

Friern Barnet School Newsletter

‘Enjoy and Excel’

Spring 2, 2023

<https://www.friern.barnet.sch.uk/>



Dear Parent/Carer

As usual there has been an incredible amount going on in school. Our production of ‘Hairspray’ was watched by 400 primary school children and enjoyed a run of three great evening shows. We were delighted to be joined by the mayor for a full house on the Friday evening. The show was a tremendous achievement and the result of many hours of hard work. Everyone should be very proud of the young people involved. The staff also deserve great credit for such a successful production.

Students have taken centre stage in other ways. Year 10 Business students ran a ‘Tenner Challenge’ event by setting up businesses for students and staff to buy from. Whilst some businesses crashed, many were extremely successful in earning the students a decent return on their investments. We have also been involved in a public speaking competition where Krysiah (10C) wowed a Barnet wide audience. I would also like to thank the whole of Year 9 for participating so well at the recent Options Evening, taking responsibility and showing great maturity in their deliberations. After Easter we will be just as busy as we look forward to Year 10 work experience and the start of Year 11 GCSEs.

Students return from the holidays on Monday 17 April. The first few weeks are always punctuated with bank holidays, which makes the weeks fly by. Please check the calendar.

I have sent out a message on ParentPay regarding a questionnaire that I would like parents and carers to fill in. A large response would be very helpful in helping us think about what we are doing well but also what we could do to improve. It should only take a few minutes of your time over the holidays.

We should all be very proud of the school, celebrating the great work our students do, appreciating the commitment and enthusiasm of staff and maintaining the positive and caring ethos we have instilled.

Enjoy the holiday.

Simon Horne
Head Teacher

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LRC

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If you require a copy of
our newsletter in large
print please contact the
main office on
020 83682777

Attendance matters

Attendance is an incredibly important part of ensuring the continued academic success of our students. We look forward to your continued support.

Here is a reminder about the expectations of attendance for the school year.

Late Arrivals

Parents and carers, we need your help encouraging your child to leave home in sufficient time to ensure that they arrive to school by 8:30am to avoid being late! Students arriving between 8:40am – 9:00am must go to their form class to be registered.

Students arriving after 9:00am

Students arriving after 9:00am will go directly to Student Services to sign in before receiving a late slip. **Arrivals after 9:00am will be classed as unauthorised absences and six in a four week period will result in a Fixed Penalty Notice (FPN) being issued.**

Please Note:

Absences can only be authorised by the school. Calling the school informs us of why your child is absent and the school will decide which code is appropriate. Medical evidence will need to be provided in order to avoid receiving a FPN before or after a school holiday.

Back gate

Please note, the back gate on Crescent Road shuts at 8.40am until the end of the school day. Students who arrive after 8:40am will be asked to walk around to the front entrance on Hemington Avenue.

Monitoring your child's attendance on Firefly

To help you keep track of your child/children's attendance, you can monitor attendance, lates, authorised and unauthorised absences on Firefly.

Attendance procedures

If your child has a cough or a cold, please send them to school with tissues and a water bottle. We will contact home and offer a paracetamol if required.

If your child is sick and unable to attend school, please call student services before 8:45am.

If your child has a medical appointment during the day, please inform student services of the appointment in advance and supply them with a copy of the appointment letter/appointment card. **Missing registration should be avoided.**

Have a wonderful break.

Mr J Robinson,
Assistant Head Teacher



Follow us on: @friernbarnetschool and @fbs_dance

At the beginning of March, nearly 800 people in Friern Barnet were transported back to Baltimore, USA, 1962. All those who time travelled were part of the audience watching our latest production. We hosted two primary school matinees and three evening performances of *Hairspray, The Musical*, adapted from the film by John Waters.

Hairspray is a joyful tale of how non-conforming teenager, Tracy Turnblad, makes her dream of dancing on The Corny Collins TV Show come true. In the face of bullying and disapproval Tracy uses her newfound influence to champion racial integration on the television show.

The cast were amazing, singing, dancing, and acting with such energy and professionalism through this heart-warming tale of acceptance and inclusion. There was never a dull moment. The choreography was full of vitality, driving the show and entertaining all who watched. A credit to the hard work of Miss Andrews, Miss Morgan, Miss Eastwick and Miss Luscombe.

The cast all looked fabulous in their 60's outfits, especially the wigs! Ms Snowball, head of wardrobe, did an incredible job of transforming FBS 2023 students into 1960s high school pupils. Thank you also to Ms Laine, the make-up wizard. The greatest transformation was to the actors playing Edna (Patrick, 11E) and Tracy Turnblad (Jasmine, 10D) who were almost unrecognisable!

The staging, with The Corny Collins Show action taking place on the stage and Tracy's home set up below in the hall made the audience feel they too were watching Corny Collins and his dancers on TV with Tracy and her family. The wonderful sets and props completed the illusion of 1960s Baltimore. Thanks to Ms Asciak and her team.

Throughout, the band, led by Miss Davis played the wonderful Marc Shaiman music. Congratulations to FBS students, Alvin (10F) on the flute, Thomas (7B) on the clarinet and Leo (10B) on the violin who joined the professional band players to perform.

By the end of the show the audience were tapping their feet and clapping wildly in appreciation.

Congratulations to the cast who were just wonderful. An enormous THANK YOU to Mrs Westwood for all her work in directing, pushing, and pulling this production and the cast to create a truly memorable production for everyone at FBS to be proud of.

Thanks also to the Head Teacher and SLT team, staff, Site Manager and all who supported the show.

Mrs Westwood
Head of Creative Arts



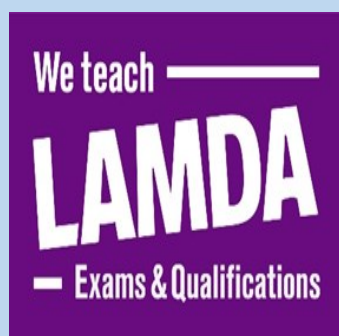


Tuition



1-1 Instrument Tuition

Thank you to those who have booked for next term. The new timetable will be available outside the music room and added onto Firefly. For more information please contact the Creative Arts office.



LAMDA

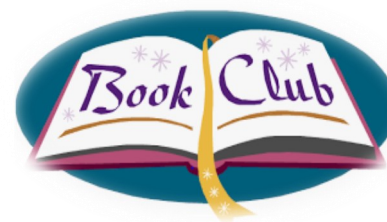
If your child is interested in doing LAMDA, please email Mrs Barber at h.barber@friern.barnet.sch.uk for further information.

FBS Parent-Staff Book Club!

Our next book club book will be *Shy* by Max Porter, which will be released at the start of April. In addition, we will also be discussing the essays from *Lonely Boy* by Daragh Fleming.

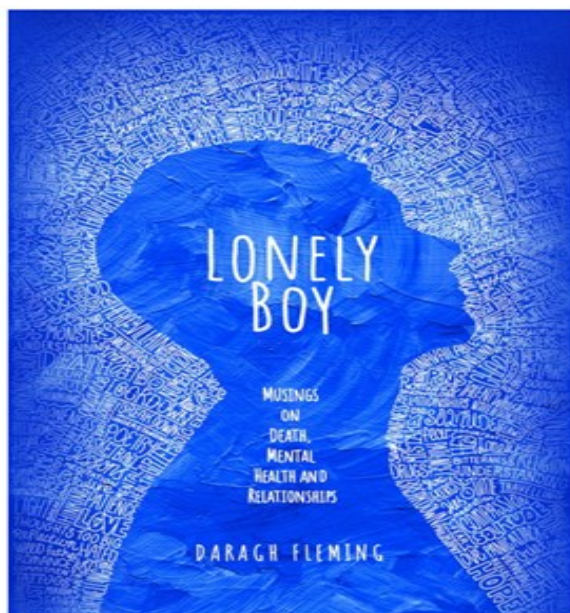
If you'd like to come along to our next session, please do! You don't even need to have read the books at all! We'll be meeting in the LRC at 6pm on Tuesday 23rd May and I hope to see many of you there.

Wishing you all a fantastically book-ish Easter break!



Future book club meeting dates for your diaries from 6.00pm to 7.00pm in the LRC:

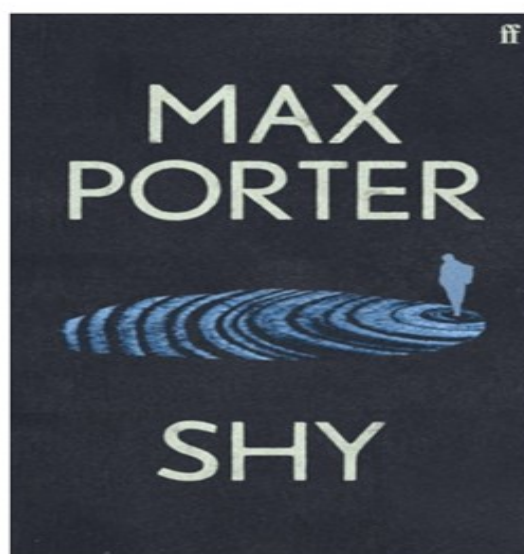
Tuesday 23 May 2023 and Tuesday 11 July 2023



Daragh Fleming's honest portrayal of mental health, wellbeing and recovery opens with a quote from Seneca, Moral Letters that states: 'I will keep constant watch over myself.' Throughout Fleming's 'Lonely Boy', loss, friendship and death are at the forefront, and they are observed with a quiet awareness. It is at times a memoir, at times a guide, but it is always conscious of what it is doing. Fleming, as in life, is keeping a constant watch over his writing and the effect of his words.

Lonely Boy deals with the tragic suicide of a best friend, crippling panic attacks, what it is to be a man and what is expected of dangerous paradigms, the benefits of therapy, among many other pertinent discussions that should happen much more frequently. At the heart of *Lonely Boy* is a man trying to be at peace with himself and his past, so that he can navigate his future. By doing this, he opens up about his struggles with mental health and what has worked for him.

'There's more than one way to be alone. That's a reasonable place to start.'



This is the story of a few strange hours in the life of a troubled teenage boy.

He is wandering into the night listening to the voices in his head: his teachers, his parents, the people he has hurt and the people who are trying to love him.

Got your special meds, nutcase?

He is escaping Last Chance, a home for 'very disturbed young men', and walking into the haunted space between his night terrors, his past and the heavy question of his future.

Shy is a novel about guilt, rage, imagination and boyhood. It is about being lost in the dark, and realising you are not alone.

'You mustn't do that to yourself Shy. You mustn't hurt yourself like that.'

Year 8 Student of the Week in English!

Due to the fantastic work and attitude of many Year 8 students, Team English have decided to nominate a student of the week in each of their English classes. The results so far are below and we would like to congratulate all the students nominated. All weekly winners receive a postcard home. At the end of the Easter term we will be putting all of the winning names into a raffle to win a grand prize! We love rewarding our hardworking and dedicated students. Keep up the good work everyone, and it could be you!



Name
Hanzala
Farman
Khalia
Ola
Lena
Yusra

Read all about it.....

FBS TRUMPET



A group of students have come together to create a student newsletter. It provides an opportunity for students to find out about all the activities and fun stuff that goes on at FBS, as well as interesting articles and information. The FBS Trumpet is about celebrating student achievements as well as sharing information about what's going on. We welcome contributions from students in any year group. All you need to do is submit a feature to your English teacher. Enjoy the read!

[FBS Trumpet — Friern Barnet School \(fireflycloud.net\)](http://fireflycloud.net)



Young Mystery Writers 2023

Young Mystery Writers is one of the National Literacy Trust's annual writing programmes, helping to inspire students to write mystery stories of their own. Over the course of the programme, students meet to write together, learn about mystery writing from their teachers as well as a professional writer, and watch a play in the West End, all culminating in some of their work being published in an anthology to be shared nationwide.

11 students from FBS participated in the theatre trip last week to see *The Mousetrap* – the world's longest running play, written by famous mystery writer Agatha Christie. The students were impeccably behaved on the trip and were praised by audience members for their enthusiasm, when during the interval they all discussed and wrote down who they thought had dunnit! (We were all surprised by the outcome!)

I look forward to continuing working with them on the project and can't wait to read their final mystery stories!

GCSE Food Preparation and Nutrition practical exam

Well done to Year 11 Food Technology students. As part of their second assessment, students had to research, plan and then cook 3 dishes following the theme of North and South America.

The food was then tested by each other and staff.



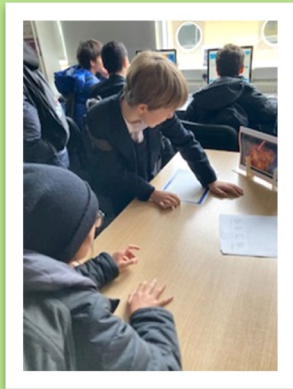
Some of the wonderful dishes they created.

World Book Day in the LRC

At Friern Barnet School we celebrated world book day on Thursday 2 March in the library, our theme for this year was Harry Potter and Star Wars. At the library, we decorated it, making sci-fi and Hogwarts with floating candles! We had a variety of different activities all Harry Potter and Star Wars themed at different stations, such as a real-life sorting hat which you would put on and it would tell you what Hogwarts house you belong to! We had a bookmark making station where you could make your own bookmark out of toilet roll. We also had fun Harry Potter and Star Wars quizzes, where you could win fun prizes such as a Bernie Bots, every Flavour Beans from Harry Potter or if you did the Star Wars quiz you could win little Star Wars figurines! Overall, it was a very enjoyable, fun day filled with excitement and fun activities to participate in.

A thank you to Mrs Paul for making this an enjoyable day for everybody.

Written by Deputy Student Library Ambassador, Lily, 9F



Mathematics

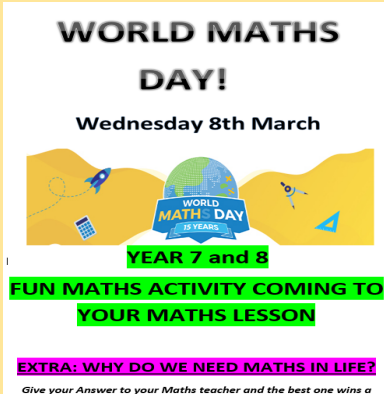


Congratulations to Evie (9C), Hayato (9F), Alvin (10F) and Leo (10B) who achieved a Gold Award in the recent UKMT Intermediate Mathematical Challenge and have earned a place in the Kangaroo 2023 follow-on round.

Also, congratulations to the Silver Award winners who were Mohammad (9B), Sumaya (9C), Jenny (10E), Burak (10A), Salih (10A), Maya (10A), Isla (10A) and Mohammad (10A).

Further congratulations to the Bronze Award winners who were Troy (9F), Kaan (10A), Neve (10D), Aidan (10D), Arda (10C), Maria (10A), Katie (10B), Lukas (10E), Luca (10C) and Emily (10A).

This is a huge achievement for all of them, their families and the school.



On Wednesday 8 March we celebrated World Maths Day. We had some fun activities for our Key Stage 3 students such as Taboo, Guess the Maths Word, and a competition for the best answer to 'Why we need Maths in life'.

The winner was Zara (8E) who wrote " You will need maths in later life as maths is all around us. Maths is the universal language which most people understand or know how to do. Everyone needs maths in life even from how to make cars it is there when you don't realise it."

Wellbeing

Resilient Schools Information

Looking after your mental health through the school holidays:

Remember to download the [Kooth](#) app onto your phone if you need online support

1. If you or someone you know is struggling, then please speak to an adult and/or book an appointment with your GP. Remember it is OK to not be OK, it is not a sign of weakness! Ask for help.
2. You can also access lots of support via Firefly, go to [Resources on Firefly => Resilient Schools => Mental Health Support](#)
3. Take a look at our school website for support with mental health and wellbeing: [Support for Mental Health and Wellbeing - Friern Barnet](#) (leaflet can be found in different languages)

Stay safe and know that there is lots of support available if you need it.



The holiday period can be difficult for some. If you need support during the Easter break, or if someone you know needs extra mental wellbeing support during the holiday season Kooth is still available.

Go to [kooth.com](#) to chat to a practitioner today or to find out more about support.

kooth

Mental health support
for children and young
people in your area



Staying well during revision and exams



We asked young people to give us some wellbeing advice for exam time and this is what they told us:

1. Always take a moment just to breathe, whether in the exam, before or after.
2. Remember that school does offer support, just reach out and ask!
3. Keep your work balanced. Spend time revising, but socialise and relax too.
4. Keep a self-care routine so that your revision is the most productive it can be whilst you feel as good as possible.
5. Break up revision with food and exercise to make sure you stay energised.
6. Remember that results do not define you.
7. Find a revision space and style that works for you: silence, background chatter, music with or without lyrics.
8. Work to your own pace – everyone is different in how they work.
9. If you feel nervous about the time pressure of an exam, practice timing yourself when you revise, or try some test papers.
10. Plan in some treats to reward yourself, and celebrate when it's all over!

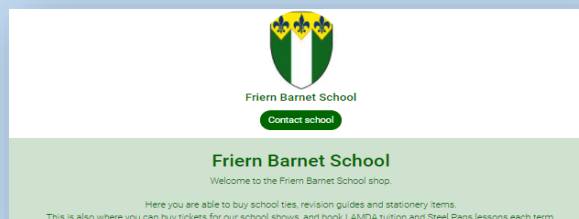
[Young Minds.com](#)

High Achievers Awards for Spring 2023				
Film Studies				
			Jenny 10E	Sarah 11E
French				
Thomas 7B	Emma 8C	Evin 9B	Emily 10A	Marcus 11B
Geography				
Nikolas 7B	Armita 8C	Graeme 9B	Taeya 10E	Patrick 11E
History				
Raha 7A	Sarah 8B	Zailia 9A	Loretta 10E	Calum 11B
Learning Support				
Charmel 7D	Huseyin 8B	Leon 9E	Poyraz 10C	Kelsey 11D
Mathematics				
Erin 7F	Nazar 8C	Hayato 9F	Maria 10A	Ramisa 11E
Media Studies				
			Maya 10A	Xhoana 11E
Music				
Emily 7C	Georgia 8F	Cemre 9A	Leo 10B	Ioana 11B
PE				
Sinead 7C	Vashta 8A	Evie 9C	Natalia 10F	Lily 11E
Conor 7C	Ayaz 8E	Leo 9A	Matteo 10D	Colin 11E
Religious Studies				
Kiara 7F	Kamelia 8C	Rosie 9E	Siham 10E	Yasin 11F
Science				
Georgia 7D	Nirvana 8C	Mohammed 9B		
Combined Science				
			Alex 10A	Tavor 11B
Biology				
			Chryros 10D	Jamie 11A
Chemistry				
			Jasmine 10D	Aayushi 11B
Physics				
			Farhaan 10D	Nathan 11E
Spanish				
Rayan 7D	Romeo 8F	Rene 9F	Orlin 10F	Aliyah 11E

School Shop

Parents/carers can buy revision guides, stationery items, tickets for school shows, music lessons and school ties on our School Shop. Please click on the link for further information:

[School Shop](#)



Firefly

We use the Firefly Parent Portal to inform parents /carers about their child's learning, progress and achievements. We are expecting all our parents to activate an account so that they can access a range of information which will keep them updated on essential matters about school.

Firefly allows Parents to:

- View your child's timetable including their current and next lessons
- View your child's home learning
- View your child's electronic school report
- Keep your personal contact details up to date



Please click on the link for further information on how to activate your Firefly account:

[Firefly Parent Portal - Friern Barnet](#)

Canteen

The canteen is open at the following times:

Breakfast: 8.15am – 8.40am

Break: 11.00am – 11.20am

Lunch: Key Stage 3: 12.20pm - 12.55pm and Key Stage 4: 1.20pm - 1.55pm

Topping up lunch accounts - school dinner money needs to be added via ParentPay before 10.30am to allow students to be able to buy lunch on the same day. We recommend topping up over the weekend as ParentPay can be busy on Monday mornings sometimes causing delays with payments. You can also set up a free email alert: Click on the link for further information (follow instructions for free email alerts as text message alerts are charged at 6p each) : <https://parent-support.parentpaygroup.com/hc/en-gb/articles/4410756555025-How-to-set-alerts#how-to-set-alerts-0-0>

Just a reminder, when making payments can we ask you not to use the 'Bank Transfer' payment method as this can take up to 7 days to clear which then delays money going onto your child's lunch account. The best way is to add money to the basket and check out using either 'Visa' or 'Other Payment Methods'. Click on the link below for further information: <https://parent-support.parentpaygroup.com/hc/en-gb/articles/4410737893649-How-to-pay-with-credit-or-debit-card>

Daily spend limit— there is a default daily spend limit of £3.50 and no food costing above that limit can be bought. This limit can only be changed by emailing school@friern.barnet.sch.uk

Students on Free School Meals can spend up to £2.34 a day. Parents/Carers are welcome to top up their lunch accounts.

Help - if your child needs help with their pin code, thumb print or they have been told they do not have sufficient funds on their account, please remind them to come to the main office so we can help them as we do not want anyone to go hungry.

Trips

Some of the trips students have been on this term.

Geography Trips on 20 and 21 February to Epping Forest

As part of their GCSE Geography course, Year 10 students had to complete fieldwork investigating river characteristics and flood risks.



Young Writers Mystery Project

As part of this exciting project, some of our students went to see the longest running play 'The Mousetrap' on 14 March



Trip to the Barbican

On 24 February, some of our students went to The Barbican Centre for a concert of Film Music performed by the London Symphony Orchestra.



Exciting news, Ms Malik and some Year 10 students will be launching their new Podcast next term - more details to follow.

New Year 7 Games Club on Fridays in the Humanities Faculty



There is a range of board and card games, jigsaw puzzles as well as mindfulness activities to include mandala images to colour in.

Our extra curricular timetable is updated every term and can be found on our website:

[Extra Curricular Clubs - Friern Barnet](#)



Auditions for the summer festival will be taking place on our return back from the Easter break.



A big thank you from Friern Barnet School

Thank you to everyone who so generously contributed to our non school uniform day on 10 February, to raise funds for Turkey and Syria.

We have children here who have families who were directly affected by the earthquake.

We raised over £1500 for charity - a big thank you for your support.



Cake Sale

The week commencing 6 February was Wellbeing week at FBS.

To raise funds for charity, Student Parliament held a cake sale. We raised over £64 and the money raised will go to MIND, the mental health charity.



https://www.mind.org.uk/donate/?gclid=EAlaIqobChMI17Hrl_qP_gIVjvtCh0CGQ4ZEAYASAAEgKoQPD_BwE

We would like to say thank you to Minka from Florika florists for the beautiful flowers she provides to FBS throughout the year.



Dates to Remember

Monday 17 April	Start of the summer term
Wednesday 26 April	Virtual Year 7 Parents' Evening
Friday 28 April	Staff Development Day (no students in school)
Monday 1 May	May Day Bank Holiday
Friday 5 April	DTP/MEN ACWY vaccinations for Year 9
Monday 8 May	Bank Holiday (to mark the Coronation of King Charles III)
Monday 15 May	Start of GCSE Exams
Monday 15 to Friday 19 May	Year 10 Work Experience
Monday 29 May to Friday 2 June	Half term break
Thursday 15 June	Sports Day
Tuesday 20 June	Year 11 Prom
Wednesday 19 July	Last day of summer term
Thursday 20 and Friday 21 July	Staff Development Days (no students in school)

Please click on the link for term dates: [link](#)

For a more comprehensive list of dates, please visit the school website: www.friern.barnet.sch.uk

From Student Services

Absence

Please report your child's absence each day by 8.45am, clearly stating their name, form class and reason for absence. You can either call 020 8368 2777 and press Option 1 'To report your child absent' or email: attendance@friern.barnet.sch.uk

For medical or other appointments during the school day, notification is required **in advance**. Routine appointments/check-ups should be made out of school hours wherever possible.

Non-medical absences

Permission for all non-medical absences must be authorised by Mr Robinson, Assistant Head Teacher. Please fill in a leave of absence form and email it, in advance, to school@friern.barnet.sch.uk <https://www.friern.barnet.sch.uk/>

Hemington Avenue

Reminder if you are dropping off or collecting your child by car please use the back entrance on Crescent Road. Only use Hemington Avenue if you are on foot.

Mobile Phones

A reminder that students are not allowed to use their mobile phones whilst at school. Thank you for your support with this clear school rule.

Contact Details

Please let us know by emailing school@friern.barnet.sch.uk if you have changed any contact details or moved house as soon as possible.

ParentPay contact details

If your mobile number or email address has changed, please update your details on ParentPay so you do not miss out on any important information.

EASTER BREAK



Wishing you a restful break.

Follow FBS on Twitter and Instagram



Activities for the Easter holidays

BACE Holidays stands for Barnet. Active. Creative. Engaging. Holidays!

Click on the link to view their brochure: [Barnet 0-19 Early Help Service - BACE Holidays](https://www.barnetyouth.uk/BACEHolidays)



A promotional banner for BACE Holidays. The word 'BACE' is written in large, colorful letters (B: green, A: orange, C: blue, E: pink). To the right, a young woman in a red jacket is jumping joyfully. The word 'HOLIDAYS' is written in pink below 'BACE'. On the left, a green speech bubble says 'FREE!'. Below 'BACE', a red ribbon banner says 'REGISTER NOW'. At the bottom, it says 'Sign up at: [barnetyouth.uk/BACEHolidays](https://www.barnetyouth.uk/BACEHolidays)'. Below this, it lists: 'Dates: Easter Holidays', 'Ages: 5-16 years', and 'Location: Online and venues across the Borough of Barnet'. A red starburst says 'FREE'. Logos for 'FAMILY FRIENDLY BARNET', 'Department for Education', 'YOUNG BARNET FOUNDATION', and 'BARNET LONDON BOROUGH' are at the bottom.

BACE HOLIDAYS

REGISTER NOW

Sign up at:
[barnetyouth.uk/BACEHolidays](https://www.barnetyouth.uk/BACEHolidays)

Dates: Easter Holidays
Ages: 5-16 years
Location: Online and venues across the Borough of Barnet

FREE

FAMILY FRIENDLY BARNET
Department for Education
YOUNG BARNET FOUNDATION
BARNET LONDON BOROUGH

To purchase a locker for the rest of the school year, please click the link: www.locker.rentals



An advertisement for Secure Locker.Rentals. It features a yellow locker with its door open, showing clothes and shoes inside. The text 'Secure LOCKER.RENTALS' is at the top left. Below it, a yellow banner says 'Book today and save 15% on a new locker for this academic year.' Underneath, it says 'SIMPLE. SAFE. SECURE.' and provides information about the benefits of having a school locker, including reducing the loss of items. A large number '7' is shown with the text 'STUDENTS LOSE AN AVERAGE OF 7 ITEMS PER MONTH'. At the bottom, it says 'Visit [locker.rentals](https://www.locker.rentals) and book your locker today.' and provides contact information: 'enquiries@locker.rentals' and 'www.locker.rentals'.

Secure
LOCKER.RENTALS

Book today and save 15% on a new locker for this academic year.

SIMPLE. SAFE. SECURE.

Kids these days carry a lot of expensive equipment, from trainers and clothing, to books and sportswear. So, it's scary to think that the average student loses 7 items per month.

Having a school locker can help to reduce these numbers. Creating a constant, secure location for students to store possessions safely. With the added advantage of keeping books dry and promoting better back health.

And, when you consider prices start from just 12p per day, the decision is simple.

STUDENTS LOSE AN AVERAGE OF
7
ITEMS PER MONTH

Visit [locker.rentals](https://www.locker.rentals) and book your locker today.

enquiries@locker.rentals
www.locker.rentals