



BARR BEACON NEWSLETTER

**MAY 2020
FEATURING...**

- MESSAGES FROM YOUR TEACHERS
- VE DAY CELEBRATIONS 2020
- NATIONAL THANK A TEACHER DAY 2020





FEATURING..

MESSAGES FROM YOUR TEACHERS



WELCOME

These are indeed “strange times”, to use the very apt phrase of a parent who emailed us last week.

The phrase came from this correspondence with the mother of a Year 7 pupil: “Thank you to all [my daughter’s] teachers for their feedback on Teams. I really appreciate the attention and kindness taken towards her learning during these very strange times.”

We have had many lovely parent comments like these. Thank you to everyone who recognises that we are doing everything possible to help your children continue learning while they are at home, as well as providing guidance and support for their general well-being.

Despite what you may have read in some newspapers, teachers are not just sitting at home twiddling their thumbs. Our teachers certainly aren’t anyway!

You know how tirelessly committed our teachers are. We have had many Thank Yous through the Thank A Teacher campaign, supported by the Department for Education. Thank A Teacher day was 20th May and you can see some of the lovely messages we received in this newsletter.

This issue is, obviously, very different to usual. There are some of the established features - such as our alumni spotlight - but you will mostly see what pupils have been getting up to at home. This includes some selections of pupils’ schoolwork which have been shared with us by proud parents as well as pupils themselves. You will also see pictures of other activities, including new endeavours like DIY, gardening and baking.

A lot of you are sharing photos on our Twitter feed, which is wonderful. Even if you do not ‘do’ Twitter usually, you can still see what is happening on there by visiting <https://twitter.com/barrbeaconsch>

And if you would like to send us anything via email, here is the usual address: postbox@barrbeaconschool.co.uk.

Stay safe, take care and thank you for your continued support.

Ms L Draycott
Headteacher



MESSAGES FROM YOUR TEACHERS



“Take good care of yourselves and each other”.
Heads of House and Assistant Heads of House



“Stay safe, stay healthy, stay happy, keep smiling from the SEND department”.
SEND Department



“We miss you be > average, stay safe”.
Maths Department



“Barr Beacon school cannot wait to see you again. We miss you”.
Senior Leadership

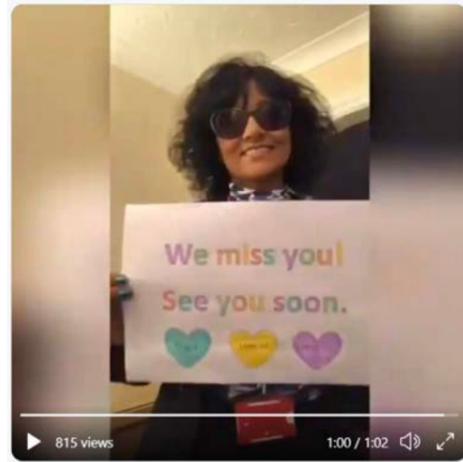
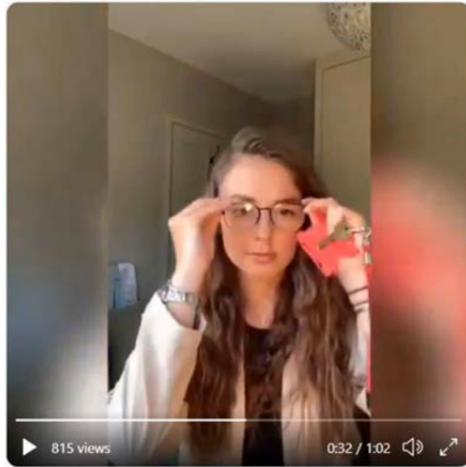


“Hello everyone we miss you, from the Maths department”.
Maths Department



“Humanities at Barr Beacon School cannot wait to see you all again. Miss you. Everyone stay safe and well”.
Humanities Department

The Sixth Form Team made brilliant use of Dolly Parton's '9 to 5' in this top notch video.



"Reading gives us somewhere to go when we have to stay where we are. Love the English department".
English Department



"Science says stay safe!!"
Science Department



"Barr Beacon MFL department miss you, we can't wait to see you soon".
MFL Department



VE DAY CELEBRATIONS

To commemorate the 75th anniversary of VE Day we asked you to get creative and we weren't disappointed with the outcomes. As well as some great art work, we even had Katie in Year 9 record her rendition of We'll Meet Again. The video was published on our web site and social media and was featured in Walsall Council's communications to all schools.



S. Chahal



M. Bashir



Barr Beacon School @barrbeaconsch · May 4
Katie in Year 9 has recorded this splendid rendition of World War 2 classic 'We'll Meet Again' to commemorate #VEDay75

We'll meet again
Don't know where
Don't know when
But I know we'll meet again some sunny day...

@VeraLynnDecca #DameVeraLynn #ukulele #veday2020

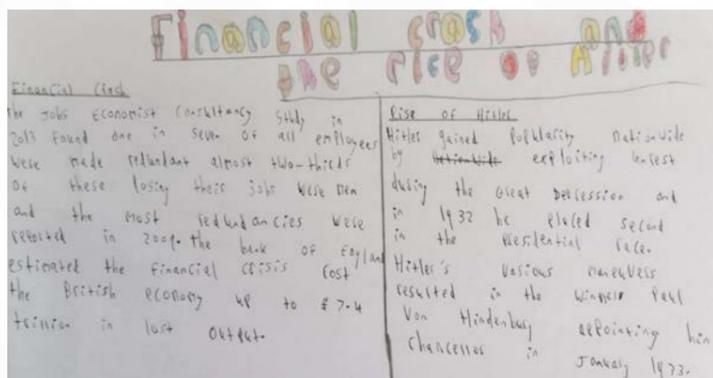
2:15 647 views

2 5 19

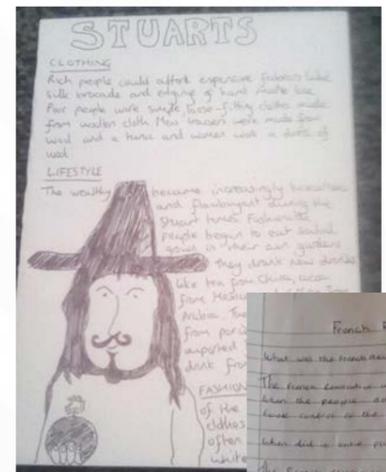


KEY STAGE 3 HISTORY WORK

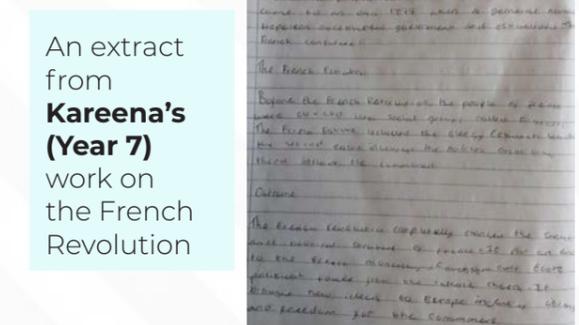
Pupils have really been impressing their history teachers with the work they have been sending in. Here is a small selection of work three pupils have sent over Teams or e-mail.



Grace's (Year 8) work on the 1929 financial crash and the rise of Hitler.

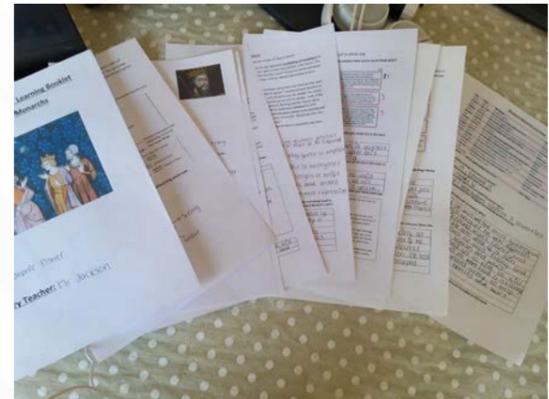


Harvey's (Year 7) work on the Stuarts.



An extract from **Kareena's (Year 7)** work on the French Revolution

PUPILS GOING ABOVE AND BEYOND!



Sophie. F in Year 7 has been seeking feedback on her history work and improving it continually based on her teachers' responses. The photos show part of her history project on the Tudors. The history department asked for a short information booklet on Tudor times and Sophie came up with this detailed piece of work complete with timeline and front cover. Mr Jackson was very impressed.

Sophie has also created this fabulous mood board as part of the Year 7 Geography topic on Tourism, learning why this industry is so important to so many different people. Sophie has included all the information about her dream holiday, from researching how much it would cost to travel and stay there, when the best time of year is to go and completing an itinerary of activities. She also included a 500 word blurb on her dream holiday to Orlando Florida.



PUPILS WORKING HARD AT HOME

So many of you are working very hard at home and checking in with us. Teachers are putting forward the names of pupils who they know are working exceptionally hard to be entered into a prize draw for Amazon vouchers. We clearly do not have enough vouchers for everyone and if we featured everyone in every year group who has been nominated then this newsletter would be dozens of pages long. Instead, here are the pupils in Years 7 and 8 who have been nominated multiple times by many of their teachers.

YEAR 7

- L, Brown
- E. Baingana
- C. Westwick
- S. Fisher
- L. Morris
- N. Rai
- G. Kaur
- K. Marwaha
- G. Harrison
- O. Salter
- E. Nicodemou
- F. Sorensen
- M. Bashir
- M. Evans
- K. Lally
- A. Sahota
- N. Nandyala

- D. Kirby
- N. Highway
- A. Michalova
- E. Davico-Ejaz
- K. Mathvaru
- S. Compton
- S. Mahil
- S. Walker
- J. Bryan
- J. Hegney
- J. Brown
- C. Bacciocchi
- A. Stanier
- D, Bryant
- R. Naseem
- R. Edu
- C. Ayres

YEAR 8

- A. Parekh
- E.M. Barnett
- E. Sammons
- R. Edu
- E. Hobbs
- E. Wrangles
- G. Westley
- K. Bromwich
- C. Mallon
- P. Kang
- K. Tonks
- L. Thorpe
- O. Fallowfield
- C. Worrall
- A. Gibbs

- T. Hunt
- M. Evans
- R. Blakeman
- L. Bowden
- C. Reynolds
- T. Harris
- E. Dimitrova
- D. Bindiya Malik
- L. Thomas-Rhoden
- Z. Inman
- A. Ingram
- C. Connolly
- S. Roden

- E. Green
- S. Junior
- G. Niazi
- A. Basra
- S. Aftab
- W. Blair
- L. Chiverton
- R. Bagri
- G. Eades

YOU CAN PLAY THE UKULELE!

From September, music students at Barr Beacon School will be learning the ukulele! Aldridge & District Lions Rotary Club have awarded us their Educational Endowment Fund so that we can purchase a whole class set of ukuleles.

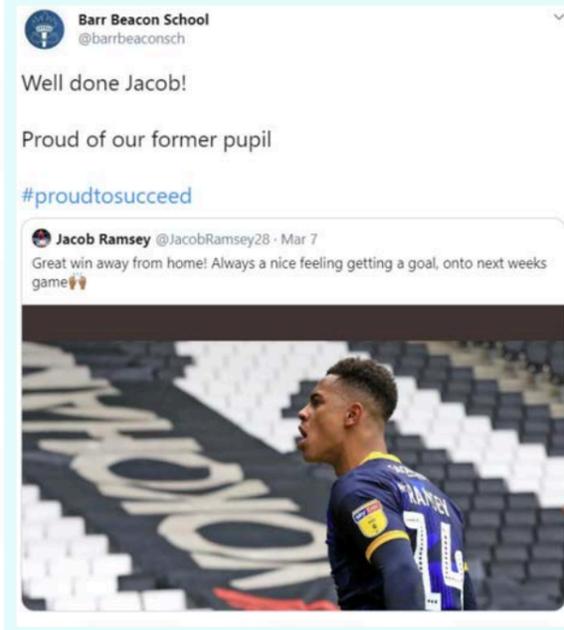
Thank you so much Aldridge & District Lions!



ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT

As you will have seen from our previous newsletters, we love keeping in touch with former students and they love to keep in touch with us.

Jack Evans graduated from Barr Beacon in 2015 after completing his A levels here and now works as a Senior Parliamentary Aide in the Houses of Parliament. His top tip for succeeding in education is to “try your best, one day at a time. In the end, the results will be worth it.” For the world of work, he recommends that you “always remember that you are your own person and strive to be the best version of yourself.”



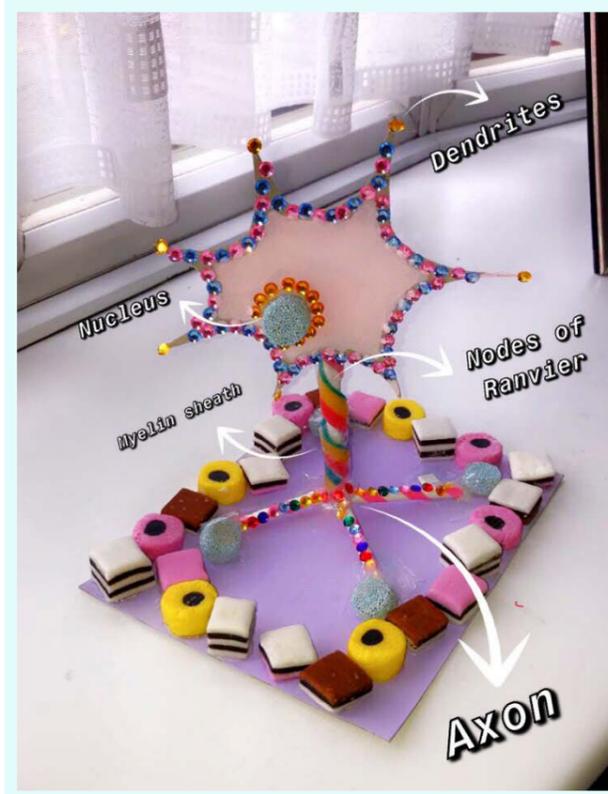
MAKING A NEURON AT HOME

The psychology department have been running a competition with their Year 12 students where they need to create a motor neuron out of anything they find in/outside their home (can't draw it or use the computer). This is to check their knowledge and understanding of the different types of neurons, which is something they've learnt whilst learning from home.

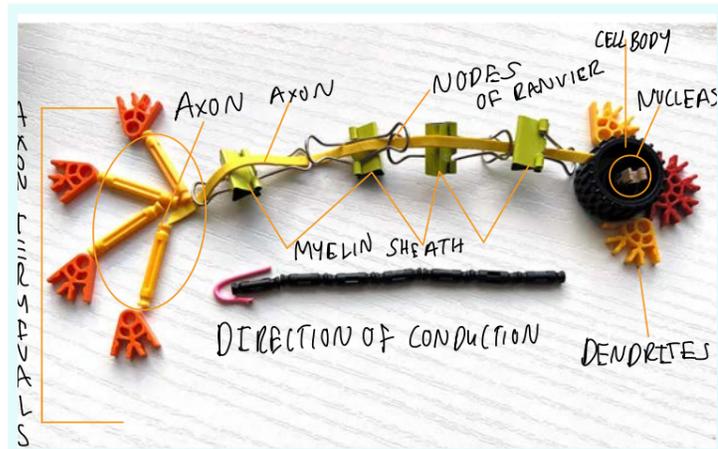
Here are the neuron models made by Gabby, Alisha and Jessica.



Gabby. L



Jessica. P



Alisha. S

YEAR 7 GEOGRAPHY TOURISM MOOD BOARD

Sophie in Year 7 has created this fabulous mood board as part of the Year 7 Geography topic on Tourism, learning why this industry is so important to so many different people. Sophie has included all the information about her dream holiday, from researching how much it would cost to travel and stay there, when the best time of year is to go and completing an itinerary of activities. She also included a 500 word blurb on her dream holiday to Orlando Florida.



NATIONAL THANK A TEACHER DAY 20TH MAY 2020

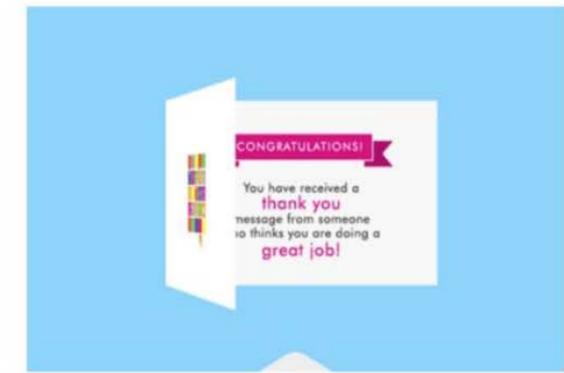
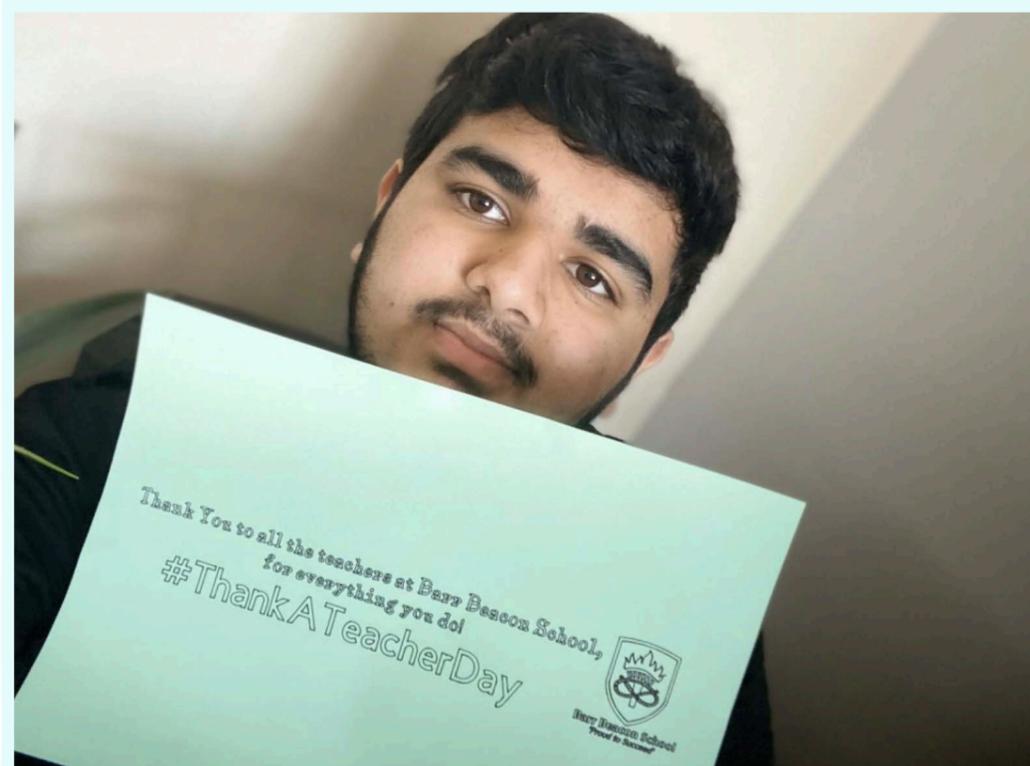
Thank A Teacher Day is a national initiative supported by the Department for Education. We received many Thank Yous from pupils and parents this year, for individual teachers as well as the school as a whole. Here are some of them.

Pupils from across the Matrix Academy Trust also submitted their Thank Yous for all our wonderful staff which were collated into a video.



You can find the 'Thank A Teach Day' video on our Twitter or Vimeo!

[@barrbeaconsch](https://twitter.com/barrbeaconsch)
www.vimeo.com/419891744



[Redacted] on 9:54am, 01/04/2020

Many thanks for all the school is doing for pupils and their families during this difficult time. We appreciate all your support.

[Redacted] on 1:10pm, 01/04/2020

Thank you to all the staff for working hard and keeping students safe .

[Redacted] on 8:10pm, 01/04/2020

Just want to say Thank you to everyone who is working to support all the children in this difficult time. Hope you all get to have some down time during the Easter holidays

[Redacted] on 3:29am, 03/04/2020

Thanks to all the teachers and leadership that have helped me through my years at barr beacon school hope you all have an amazing future [Redacted]

[Redacted] on 2:17pm, 03/04/2020

Thank all what you have been doing since the lockdown. Happy Easter. have a good Holiday. From [Redacted]

[Redacted] on 4:44pm, 03/04/2020

Thankyou to the staff for the work you have provided for the children. We also appreciate the text message updates and the personal responses we have received to emails. I hope you all have a peaceful Easter break and stay safe everyone. Kind regards [Redacted], mother of [Redacted]

NABI'S COVID-19 BRIEFING

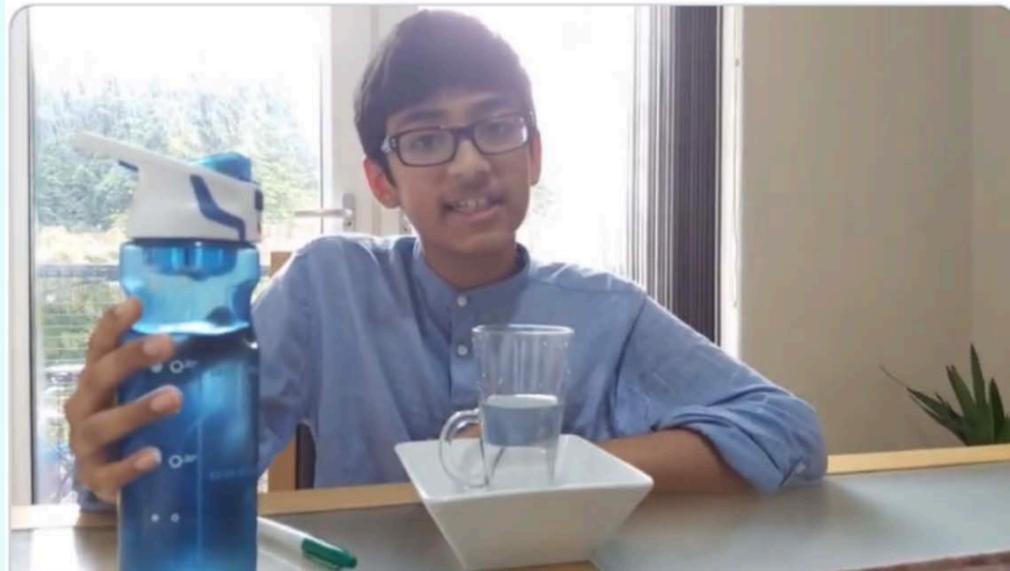
If you have not yet had a chance to check out this video from Nabi in Year 7 make sure you do. It's not only very entertaining but highly informative.

 **Barr Beacon School**
@barrbeaconsch

Here's Nabi in Year 7 with the [#COVID—19](#) briefing we all need!

Packed with well presented **FACTS**, medical **RESEARCH** and even an **INTERVIEW** with a paediatrician in Portugal!

He's worked so hard on this at home (with some help from his little brother).



CORONAVIRUS IMPACT ON CHILDREN'S HEALTH
IN THIS VIDEO WE ARE GOING TO TALK ABOUT THE VIRUS IMPACT ON CHILDREN'S HEALTH ALONG WITH DOCTOR'S OPINION. WE WILL ALSO DISCUS...
[youtube.com](#)



 **Barr Beacon School**
@barrbeaconsch

Libby in Year 7 took a break from her school work to make this [@NHSuk](#) [#stayhomesavelives](#) [#ProtectTheNHS](#)



 **Barr Beacon School**
@barrbeaconsch

Ishani in Year 7 is showing her appreciation for [@NHSuk](#) and [#keyworkers](#)





Our pupils have produced this to thank @NHSuk staff.
#StayAtHomeSaveLives 🇬🇧 #ProtectTheNHS 🏥 🏠 🌈



We're happy to be able to help in any way we can. We hope the goggles are useful @sjacoworks!

@stjohnambulance @NHS @NHSuk

SJA Cov & Warks (South East District, West Region) @sjacoworks · Mar 27
A big thank you to @barrbeaconsch for the donation of goggles for our forthcoming deployment in support of our NHS colleagues. #mysjaday



WREKIN HOUSE NEWS

Dear Wrekin

None of us would have thought back in September that we would be in this position now. A new way of living and learning has had to emerge from an uncertain time. And yet, despite all this change, it warms me to see and hear about the normality you continue to demonstrate.

I have been receiving excellent feedback from many of your teachers about your involvement in form activities, those which show awareness of how to achieve a healthy and happy mind, as well as excellence and effort in class work. I have also witnessed first-hand how creative and intuitive you are in being able to complete and present your work. Many of you have received praise nominations as a result of this.

For this reason, it makes me incredibly proud to say that I am the head of Wrekin, the House that demonstrates the values we uphold: Warrior, Resilient, Enthusiastic, Knowledgeable, Independent and Noble.

We will be back together soon, and life as it was before will resume. Until that time, please continue with your hard work. Keep your mind and body healthy.

Mrs Thind
Head of Wrekin House





Hello Clent!

Firstly I'd like to say how proud I've felt when I'm told how you have responded to our current situation. It is difficult when our normal lives are changed and we don't know what will happen. This can put us out of our comfort zones and its totally normal to feel different than we normally would. Having said that, we must remember that this situation won't last forever and soon I hope we will all be able to meet up with our friends, families and loved ones.

I've been very pleased to get wonderful messages from your teachers telling me about the fantastic work which you have been doing.

Although we might not be physically attending school, it is important that you continue with your studies. When we do return to school it will really help if you have been keeping up with your work and acting on your teacher feedback. This will help you to keep making progress.

I hope you are also taking time to be thankful for this time we get to spend with our families and carers. Sometimes, with the quick pace of life, we take things for granted and the close relationships with those around us often get overlooked. Enjoy the time with your family, take some time to enjoy the sunshine and stay safe.

Mr Murphy
Head of Clent House



Hello Bredon,

I just wanted to say that I am really missing you all and that I am very proud of how you have responded to these difficult times. I thoroughly enjoy reading emails from your subject teachers about all of your outstanding work and achievements. Let's keep this up!

I also want to take this opportunity to remind you all that this will not last forever and that we will be united soon. We are a House which is built upon hard work, resilience and encouragement and I am certain that you will be using all of these qualities right now.

I can't wait to see you all,

Mr Townsend
Head of Bredon House



Hello Malvern,

Just wanted to say that I hope you are all safe and well and that we are thinking of you all and really missing your faces in school. Please remember that I'm here if you need to contact me via Microsoft Teams if you need any additional support beyond what your teachers are offering you already.

I hope you are adapting well to the school day and have a good routine in place for learning. But also please ensure you are doing all you can to keep yourself fit and healthy. Make time to stay touch with your friends (electronically of course!). I'm hearing great things about what you are achieving from your teachers and also some of the great charity

work that some of you are doing. Please keep this up: you are all amazing pupils and can't wait to see you all again in school.

Stay safe,

Mrs Saunders

TWEET, TWEET

THE LATEST NEWS FROM OUR TWITTER ACCOUNTS



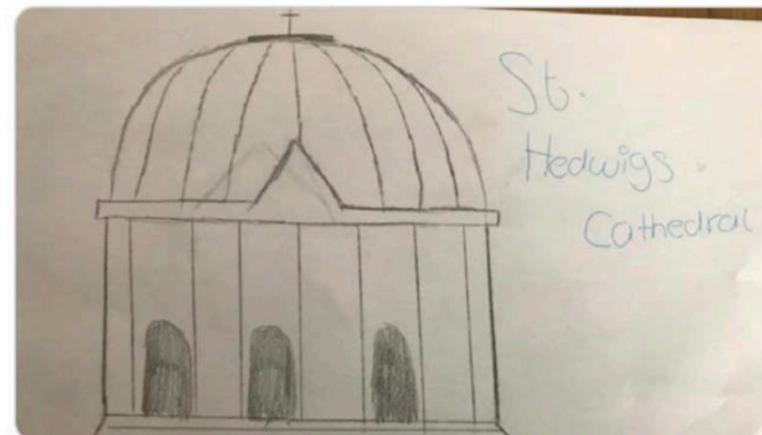
We have loved seeing what people are doing at home. Many of you have shared your activities with us on Twitter or by sending us photos through e-mail.



As a **#keyworker** I chose to keep my son at home whilst I work and the home learning set by **@barrbeaconsch** has been exceptional. The support from teachers has been amazing. Thank you!



Barr Beacon MFL @barrbeaconmfl · 15h
The entries have started to roll in for the MFL challenge... Look at this fab drawing of St. Hedwig's cathedral in Berlin from Ella in Yr. 8. 🇩🇪🇩🇪🇩🇪 Tolle Arbeit Ella.



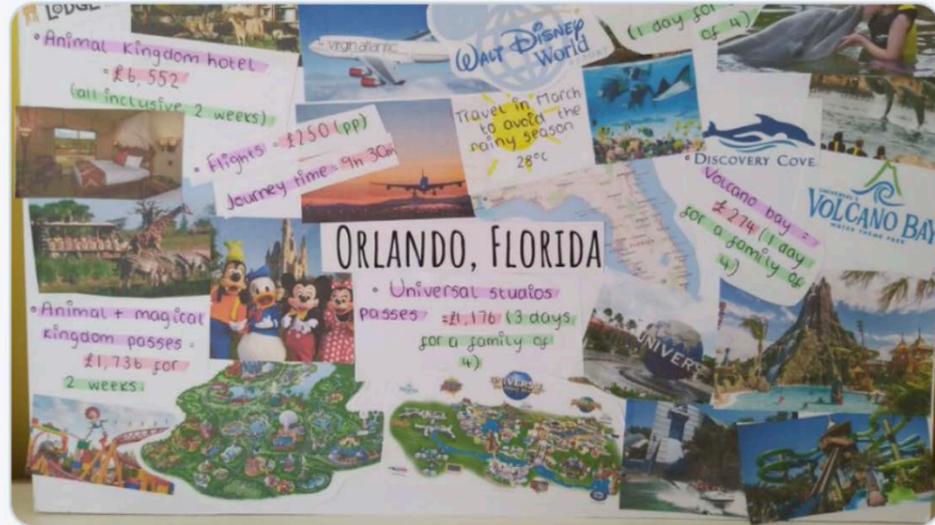


Barr Beacon School @barrbeaconsch · 17h

We can't go on holiday but we can dream!

Sophie in Year 7 has created this fabulous mood board as part of the Year 7 Geography topic on Tourism, learning why this industry is so important.

Her dream destination? Orlando, Florida



1 9

You Retweeted



David Hadley
@fitsthebox

@barrbeaconsch Jamie 7M1 sorting work into poly pockets baking butterfly cakes with Bethany he's little sister. Both in concentration mode ;)



1:24 PM · Apr 2, 2020 · Twitter for iPhone

You Retweeted



K
@decembercrazy

Day 9 Year 8 cookery and Maths-Ratio put to the real life test in cooking her sisters lunch #T1D Carb/insulin ratio #homeschooling @JDRFUK @Diabetescouk @barrbeaconsch #Earlyyearsteacherhomeschoolingteens



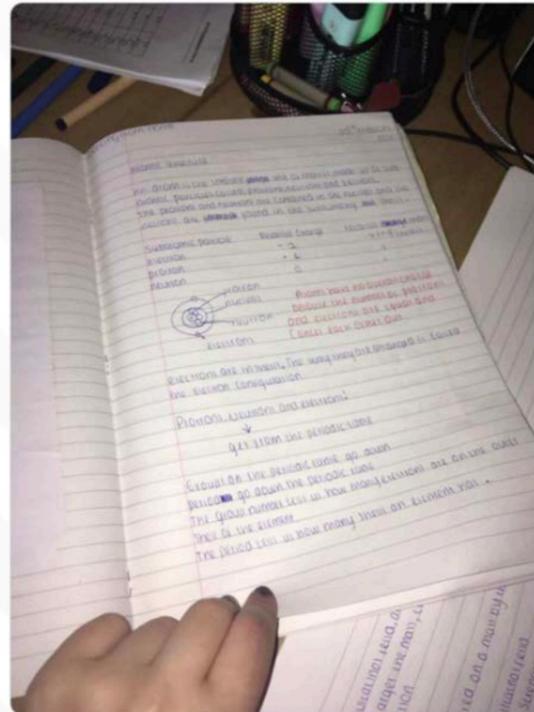
You Retweeted
Devinder Sond
@devinder_sond

@barrbeaconsch by Amreeta Sond 7C2



You Retweeted
Natalie Gazey
@NatalieGazey1

@barrbeaconsch @abigail88979330 Abigail Gazey 10C2 has been super busy



12:25 PM · Apr 6, 2020 · Twitter for Android

Ruby in Year 9 produced this fantastic biro study as part of the art work she has been set for the 'Confectionery' unit.

It almost makes us want an ice cream...



You Retweeted
Janine Kirby
@kirby_janine

Learning case studies and mapping locations.
[@barrbeaconsch](#)



And it's not just school work you've been sending us. We have really enjoyed seeing people learning new things, including DIY, gardening and baking delicious-looking treats. Here is a selection of our favourites.

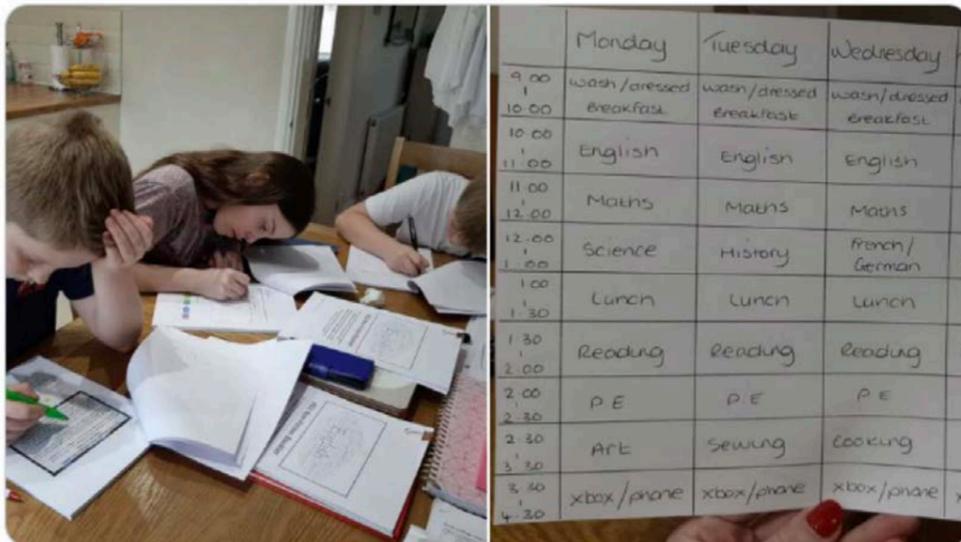
Amy Elizabeth
@Aimes_c

After History class it was Cooking class - chocolate and peanut butter muffins for after lunch ! Then it's to finish off year 8 maths of planning a holiday before breaking up for the Easter Hols !
[@barrbeaconsch](#)



You Retweeted
Carie O'Connor
@carieoconnor

Triplets working hard every day, trying their best to stick to my harsh timetable. Liam 7M1, Ryan 7B1 and Kiera 7C1.
[@barrbeaconsch](#)



You Retweeted
Angela Blair
@Jetlol76

@barrbeaconsch last couple of days for William have been a diy, gardening, maths and wizard chess type of days #lockdownuk #year8 #bredonhouse



PIC-COLLAGE

You Retweeted
Emilia
@emiliaemz

Isiah loves baking
@barrbeaconsch



You Retweeted
Katherine Riley
@katyariley

@barrbeaconsch Emily from year 7 has been building a ramp for her scooter also doing some math in the sunshine. Her sister Maria from year 8 has been helping with making pizzas. Also both of them have been helping with lots of diy home projects but wouldn't let me post photos



5:42 PM · May 4, 2020 · Twitter for iPhone

2 Retweets 8 Likes



You Retweeted
wozza
@hooowoza

@barrbeaconsch My son Christian Worrall year 8 making cookies!



Barr Beacon School
@barrbeaconsch

Finlay in Year 8 has had a very productive day: as well as writing a 3 chapter (1200 words!) story about a bounty hunter, he has done some DIY around the house and started on a massive jigsaw puzzle.



Mental Health Awareness Week 2020

18th - 24th May 2020 is Mental Health Awareness Week. We want to remind all of our pupils and their families to take time to focus on their mental well being. We have posted activities on our Twitter for you to try out!



SUPPORT FOR FAMILIES

ABOUT NEWS PUBLICATIONS SIXTH FORM PUPIL LIFE CAREERS BSCITT CONTACT

Barr Beacon School
Proof to Succeed

Support for Families

COVID-19 is an extremely challenging time for everyone. During this time, we need to ensure that we continue to work together to support our pupils and families. The links below contain some useful information to help raise awareness of preventative measures, support networks and resources. We want you to look after yourself during this difficult time.

<p>Every Mind Matters Are you looking after your mental health? Get practical tips and expert advice from Every Mind Matters.</p> Click me!	<p>NSPCC The NSPCC is the UK's leading children's charity, preventing abuse and helping those affected to recover.</p> Click me!	<p>Kooth Kooth, from XenZone, is an online counselling and emotional well-being platform for children and young people.</p> Click me!

COVID-19 is an extremely challenging time for everyone. During this time, we need to ensure that we continue to work together to support our pupils and families.

Take a look at our school website for some useful resources and information to help raise awareness of preventative measures, support networks and resources. We want you to look after yourself during this difficult time.

Beware of Scams

We will **NOT** email or phone you to ask for your bank details.

This scam has been linked to payments for free school meals.

This is a Covid19 scam, please be vigilant.



You can find the 'Parents & Carers guide to home learning' on the school website.



Barr Beacon School
'Proud to Succeed'

IS YOUR CHILD ENTITLED TO FREE SCHOOL MEALS?

If you receive any of the following benefits, your child/children may be entitled to free school meals:

- Income Support
- Income Based Jobseekers Allowance
- Income Related Employment & Support Allowance
- Support under Part VI of the Immigration & Asylum Act 1999
- Guarantee Element of State Pension Credit
- Child Tax Credit (provided you are not also entitled to Working Tax Credit and have a gross annual income of no more than £16,190)
- Working Tax Credit run-on (paid for four weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit)
- Universal Credit if you apply on or after April 1st 2018 your household income must be less than £7,400 a year (after tax and not including any benefits you get)

Children who receive these benefits directly, instead of through a parent or guardian, can also get a free school meal.



APPLY NOW!

Please apply for free school meals, as we receive additional money for every child who is entitled.

We use this to buy additional equipment, resources, trips and support. If you do not apply and are entitled, we cannot receive extra funding for such things.

Application is quick and simple. Visit the school website and follow the link to apply online.

www.barrbeaconschool.co.uk/fsm



CLIVE MARK

ESTABLISHED 1965

Your official quality uniform provider in partnership with **TRUTEX**

Get ready for BACK TO SCHOOL!



15% off*
ALL ITEMS
IN-STORE
MUST END
1ST AUG 2020
NEW IN-TAKE ONLY

Helping you get the best uniform service safely

Dear Parents/Carers, we truly hope you and your families are all safe and well in these uncertain times. The Covid-19 Pandemic has created unprecedented circumstances for everyone across the UK and Clive Mark is no different.

This summer we will operate our stores very differently to ensure the safety of all our customers and staff. Our primary objective is your safety coupled with the need to provide you with the best possible service, to that end we will be offering you various options to purchase your uniform this year.

All parents and carers can access our services once our stores re-open as per governments guidelines. Your local store manager will then contact the school and get the process rolling.

1. **Mandatory appointment System for all new intakes either in School or at our store dependant on the schools request once lock down measures are eased.**
2. **Appointment system for all years.**
3. **Specific allocated school days in our store.**
4. **Online ordering facility, this should be encouraged for all parents and carers.**
5. **Telephone orders.**
6. **Extended opening hours.**
7. **Induction evenings in school with strict social distancing measures enforced for everyone's safety.**
8. **Social distancing measures and queue controls deployed in all our stores.**



15% off* all School Uniform & accessories, Scouts, Guides, Cubs, Brownies, Rainbows & Beavers Uniforms in all our Clive Mark stores

*Terms & Conditions: Valid until 1st August 2020
Only valid for new in-take year students. Only available to redeem in store on presentation of this voucher. Vouchers can only be redeemed once. Not available to redeem online. This offer cannot be used in conjunction with any other offer.



Barr Beacon
School Centred Initial
Teacher Training
Your Future | Their Future

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



Walsall

19 Park Place Shopping Centre
Park Street
Walsall WS1 1NP
Tel: 01922 622 556

Bearwood

4-5 Three Shires Oak Road
Bearwood, Warley
West Midlands B67 5AX
Tel: 0121 429 4244

Kings Heath

38-40 Poplar Road
Kings Heath
Birmingham B14 7AD
Tel: 0121 728 6860

Newcastle-under-Lyme

25 High Street
Newcastle-under-Lyme
ST5 1QZ
Tel: 01782 621 721

Boldmere

11-13 Boldmere Road
Sutton Coldfield B73 5UY
Tel: 0121 728 4452

Sheldon

2286 Coventry Road
Sheldon
Birmingham B26 3JR
Tel: 0121 722 2286



"Working Together to be Simply the Best"

www.clivemark.co.uk

Visit our website www.bbscitt.co.uk

Follow us on Twitter @BBCSCITT