers films, the orchestra played pieces by Prokofiev, Tchaikovsky, Pärt and more. This is what some of the pupils said:

Sami: "I liked the heavenly sounding one. The piece Tchaikovsky wrote for a bet with his friend."

Mercedes: "I really liked it but I'm not sure why. It was a new experience."

Nicole: "It was really interesting watching them and seeing how they played their instruments."



HOLOCAUST SURVIVOR SKYPE CONFERENCE

This year marks 75 years since the liberation of Auschwitz-Birkenau, the infamous Nazi death camp. To mark the occasion, we had a Skype conference with someone who survived the camp.

The story as told by holocaust survivor, Susan Pollack was eye-opening. Selected Year 11 and Year 12 students heard the true horrors of her experience and had the opportunity to empathise with her story. The fact that she went on to live a happy life and even returned to the camps after experiencing the traumas of Auschwitz-Birkenau and Bergen-Belsen, now being 90 years old, demonstrates the personal importance to Susan to be able to share her knowledge, which is key to improving society both today and in the past.

Her story:

Susan wasn't even 15 years old when she transported by cattle bus for 5-6 days with no food or water to her first camp. She spent 10 weeks in Auschwitz and then went on to spend the majority of the Holocaust in the horror that was Bergen-Belsen and it was there that Susan's brother and herself, although separately, survived until the British troops liberated the camps in 1945.

Susan spoke of the inhumanity that spread among the camps. Students who witnessed the webcast have said it was very interesting to hear about what happened only 75 years ago during the Second World War. This has not only broadened the perspectives of pupils who listened to her story, but also inspired us to advocate for equality within our society.



CONCERNED ABOUT THE ENVIRONMENT

Ethan and Nicole in Year 9 produced this poem expressing their feelings about our relationship with the environment – concerns many of us share.

This story is far from worse
As we tell our tale about the planet called earth.
All of us humans are doing things wrong
And ignoring the fact that the impact is strong.
Let's start with the trees that we are taking
For our household items we are making.
Second of all, the ice caps are melting
Due to the greenhouse gasses we are creating.
How would you feel if this happened to you?
Your home is destroyed and there's nothing you can do.
Planet Earth, we are sorry for what we did.
We hope you right our wrongs, and rebuild the home we used to live in.

LANGUAGES MENTOR PROGRAMME

The MFL department have taken up a very exciting opportunity to work with the University of Cardiff and the University of Warwick in a programme focusing on changing attitudes to language learning.

The programme, Languages Horizons, involves all pupils in Year 8 taking a short online questionnaire to share their views and opinions about studying a language. Pupils completed these questionnaires a couple of weeks ago in their MFL lessons and now staff here at Barr Beacon School and at the University are working together to select a cohort of 24 Barr Beacon pupils who will be mentored by two undergraduates from the University of Warwick.

The students that our Barr Beacon pupils will be working with are all ambassadors for language learning, either having a language to A level or are currently studying a language as part of their degree. The undergraduates will run sessions here at Barr Beacon School focusing on the cultural and social aspects of learning a language with the hope of showing our pupils the doors that language learning can unlock outside of the classroom.

We are thrilled to be involved in the project and can't wait to get started. Look out for more updates next half term!

YEAR 7 PUPILS ENJOY PANTO FUN

On Friday 24th November 70 Year 7 pupils enjoyed the fun of the Pantomime at Birmingham's Hippodrome Theatre. They were treated to Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs starring Lesley Joseph and Matt Slack. Our pupils clearly enjoyed this experience. One quipped

"It was the first time I've been to a Panto, it was so funny and exciting. I can't understand how one dwarf can still be grumpy and another sleepy!"

Some other reviews:

Liam: **"It was amazing and fun."**

Kiera: **"The humour was brilliant."**

Nabi: **"The dragon coming out of the stage was fantastic."**






FRIENDLY ACTION CALENDAR

This Friendly February Action Calendar has daily suggested actions to do throughout February 2020 to bring happiness to others and improve your relationships. These are displayed in each form room-how many actions have you completed?



ACTION CALENDAR: FRIENDLY FEBRUARY 2020

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	"People forget what you said and what you did. But they never forget how you made them feel" - Maya Angelou					
2 Ask a friend what good things have happened to them recently	3 Do something supportive and friendly for your colleagues	4 Notice the good qualities of everyone you meet today	5 Get in touch with an old friend you've not seen for a while	6 Thank someone and tell them how they made a difference for you	7 Show an active interest by asking questions when talking to others	8 Say friendly things to people who work in your local shop or cafe
9 Put away digital devices & really focus on who you're with	10 Try to involve others and invite them to join your conversations	11 Smile at the people you're with and try to brighten their day	12 Send an encouraging note to someone who needs a boost	13 Be kind especially when your first instinct is to be unkind	14 Tell loved ones why they are so special to you	15 Make an effort to have a friendly chat with a stranger
16 Call a friend to catch up and really listen to them	17 Respond positively to everyone you meet today	18 Look for the good side when other people frustrate you	19 Tell a loved one about their strengths that you value most	20 Actively listen to what people say, without judging them	21 Give sincere compliments to three people you meet today	22 Make a plan to meet up with others and do something fun
23 Take time to speak with a neighbour and get to know them	24 Do an act of kindness to make life easier for someone else	25 Make positive comments to as many people as possible today	26 Thank three people you feel grateful to and tell them why	27 Share what you're feeling with someone you really trust	28 Be gentle with someone who you feel inclined to criticise	29 Make uninterrupted time for your loved ones



ACTION FOR HAPPINESS

www.actionforhappiness.org

Find out more about the Ten Keys to Happier Living, including books, guides, posters and more here: www.actionforhappiness.org/10-keys

DANCE OFF!

On 3rd February, Barr Beacon's Elite Street Dance and Contemporary teams competed at The Great Big Dance Off at Birmingham Alexandra Theatre.

The evening started with our Street Dance team taking the stage first to share their piece based on bullying. Students were nervous as they had been watching previous acts perform on stage from the dressing room and they would see that the standard was excellent. After a high energy performance, our Contemporary team followed with their twist of Little Red Riding Hood.

Barr Beacon competed against 43 other acts from schools across the West Midlands. Our Street Dance team came 12th and our Contemporary team finished in 22nd position.

The teams then continued their busy week with a performance at Walsall Academy on the 5th February and a performance at Barr Beacon on the 6th February.

They have done a brilliant job representing the school and the dance department. Well Done to all 19 students.



CHILDREN'S MENTAL HEALTH WEEK

This half-term pupils have taken part in activities for Children's Mental Health Week. The week shines a spotlight on the importance children's and young people's mental health focusing on the theme 'Find your Brave'. During form time pupils have taken part in discussions around when they, or family members, had been brave and set their own goals for being brave in the future.

February saw the launch of our monthly mental health quizzes. This is to support pupils in learning more about mental health and the support available. Along with our 'Action for Happiness Calendar' that helps people take action for a happier and more caring world. Pupils have enjoyed taking part in 'Friendly February' which includes daily actions to bring happiness to others and improve relationships. We look forward to what March will bring.

FIND YOUR BRAVE



#ChildrensMentalHealthWeek



LGBT HISTORY MONTH

February is LGBT History Month! We have used this month as an opportunity to celebrate the strength and spirit of the LGBT community. We have been posting a variety of LGBT icons, animals and historic events over on our Twitter account and website!

Barr Beacon School
@barrbeaconsch

Today for #LGBTHistoryMonth we're sharing the story of the people involved in the Stonewall Riots whose heroic actions paved the way for the LGBT+ community.

Stonewall Riots

After years of the police raiding their favourite bar, the LGBTQ+ community of New York finally had enough and fought back. Their actions sparked a movement that reshaped the lives of generations to come.

Sometimes the heroic activists are presented mostly as gay white men at the expense of lesbians, ethnic minorities and transgender people.

Historians now credit the significant contributions of (amongst others) black drag queen Marsha P. Johnson, black lesbian Storme DeLaverie and transgender Latina American Sylvia Rivera.

Barr Beacon School
@barrbeaconsch

LGBTQ+ people have often been left out of history. But people of certain ethnicities, religions and social classes are even less likely to be featured. This year, we are focusing on learning about LGBTQ+ people across the social spectrum. 🏳️‍🌈🌍

Intersectionality

The term intersectionality was coined by law professor Kimberlé Crenshaw.

She wanted to find a way to describe what happens when people who belong to more than one excluded group get left out of the conversation.

For instance, when we think of the fight for gay rights, many people picture white men.

The history of LGBTQ+ is more diverse than many people realise.

For LGBTQ+ history month we are celebrating individuals and organisations who sometimes get missed out.

Barr Beacon School
@barrbeaconsch

Did you know?...
Angela Eagle was the first openly gay female MP when she came out in 1997. 🏳️‍🌈🌍 #lgbthistorymonth

ANGELA EAGLE
POLITICIAN

ANGELA EAGLE IS A BRITISH LABOUR PARTY POLITICIAN WHO HAS BEEN THE MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT FOR WALLSEY SINCE THE 1992 GENERAL ELECTION.

ANGELA, WHO WAS THE FIRST OPENLY GAY FEMALE MP WHEN SHE CAME OUT IN 1997, ACTIVELY CHALLENGES ANY DISCRIMINATION AGAINST PEOPLE FROM THE LGBT COMMUNITY AND FIGHTS FOR EQUALITY.

Some people think that you can't be religious and LGBTQ+ however this is wrong! Imaan is Europe's biggest charity supporting queer Muslims. 🏳️‍🌈🌍

Religion and LGBT

Some people think that you can't be religious and LGBTQ+ but there are an increasing number of organisations who are aiming to change people's perceptions.

Imaan was founded in 1999 in London. It is Europe's biggest charity supporting queer Muslims.

KYE ALLUMES ATHLETE



KYE ALLUMES BECAME THE FIRST OPENLY TRANSGENDER NCAA DIVISION I ATHLETE.

KYE IS A TRANSGENDER ADVOCATE, PUBLIC SPEAKER, ARTIST AND MENTOR TO LGBT YOUTH. HE VISITS SCHOOLS, COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES TO DISCUSS THE TRANSGENDER COMMUNITY AND HOW IT IS POSSIBLE TO BE TRANSGENDER AND PLAY ON A TEAM.



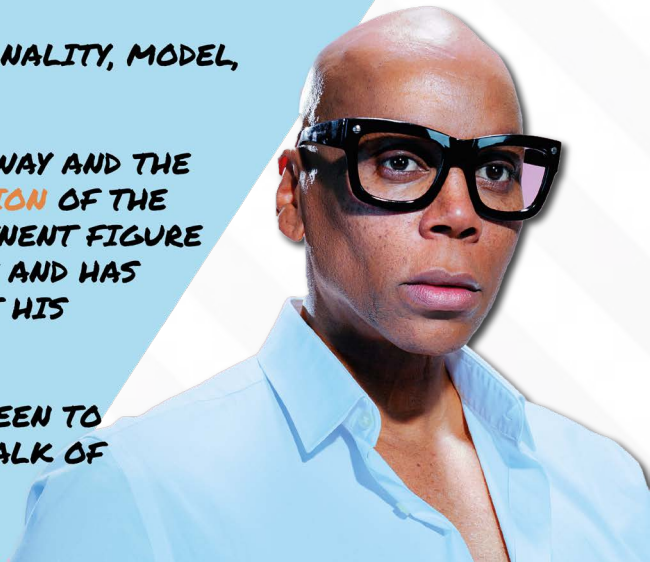
RU PAUL

ENTERTAINER

RU PAUL IS A DRAG QUEEN, TV PERSONALITY, MODEL, SINGER AND ACTOR.

RU PAUL HAS BEEN PAVING THE RUNWAY AND THE WORLD FOR TOLERANCE AND EDUCATION OF THE LGBTQ+ COMMUNITY. HE IS A PROMINENT FIGURE AND HAS SUPPORTED LGBTQ+ RIGHTS AND HAS FOUGHT FOR EQUALITY THROUGHOUT HIS CAREER.

IN 2018, HE WAS THE FIRST DRAG QUEEN TO EARN A STAR ON THE HOLLYWOOD WALK OF FAME.



NICOLA ADAMS OBE BOXER

NICOLA ADAMS OBE IS THE FIRST FEMALE IN OLYMPIC HISTORY TO WIN A GOLD MEDAL IN BOXING.

NICOLA HAS ALSO BEEN NAMED NUMBER ONE IN THE DIVA POWER LIST FOR THE UK'S MOST EMINENT LESBIAN AND BISEXUAL WOMEN PROVING SHE IS AMONG THE GREATEST ROLE MODELS FOR YOUNG WOMEN AND MEMBERS OF THE LGBT COMMUNITY.



ALUMNI

We love keeping in touch with former students. Here are 3 alumni who have got in touch to tell us how they are getting on.

JOANNA POULTON



YEAR GRADUATED FROM BARR BEACON

2011

WHERE ARE YOU CURRENTLY EMPLOYED?

Wildseed Studios

WHAT IS YOUR JOB TITLE?

Production Co-ordinator (producing TV shows for Disney/Sky/Netflix)

TOP TIP FOR SUCCEEDING IN EDUCATION

It really does matter, not only the grades but learning to work to deadlines and create your own work ethic is a skill that will carry you through life. Find something you're really interested in and learn everything you possibly can about it.

TOP TIP FOR THE WORLD OF WORK

Do something you love. I used to love writing film reviews in Mr. Lowbridge's English class. Now I get to make films and TV shows as a job. If you're excited and committed you can make it happen.

BEN READER

YEAR GRADUATED FROM BARR BEACON

2011 (from Y11); 2013 (from Y13)

WHERE ARE YOU CURRENTLY EMPLOYED?

Cincinnati Children's Hospital, Cincinnati, Ohio, USA.

WHAT IS YOUR JOB TITLE?

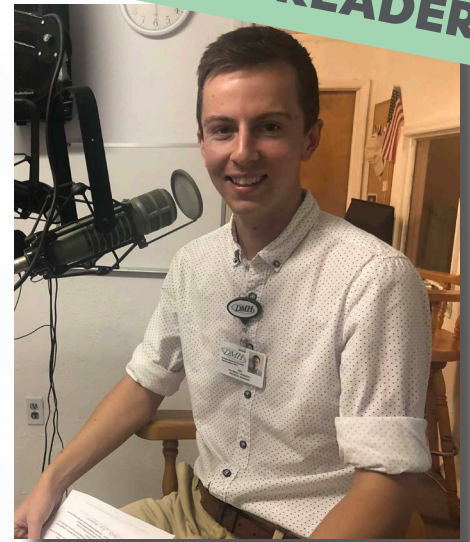
Physical Therapist (Doctor of Physical Therapy).

TOP TIP FOR SUCCEEDING IN EDUCATION

Hold yourself responsible for your own academic success. Do not give yourself a chance to look back in the future and say "I wish I had worked harder in school".

TOP TIP FOR THE WORLD OF WORK

Say yes to opportunities even if they make you nervous at the time. Those are often defining moments which you will look back on with the fondest of memories.



HANNAH WADLEY

YEAR GRADUATED FROM BARR BEACON

2015

WHERE ARE YOU CURRENTLY EMPLOYED?

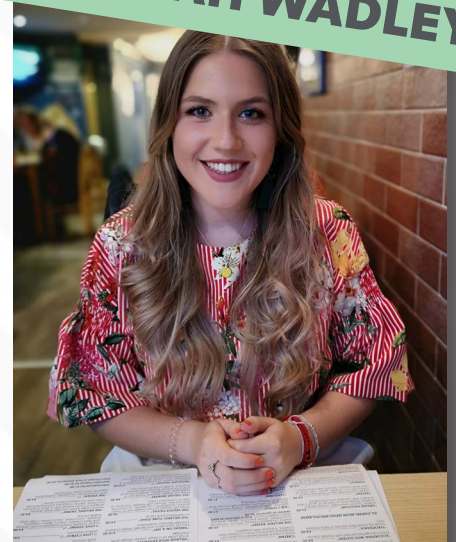
Mondelez International

WHAT IS YOUR JOB TITLE?

Food Scientist

TOP TIP FOR SUCCEEDING IN EDUCATION

Read - Read around the topics/modules you are studying, it will help when writing assignments and in exams.



TOP TIP FOR THE WORLD OF WORK

Network - It is always good to connect with people in the same field as yourself. They can offer advice, or open your eyes to a career you may not have thought about.

ECO CLUB!

Eco club have been busy making bird feeders out of recycled plastic. Why don't you have a go at making some at home?



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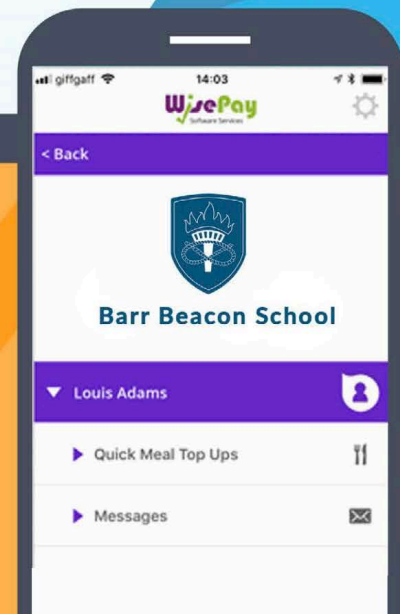
Help & User Guides can be found at:

www.matrixacademytrust.co.uk/wisepay

You can access your Wisepay account from any mobile device for quicker and easier payments. Available now from the App store.



Barr Beacon School
Unique Organisation Code
37658154



TWEET, TWEET

THE LATEST NEWS FROM OUR TWITTER ACCOUNTS



Barr Beacon School
@barrbeaconsch

Last day in Sweden: Walking up the mountains to get a good view of the city and surroundings. Everyone loved it.



Barr Beacon School
@barrbeaconsch

Are our students at Junction 9 of the M6 or Sweden, the home of IKEA? (it was the latter)



Barr Beacon School
@barrbeaconsch

Today we must reflect on the powerful words of Martin Luther King Jr.

"The time is always right to do what is right."

#MartinLutherKingDay 🙏 #MLKDay 🙏



Barr Beacon School
@barrbeaconsch

Loved that @TheCBSO were today wearing different colours to make it easier for pupils to identify the different sections of the orchestra.

Can you identify them all?

- Red =
- Purple =
- Blue =
- Green =



Barr Beacon School
@barrbeaconsch

We are delighted for our alumnus Robert Cashmore who is the recipient of a MBE for services to UK Trade and Investment.

He is the government's Director of Investment for the Middle East, Pakistan and Afghanistan based at the British Embassy in Dubai.



Exporters recognised in the 2020 New Year Honours list
Exporting entrepreneurs and industry leaders are being recognised in the New Year Honours List. This comes as total UK exports stand at record high, rising ...
gov.uk



Well done to the whole of Malvern for receiving the House Shield for the most points gained by attending extra-curricular activities in school time and after school. A huge well done and the shield will be passed around the forms so you are all able to lift it!

More and more pupils are taking part in after school club activities within school. We need to continue this and see even more taking part in the many activities we have available as it is a great way to meet new friends, learn new skills and have fun. We want to build on House competitions and ensure that Malvern are demonstrating more team effort, attempting to take part in activities we haven't done before and getting involved in any opportunities that arise. This will help build on your successes and encourage participation in new ventures.

YEAR 11

Well done for the tremendous effort and conduct. Keep working hard and ensure you are preparing for your next mock exams in March. You are all a credit to Malvern and Barr Beacon School. Keep up the good work.

ATTENDANCE AND PUNCTUALITY

Superb improvements with Punctuality this term.

A special mention needs to be given to 7M1 – Miss Dutton's form for the highest attendance within Malvern. Can you maintain this or will other forms take over next term? Keep up the great work.

PERFORMING ARTS

A special mention has to go to Natalie G 8M3, Joe D 8M1 and Emre O 8M1 for their fantastic participation in the Performing Arts Festival. They performed a variety of scripted and devised drama performance developed in Drama Club and they were so professional in front of parents and peers. Congratulations!

FOOTBALL CRAZY IN 7M1

Joshua and Haiden in 7M1 have been selected for the Football Tour in May. Well done boys and make Malvern and Barr Beacon proud as ambassadors of the school.

Liam in 7M1 has been scouted for an academy football team. Well done Liam. Can't wait to hear about your successes.

DANCE, DANCE, DANCE

A huge congratulations to Darby in 10M1 for coming 1st in her solo routine in a recent competition and 2nd as a team.

TIME CAPSULE WINNERS

6th form students launched a competition for ideas to go into our time capsule in school and 3 Malvern forms had the winning formula. The forms and their ideas for the capsule are:

10M2

Photo of B block with the Poppies draped down with pupils and cadets in the photo.

7M2

Photo and information about Top 10 animals critically endangered in 2019

8M2

Famous memes from this year

Hope you all have a peaceful and restful break ready for the next Spring Term.

Mrs S Saunders



After Bredon's outstanding efforts in 2019, our new year's resolution was clear: to build on the tremendous successes of last year. As discussed in our first assembly in January, this can only be achieved through hard work, determination and unity. Thankfully, these are all characteristics which have been instilled within Bredon pupils.

CHRISTMAS ASSEMBLIES...

Bredon House enjoyed a fantastic end of term by enjoying both the KS3 and KS4 Christmas assemblies. The assemblies were jam-packed with fun and festive competitions which Bredon House fully engaged with. My personal highlight was hearing Bredon House sing absolutely beautifully to all of the Christmas classics.

YEAR 11 MOCK EXAMINATIONS...

I would like to say a big well done to our Year 11 pupils who worked so hard during their mock examinations. I am sure that this invaluable experience will prepare you well for the summer. It will certainly be worth it on results day in August.

CROSS COUNTRY CLASSIC – WRITTEN BY BENJAMIN IN YEAR 7...

"What I do is very cool! I do cross country and I compete in many events. Some of these events are over 2 and a half miles long. I face many challenges during these runs but I am so determined and I am really proud of my achievements. In my latest event, I finished in 10th place out of approximately 150 competitors! I love cross country and it is something which I really want to excel in".

SWIMMING STAR – WRITTEN BY AMELIA IN YEAR 7...

"On 26th January, I participated in a 100m swimming race at Wolverhampton University. I raced against some excellent competitors and the standard of the race was incredibly high. My best friend just beat me but I came in a very impressive 2nd place! I am sure that I will come out on top when I race her again!"



MARVELLOUS MIXED MARTIAL ARTS – WRITTEN BY HAMNAH IN YEAR 7...

“Every Sunday I go to my local mosque to participate in Mixed Martial Arts. To start off, we do lots of very important exercises to warm up. This includes; sit ups, push ups and running laps around the room. After our warm up, we then start sparring against each other and I always beat my brother. I like MMA as it is excellent for my fitness, requires skill and precision and also teaches me the importance of discipline.”

CLARINET SUCCESS – GEMMA IN YEAR 11...

I would like to take this opportunity to say a big well done to Gemma who has passed her Trinity Grade 5 Clarinet Exam. This is very impressive and we are all proud of your excellent achievement.

AND FINALLY...

I hope that you have a relaxing half term holiday and I look forward to seeing you all on Monday 24th February.

Kind regards,
Mr Townsend.



It's been a great honour to take over as Head of House for Clent. I know that it's going to be a huge task to continue the excellent work that Ms Franks had been doing but, having had a chance to get to know some of the excellent students and staff in Clent, I know that this is going to be an exciting time going forward! I've already been so impressed by the hard work going on in school and the impressive array of extra-curricular activities being undertaken by Clent pupils.

This will be an important year for our Year 11 students, some of who will be spending their last few months with us and some who are working hard to return here in September in the Sixth Form. Well done to those who worked so hard during their mock exams. I hope you are starting to see the fruits of your labour. I hope that all Year 11 students now

have their revision timetables written out and are prepared for the work to come. Let's hope we have a great day in August when the results come out!

Well done to R. Byrne in 9C2 who won his recent boxing bout at his gym. He fought technically well against an aggressive opponent. In doing this he showed a lot of the qualities of a Clent student is training and preparing well and overcoming adversity.

Similarly, B. Wagstaff in 7C2 won his first competitive fight at 2nd City Boxing Club recently. By winning the 1st and 2nd rounds, a draw in the 3rd round was enough to make him the overall winner!

O. Clarke 7C3 continues to shine on the dance floor. She took part in another BDO dance competition and won 1st prize in the team section and 4th place in the pairs. All of this is good preparation for the World Championships later this year. Well done!

Congratulations to C Mallon, 8C1 who recently achieved her red belt in karate. Lots of dedication has gone into this achievement, so well done! Also, to A Smith in 8C1 for being awarded Student of the Year by her karate club. It's always nice to be recognised amongst your peer group and this is a well-deserved trophy.

8C1's sporting excellence shines through with I. Jhalley being awarded Player of the Match in a recent County Netball match. We hope to see her playing at a higher level before long.

Clent student's achievements continue in the performing arena with F Laidlaw in Year 8 recently performing at the Blue Monkey Club. Performing in front of a live audience is always a nerve-racking achievement and it's great to see the confidence in this young man.

I'm looking forward to the hard work and dedication which will be shown by many others as we strive to make a success of 2020!

I hope this newsletter finds you happy and healthy and you have a great half term.

Mr Murphy





It has been wonderful to welcome back all my Wrekin Warriors following a well-deserved Christmas break. In our first House assembly, we discussed the topic of self-improvement, not being solely reserved for the start of a year, and to instead consider it at any time. It is with pleasure I now list some accomplishments and acknowledgements for those in Wrekin House.

MOCK EXAMINATIONS

I want to congratulate our Year 11 cohort once again for all their hard work and efforts in the November Mocks. After results were shared, many pupils adopted a more focused mindset to make even more progress for their next assessment opportunity. I am pleased to see and hear these mocks were taken seriously and that revision was thorough for many. I can see pupils are getting ever closer to achieving their baselines and want to encourage pupils to persist to see the fruits of their labour.

HOUSE HEROES

A number of our pupils represented our House through a variety of different competitions this term. They have earned us some very valuable House points and shown some real talent. Here are some of the examples:

The following pupils represented Barr Beacon fantastically in a series of badminton matches recently. They managed to march past Willenhall (5-0) and West Walsall (3-2). The deciding battle ended 4-1 to St Francis so Beacon were crowned runners up. Please congratulate the below on being the 2nd best KS3 girls badminton team in Walsall:

Cook, R Year 9; Horne, S Year 9; Sammons, E Year 8; Johnston, G Year 8

Our KS4 badminton team won against Streetly 3-2 and Walsall Academy 3-2. The team won a series of matches and are now Walsall champions!

Garcia, L Year 11; Watts, E Year 10; Colclough, J Year 10

Brown, L in Year 7 had achieved two certificates recently where she had to complete multiple activities in the pool which included multiple tasks to be done at the same time.

Matthews, A in Year 7 achieved 'award 11' in trampolining recently

There have been some excellent achievements and successes here and I am very proud to share these with you. Wrekin House wish you all a relaxing break and look forward to seeing everyone again in the next spring term.

Mrs Thind





NEW YEAR, NEW CAREER?

If you are interested in a career in teaching, get in touch to hear more about our train to teach opportunities.

In collaboration with

Teaching

Every Lesson Shapes a Life



Our next recruitment event:

WEDNESDAY 4TH MARCH 2020

Barr Beacon School, Walsall

9:00am - 3:00pm