

Friern Barnet School Newsletter

‘Enjoy and Excel’

Autumn 2, 2025

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



Dear Parent/Carer,

We have come to the end of another busy term and approach the beginning of a new year. When social media, television and radio bombard us with dramatic headlines, sad news and divisive comments, it is good to be able to reflect on a year at school that had so many highlights and so much joy.

The famous Persian scholar and poet from the 13th century, Rumi, wrote “You are not a drop in the ocean. You are the entire ocean in a drop.” We are a truly comprehensive and diverse school. We may be a small school compared to others, but we have a true flavour of the world within us. This term alone, the year 7 debut event, the able and ambitious evening and the winter concert all showcased the great talent, enthusiasm and commitment of staff and students to the school. Regardless of our backgrounds, faiths or traditions, we all belong to the Friern Barnet School community.

As usual in the run up to Christmas we have been collecting for our local food bank. We know that some of our families will be finding it difficult to keep on top of their energy bills, rent and food costs. There is help available; please let us know if you need any help or support.

‘When your world moves too fast’ is a poem by Christy Ann Martine, a Canadian poet. She wrote:

When your world moves too fast
and you lose yourself in the chaos,
introduce yourself
to each colour of the sunset.
Reacquaint yourself with the earth
beneath your feet.
Thank the air that surrounds you
with every breath you take.
Find yourself in the appreciation of life.

I wish you all a peaceful Christmas and a happy new year. Term starts again for students on Tuesday 6 January 2026.

Yours faithfully,

Mr Simon Horne
Head Teacher

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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 next 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 9:30am will be classed as unauthorised absences which could lead to a Fixed Penalty Notice (FPN) being issued. The threshold for a FPN is 10 sessions (a session is half a day) of unauthorised absence in a rolling period of 10 school weeks.

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.

Punctuality to lessons

In order to maximise learning time it is vital that students are punctual to their lessons. Poor punctuality to lessons is very disruptive to learning. If you have a text from the pastoral team explaining that your child was late to any lessons, please take the time to speak to your child about the importance of this.

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 lovely Christmas break.

Ms S Thomas

Assistant Head Teacher (i/c of attendance)

It has been an exciting and inspiring year for the Creative Arts Department, filled with opportunities for our students to experience, create and perform across art, music, dance and drama.

The year began in September with an art trip to the Grayson Perry exhibition, alongside a Year 7 trip to the English National Opera, giving students valuable first experiences of professional visual art and live opera.

October was a particularly busy month, with a drama trip to see *The Woman in Black* and auditions for the Enhanced Art Programme. We are thrilled to now have a fantastic group of young people on the programme, demonstrating exceptional talent and commitment. October also saw GCSE music, dance and drama practical exams – well done to all involved for the hard work and focus they showed.

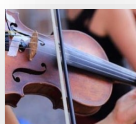
November brought a range of memorable experiences, including the FBS Voices Celebration of Singing, a cabaret theatre trip with Year 9 drama and music students, and the unforgettable Year 7 Stage Debut. Every single Year 7 student performed their dance, music and drama pieces, and the confidence and enthusiasm on display made it a truly amazing event.

December was a wonderful celebration of creativity, featuring our vibrant art exhibition showcasing African pattern-inspired artwork, celebrating colour, culture and creativity in year 7. The month also included the incredible winter concert, *Snowflake Symphonies*, with over 80 students performing, a dance trip to *Scrooge* at Sadler's Wells, and participation in the Old Vic Schools Project through inspiring workshops and a theatre trips to see A Christmas carol.



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 Mr Ghosh at R.Ghosh@friern.barnet.sch.uk for further information.

Black History Month Speech Competition

In celebration of Black History Month, the English department hosted a speech competition with the theme 'Standing Firm in Power and Pride'. It was a huge success, with students speaking eloquently about their experiences and ideas. The following is the KS3 winning speech. Well done to all who participated!

Standing Firm in Power and Pride by Samantha, 7B

Power isn't just about control or authority. It's about resilience — the strength to keep going when things get difficult. History is full of people who showed that kind of power. Rosa Parks had it when she refused to give up her seat, showing that one quiet act of courage could spark change. Martin Luther King Jr. had it when he led with hope instead of hate. Nelson Mandela had it when he walked out of prison after 27 years, choosing forgiveness over revenge.

Those people didn't just have power — they stood firm in it. They faced injustice, fear, and doubt, but they held on to what they believed in. Their power came from their determination to make life better, not just for themselves but for others.

Then there's pride — not arrogance, but confidence and self-respect. Pride is knowing your worth and not letting anyone take it away. It's celebrating who you are and what you've overcome. When people stand firm in pride, they show the world that identity, culture, and heritage are sources of strength — not things to hide.

But this theme isn't only about history. It's about now. Standing firm in power and pride today means believing in yourself when others don't, speaking up when something's unfair, or working hard toward your goals even when no one's watching. It's about standing by your values and being proud of your story — whatever it is.

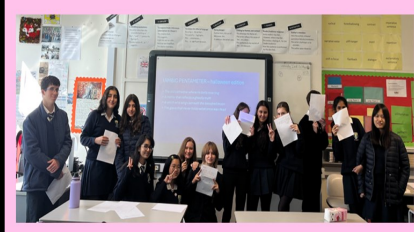
Every one of us can show that strength in our own way. Maybe it's by standing up for a friend, learning from the past, or simply choosing kindness when anger would be easier.

Those small choices show real power. The leaders of the past gave us examples of courage, but it's up to us to carry that forward. Power and pride don't belong to just one person or one group — they're qualities that everyone can live by.

So, when we talk about "Standing Firm in Power and Pride," it's not just about looking back. It's about learning from the strength of others, believing in ourselves, and standing tall for what's right — today, tomorrow, and always.

Join us.....

Creative writing club !



Creative writing club !

Every Wednesday KS4 Lunch
With Miss Suciu in M2-7

*Year 10 and Year 11
welcome!*



Debate Club

- Join Debate Club to improve your public speaking and presentation skills in an inclusive and supportive environment!
- Learn how to create, improve and present strong arguments, and engage in passionate debate with other students.
- We don't just do debates – we also do mock criminal trials based on real-life cases and situations that have happened!
- We enter debate competitions across Barnet, where you get access to tailored feedback from experts in how to improve your arguments and oracy.
- In M2-3 on a Friday at 3:15pm
- Open for all years.



FBS Trumpet

The FBS Trumpet is a student newsletter providing students with a platform for their voices to be heard. This is a newsletter for the school community, run by the students. **All students can contribute and are invited to demonstrate their talents and express their opinions through the newsletter all year round.**

Articles can be about events in and outside the school, and any topical issues. **If you want to contribute, please send a digital copy to your English teacher.**

Editorial meetings are held every Thursday, break time, in M2-2; please, feel free to come and get more information.

Read the Trumpet here: <https://friernbarnet.fireflycloud.net/fbs-trumpet>



Day of the Dead



In the week leading up to half term, we celebrated **Día de los Muertos – the Day of the Dead**. Bringing a taste of Mexican culture, with music, colour, and sugar skulls. Our main feature was a **Catrina display**. As the week went on, the display was enriched with **paper marigolds and origami butterflies** crafted by students during our main celebration on 17 October. Everyone had the chance to explore the meaning behind this tradition, which in 2008 was recognised by **UNESCO** as a masterpiece of the *Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity*.

November: Raising Awareness for Men's Mental Health

This November, our school proudly supported Movember, a global campaign that shines a light on men's health, especially mental wellbeing. Mental health deserves the same care as physical health, yet research shows that many men are less likely to speak openly or seek help when struggling.

To support the cause, we hosted a two-part event. First, students took part in an open conversation, hosted by Mr Robinson, exploring the origins of Movember, its mission, and the importance of breaking the stigma around men's mental health.



Afterwards, everyone enjoyed a fun photo booth, complete with real and fake moustaches, to spark discussion and raise awareness. Thank you to everyone who got involved and helped show that it's always okay to ask for help.



Year 11 at Poetry Live!



On 28 November, Year 11 students visited the London Apollo Theatre for 'Poetry Live!', an event that brought their GCSE Literature texts to life. Poets including Simon Armitage, John Agard and Carol Ann Duffy performed their work and shared insights into the ideas and experiences behind their writing.

A lively Q&A gave students the chance to ask their own questions—two from FBS—which ranged from themes and techniques to the challenges of writing (and even a request for a selfie). The day ended with a chief examiner's session offering valuable exam tips.

Overall, the trip was engaging, informative and confidence-boosting, as students prepare for next year's GCSE English Literature exams. ***Thank you to the Jack Petchey Foundation who funded this trip.***

Mr Chidgey, English Teacher

Debate Club Competition



On the evening of Tuesday 11 November, six students across Year 7 to Year 11 participated in a debate competition at South Hampstead High School. This was through the Debate Hub, a group that organises and delivers a variety of events to promote oracy in secondary schools, including debating competitions, workshops and more. The students were provided with the opportunity to socialise and network with students from a variety of schools.

Each team competed in three rounds of debates against various schools across the borough and received detailed feedback on the strengths and weaknesses of their arguments. The students were an absolute delight and were incredibly responsive to the feedback received. They were gracious and polite, representing the school brilliantly.

We even won a round - well done to our Key Stage 3 team: Elliot (7E), Aleena (9F) and Ameera (9F)!

Ms O'Neill, English Teacher

Young City Poets 2025



Young City Poets is the National Literacy Trust's annual poetry writing programme, which helps to inspire students to write poetry of their own, based on the city around them and a specific iconic London cultural venue. Over the course of the programme, students meet to write together, learn about poetry from their teachers as well as a professional poet, visit a venue in London, all culminating in some of their poems being published in an anthology to be shared nationwide.



Selected Year 7 students from FBS are currently participating in the programme, which commenced in October this year. Alongside regular workshops with me about 'all things poetry', the group attended a site visit to Tower Bridge on 2nd October 2025. During our visit, students were treated to a personalised tour of the venue, as well the opportunity to participate in a tailor-made workshop.

Using inspiration from the trip, students are currently working on poems inspired by these individual objects, as well as the city itself. Final submissions will be due 16 January 2026. I look forward to reading their drafts and seeing their final pieces. I also want to commend the students on being an absolute credit to the school on the trip – they were a real joy to spend the day with! Well done!

Ms Suciu, English Teacher

The Old Operating Theatre

On Monday 10th of November, a group of year 9 English students were taken on a reward trip to The Old Operating Theatre in Southwark to support them in their novel study of Catherine Johnson's 'Sawbones'. The group were an absolute delight throughout the trip and thoroughly relished the sights of London during their journey to the museum.

As well as having exclusive access to the entire museum, other highlights of the day included: lunch overlooking the Thames, at the Hayes Galeria; navigating the 52 step narrow access to the venue and an entertaining lecture demonstration of 18th Century medicine, where students received instructions on how to publicly amputate a leg! The interactive displays were fascinating and insightful and, if nothing else, gave our students a more intense gratitude for the National Health service.



LRC

National Poetry Day

On 3 October, the LRC came alive for National Poetry Day, celebrating this year's theme of "Play." Students explored images of people at play, along with a few showing how screens can distract us from real-world fun, to spark reflection and inspire their own poems using mix-and-match sentence starters. A display of poetry books offered plenty to browse and borrow, showcasing a range of poets and styles. The event highlighted poetry as a space for creativity, curiosity, connection and, above all, the joy of play and Imagination in learning and everyday life.



The Library Times



The Library Times is Friern Barnet School's library termly newspaper. You can find copies of the Library Times on the LRC's desk. Want to contribute? You can present your cartoons, poems, short stories & more! Speak to Mrs Camarena in the library or see one of our ambassadors.

Winter Lights Writing Competition

On Friday 12 December, the LRC played host to a number of students writing Christmas cards and messages of good will. There was also a writing competition on the theme of 'Winter Lights'; the winners and runners up are below. Well done!

KS3 winner: Kelace , 7A

KS3 runner up: Wilf, 7E

KS4 winner: Mikaela , 11B

KS4 runners up: Behrad, 11C, and Zara ,11A.

Winter lights very bright
Shining across the cold nights
Christmas is near,
So have no fear
Come and dance under the winter lights!
Winter lights very nice
Hot cocoa with cinnamon spice
Snowballs being thrown,
Parents making their own
And all we need is winter lights!
Winter lights finally here,
Everyone starts the Christmas cheer
~~Almost~~ Almost Christmas but not just yet,
Parents making their perfect bets
On who will dance under the winter lights

By Kelace , 7A

Geography

This half term, our Year 7 students put their geography skills into action investigating microclimates around our school site. We were so impressed with their teamwork, curiosity and excellent data collection! They came to the conclusion that warmer places around the school included the usher building entrance and the playground, and the windiest place was the year 7 area. Check out the photos to see our young geographers in action!



Ms Farmer-Moruthoane, Geography Teacher

Learning Support

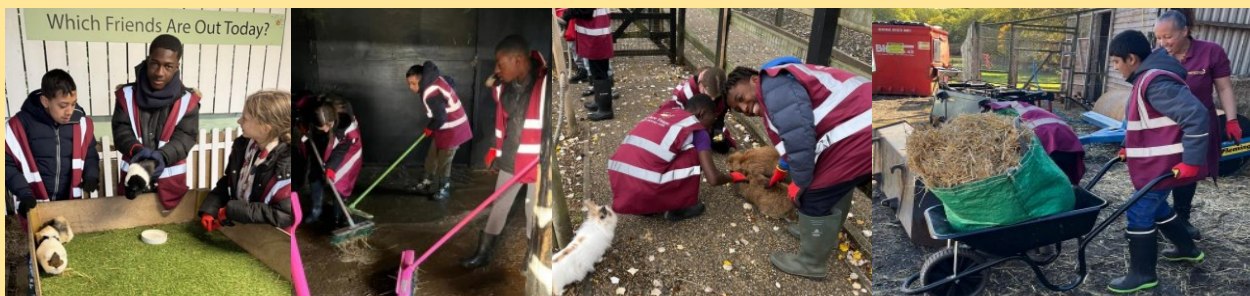


Year 7 trip to GoApe

Our year 7 students went on a Team Building trip on 17 October. All our year 7 Learning Support students had a great time.

Year 8 ARP at the Farm

The students have now completed their first term at the farm. They have had to muck out stables, sheds and pens, these jobs can be particularly smelly and unpleasant, but they all work very hard. Every now and again they get the treat of being able to handle the small animals, as you can see in the photos. Keep up the great work Year 8 ARP.



Panto

It was that time of year again! All of the ARP students went to Panto last week, 'Oh yes they did!' They had a fabulous time at the Millfield Theatre in Edmonton. They watched Rapunzel and the Revengers, and a good time was had by all. 'Oh yes it was'.



Inclusion Hub

Our Inclusion Hub students showcased their entrepreneurial spirit at this year's Year 8 Winter Festival! As part of their ongoing Enterprise Project, the students managed every aspect of their very own stall, whipping up and selling delicious fresh waffles to their peers. The students demonstrated fantastic teamwork and confidence. The stall was a massive hit, spreading holiday cheer and delicious aromas across the festival. Well done to all the students involved for their hard work and successful venture.



Mathematics

Congratulations to Nathan (9B), Orly (9B) and Rio (7B) who were the top 3 students respectively at FBS in the England Rocks Timetable online competition. This was a national Timetable competition run by ttrackstars.com with hundreds of schools participating.





What is TimesTable Rockstars (TTRS)?

This is an online interactive platform for students to showcase and improve their times tables. It is a fun and engaging way to learn your times tables as well as compete with peers.

How do I Login?

Student logins are on a sticker in their Exercise book. You can also ask your teacher for your log in details.

Benefits of Use:

- Improves confidence in maths lessons
- Speeds up problem-solving
- Supports higher-level maths topics such as fractions, geometry, division and even algebra.
- Helps in every day life such as shopping, cooking and time management.

How often should I log in to TTRS?

30 mins each week if you are in set 1

60 mins each week if you are in set 2, 3 or 4

Certificates and achievement points on offer for best performing students each half term.

Mr Spyrou, Maths Teacher, Numeracy co-ordinator

PE

The PE Department is proud to celebrate another successful term of increasing girls' participation in sport. This term, we have expanded our range of girls' only clubs to ensure every student has the opportunity to participate, grow in confidence, and discover new talents. Our Thursday club is currently running with our highest numbers yet with nearly 30 students consistently turning up and we want to keep building on this!

We have taken a number of students to a top level women's football match between Arsenal and Chelsea; we took 30 students to the game which ended in a 1-1 draw! It was a fantastic experience and the students really enjoyed the day out!

The year 7 and year 8 combined girls netball team lost out in a close game against Ark Pioneer losing 6-4, the year 9 team played their first ever netball fixture losing 16-6 to a strong and experienced Ark Pioneer team. We have also taken a girls' indoor athletics team to Ashmole where the year 7 girls' team finished in 3rd place overall winning a bronze medal.

Our KS4 Badminton girls' team (another new team started this term) played against the current defending champions in the borough, St Michael's, where the students worked incredibly hard but lost out to a strong team. Our KS3 Badminton team came out eventual winners against Hasmane after drawing 3-3 in games it was decided on points scored (83-71 in FBS' favour).

Our year 7's girls and our year 8/9 teams braved the rainy weather and muddy pitches as both teams travelled to Ark Pioneer to compete in a football match. The year 7 girls lost out in their first ever football match 6-0 but all worked incredibly hard and enjoyed the experience. Our year 8/9 team ran out 4-1 winners and played a fantastic game against strong opposition.

Moving into the new term we will continue to promote girls in sport and have already started planning a number of fixtures against different schools.

Mr Carruthers, PE Teacher



House Matches

All teachers at FBS are well aware from the sounds of excitement and cheering coming from the Sports Halls that House Match season is upon us! For the first time, all year groups have been involved in competitive house matches against other forms, in a battle to proceed to the finals, which are being held after school in the last week of term. The sports covered have been netball, basketball, football and dodgeball.



A huge well done to ALL the students at FBS for competing really impressively in all sports; they have competed hard, played fair and played as a team in victory or defeat.

Year 11 Football

Well done to the Year 11 who have followed up an excellent season in Year 10 with a positive one this time around. We have secured victories against London Academy, Bishop Douglas, and Compton. In each of these games we played with an attacking mindset and played some excellent counter attacking football. Star players have been Mario in goal (MOM against LA), Mohamad (the star midfield player) and Davide (defensive lynchpin). Our only defeat came against St Andrews, where we were very complacent in a 5-3 defeat.



We have one match remaining against SMSJ and then we will await the draw to see who we face in the playoffs.

Arsenal Trip

On 8 November 30 students attended the highly anticipated Arsenal v Chelsea WSL game which saw the League Champions face off against the European Champions at The Emirates Stadium.

We did not get off to a flying start however, as thousands of fans were stuck outside the stadium at kick off, due to turnstile problems. We just missed the first goal scored by Chelsea, but then watched a fabulous game of football where Arsenal tried everything they could looking for an equaliser, which eventually came in the 80th minute. With 10 minutes remaining, Arsenal then pushed for a winner, and did have the ball in the net, but it was ruled out for a very close offside decision. The game finished 1-1.

Overall, we had a fabulous time watching the game, where it was the first time many students had attended a professional game. Some students were hardcore Arsenal fans, and arrived wearing scarves!

We will look to repeat this trip in future to give the opportunity for all students to attend a professional football match, maybe even at a vastly superior stadium down the road.



Able and Ambitious

This term is always an exciting one as we begin the nomination process for the Able and Ambitious cohort for the year ahead. This year marks a significant milestone, with a record number of over 170 students across Years 7–11 inducted into the programme.

In November, we officially launched the programme by celebrating last year's successes and sharing our plans for the year ahead. The event was very well attended and showcased the talent and commitment of our students. Highlights included a musical performance from Andreea D (Year 11), insightful speeches from An Xin and Lena about their Brilliant Club assignments, and presentations from our Industrial Cadet students, who spoke confidently about their projects.

Congratulations to all students who have been inducted into this year's cohort, in recognition of their achievements over the last academic year.

Last month, our new Year 7 Able and Ambitious cohort visited the Science Museum. During the trip, students explored key scientific concepts such as friction, electricity, and magnetism, while also enjoying the wide range of interactive exhibits on display. The students thoroughly enjoyed the day and returned with a greater understanding of the world around them.

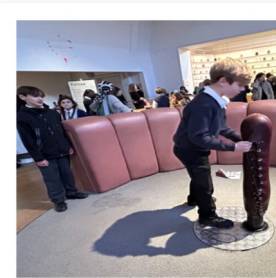
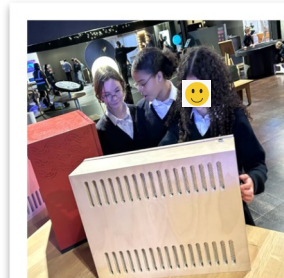
I would also like to acknowledge the success of the Science Careers Fair, the Year 8 STEM Skills Fair, and the Sky Studios trip, all of which have provided valuable enrichment opportunities. We look forward to continuing to work across departments to offer further experiences that broaden and inspire our students.

Looking ahead, Year 8 students will begin their journey with the Brilliant Club, while Year 9 students will start the Industrial Cadets programme, alongside many other exciting opportunities.

If you have any ideas or requests for future Able and Ambitious trips or events, please feel free to contact me or speak with the relevant Head of Department.

I wish you all a very happy and restful festive break.

Mr White, Head of Geography, Able and Ambitious Coordinator



STEM

There's only one way to find out what it's like to work in a tech role: have a go at the job yourself! This is what our top set Maths year 8 students did, when they joined the STEM Skills Fair at the Science Museum, on Tuesday, 24 November.

First, they created a personalised bracelet based on binary number recognition and understanding. Students converted their own birth date into binary code, made of colours representing ones and zeros, and crafted a unique beaded bracelet that revealed their digital identity. This interactive session combined computer language understanding with hands-on personalised coding. This was Tamzin's account after decoding "for every zero, you put a white bead, and for every one you put a red bead, which was interesting and my favourite activity."

Then they learnt about the metrology masterclass, which is all about how not to lose weight! Scientists at the stand explained that, historically, the kilogram was defined by a physical artifact, known as 'Le Grand K', housed near Paris. However, this artifact was found to change mass slightly over time. In 2019, to overcome this problem, mass was linked to electrical quantities. Students, therefore, were able to increase and decrease the number of electrical quantities with a mechanical handle to reach the balance that would define a kilogram. In other words, they were 'creating' their own kilogram! This is Asa's report on his experience "It was amazing, interesting and informative! When electricity flowed around through the wire it created an upwards force which got stronger when you increased the current and could lift stuff. They used this to measure exactly how heavy a weight is."

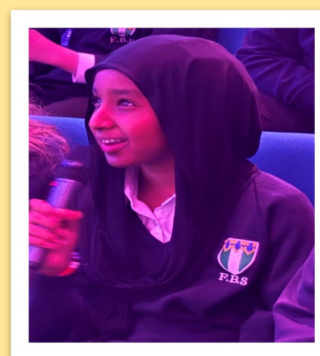
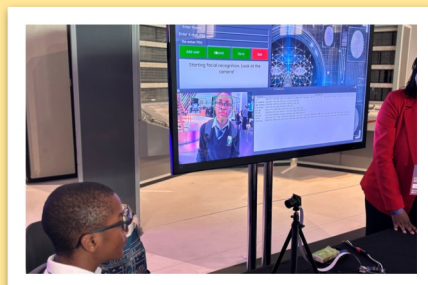
After that, there were another five stands to explore...

At the Coachmaker's stand, students had opportunities to dismantle and re-assemble a standard electrical plug, and at the Design Challenge stand, students were offered valuable digital design skills and a scan code to take part in the Queen Elizabeth Prize for Engineering. Some students had a go at it and designed their own Trophy.

But the most intriguing stand of them all was the one called 'Can you break the Bank?' It's there where students discovered how computers are programmed to recognise facial features and some of them were able to guess secret PIN numbers of their peers without triggering the security alarm. A real breakthrough!

After the Fair Skills, our students, together with students from another school, put questions to a Board of three scientists. The questions asked by our students were so relevant and interesting and showed a genuine interest in a STEM career. They wanted to know what the typical day was, the working hours, the challenges of their job, what was their biggest achievement, if they were always good at science and maths at school, what was their route into their career, how was their apprenticeship/university course, what they were asked at their job interview, how was their first day at work, what's the impact of what they do, how they overcome a challenge, what advice they had for a student who is interested in a STEM career and other impressive questions.

The conclusive account comes from Sirin "The trip to the science museum was very exciting and interesting. I liked it because we got to learn about how maths and science are used in many things like robotics and in video game algorithms. We had a great trip, and we learned many things we didn't know about maths and science before and most importantly, we had a great time."



Ms Gean, Maths Teacher

Uniform expectations

Friern Barnet Uniform/PE Kit Reminder

You must have black/ charcoal trousers, and they must be **tailored**, which means **no** leggings, jeggings, yoga pants or jogging bottoms.



You must have a black polo shirt with the school logo and striped loose shorts or track suit bottoms. Sports leggings are allowed but **thin** leggings are not! **No cycling shorts/ hot pants!**

You must have a navy jumper/ cardigan with the school logo.



Shoes must be **ALL** black leather/ leather look.



Wellbeing for students

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 School -](#)
4. 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 winter break, or if someone you know needs extra mental wellbeing support during the holiday season Kooth is still available.



Go to [kooth.com](https://www.kooth.com) to chat to a practitioner today or to find out more about support.

Wellbeing for parents/carers



Support for parents and carers | Barnet Council

Guidance for parents



Keeping your child safe online

Please refer to our school website where parents can access useful websites on how to keep your child safe:

Safeguarding and E-Safety - Friern Barnet School -

High Achievers Awards for Autmn Term 2025



ARP				
Rasta 7B	Chuks 8A	Rajaunie 9B	Geraldine 10A	
Art				
Alexandra 7D	Joanna 8B	Ken 9E	Corrina 10E	Harriette 11D
Business				
			Elgianna 10C	Conor 11B
Computing				
Alexandra 7A	Asa 8B	David 9D		
Computer Science				
			Avantika 10B	Davide 11E
Dance				
Sophia 7E	Alma 8D	Ayana 9E	Evie 10E	Mia 11D
Design and Technology				
Hanan 7D	Zaynab 8D	Linda 9A	Marcelina 10E	Albert 11C
Drama				
Gabriel 7E	Sumaiyyah 8D	Daniel 9F	Nandi 10C	Lois 11E
English				
Samantha 7B	Eve 8A	An Xin 9D	Ava 10E	Salma 11A
Film Studies				
			Maggie 10A	Yuka 11B
Food Preparation and Nutrition				
Kaylah 7E	Ola 8B	Tatsuma 9A	Mathilda 10B	Andrii 11F
French				
Vicky 7A	Melissa 8A	Sumaiyah 9B	Ali 10A	Chloe 11C
Geography				
Sofia 7E	Amina 8D	Ameera 9F	Ishani 10E	Kamelia 11C
History				
Viktor 7A	Finn 8B	Jozef 9E	Riayana 10E	Jessica 11B
Learning Support				
Xavier 7D	Bradley 8D	Ben 9E	Sean 10E	Huseyin 11B
Mathematics				
Hannah 7B	Dylan 8B	Sead 9B	Yulia 10F	Behrad 11C

High Achievers Awards for Autumn 2025



Media Studies				
			Elin 10C	Maia 11E
Music				
Rio 7B	Anthony 8B	Liv 9D	Thomas 10B	Conor 11B
PE				
Julia 7D	Adora 8E	Klara 9E	Emily 10C	Mikaela 11B
Tyler 7E	Roberto 8E	Anas 9F	Lewis 10E	Mateo 11A
Religious Studies				
Tal 7D	Olivia 8B	Besida 9E	Eloise 10D	Hana 11C
Science				
Alexandra 7A	Lexi 8E	Iggy 9E		
Combined Science				
			Evangelina 10D	Alex 11F
Biology				
			Raha 10A	Olivia 11A
Chemistry				
			Thomas 10B	Abdullah 11B
Physics				
			Erin 10F	Zara 11A
Spanish				
Teoman 7D	Amelia 8E	Matthew 9F	Alona 10E	Niah 11F

Thank you



A big, heartfelt thank you from FBS for all your wonderful donations for our local foodbank.



[Ending hunger together](#) | Trussell

Trussell
Ending hunger together



Activities during the summer holidays

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

Winter Holidays 2025

Now Open for Booking!

Barnet Youth is offering a fantastic range of **free winter holiday activities** for children and young people across the borough!

Choose from two exciting programmes, using the search filters

- ▶ **Positive Activities** – Open to all Barnet young people aged 0–19 (up to 25 with SEND), offering creative, active, and inclusive sessions at local venues. 1 activity per day
- ▶ **BACE Holidays** – For children in Reception to Year 11 who receive benefit-related Free School Meals, including fun activities, healthy meals, and wellbeing support. Use your 16-digit Holiday Activity voucher in the cart when booking to verify your eligibility. Up to 4 days of activities (1 per day)

From sports and arts to cooking and festive fun – there's something for everyone!

Book your child's place now below. Spaces fill quickly!



FREE!

Click on the link for further information:

[Barnet 0-19 Early Help Service - BACE Holidays](#)



Is your child a young carer?

A young person who supports or lives with someone with a disability, illness, addiction or any issue that affects their day to day living, whether it be a parent, sibling, family member or friend, that young person automatically qualifies as a young carer. At Barnet Young carers, we support and acknowledge their caring roles.

• All children, once registered, will receive a Leisure pass for FREE swimming and discounted sessions within Better Gyms in the Barnet and surrounding areas. YC Parental Referral Form <https://barnetyoungcarers.org.uk/parental-referral/>

A 1:2:1 mentoring programme which gives them the opportunity to meet with a qualified mentor (most of who

have themselves been young carers) to boost confidence and offer emotional and moral support.

• Activities in school holidays eg theme park trips, theatre trips, arts and crafts courses, kayaking courses and much more. (once registered, you will automatically receive notifications of events).

Please complete the above referral form to register your child/ren. For any questions or queries, please feel free to contact me at any time on;

Email; Sandra.Langham@barnetcarers.org
07955 286087

[Barnet Young Carers | supporting all young carers in Barnet](#)

Trips

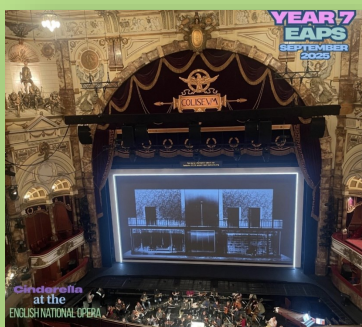
On **17 October 2025**, our Year 7 students took part in an exciting visit to **Go Ape**, where they completed the **Adventure Plus course**. It was fantastic to see their confidence grow throughout the day, and they should be extremely proud of the determination and courage they showed. The trip was not only great fun, but also a valuable opportunity to build friendships and strengthen our Year 7 community.



Sky Studios trip

The film studies department took 30 students for a fantastic visit to Sky Studios, in Elstree, the place where movies such as the new Wuthering Heights, Paddington in Peru and the Wicked films were shot. Students learned about careers in the film and television industry and took a tour of the grounds, including having a chance to sit in the original jeep used in the first Jurassic Park film, from 1993. They then took part in a workshop to create and develop ideas for a film pitch. The groups were able to bring their visions to life in a state of the art film studio, taking on roles including actors, editors and producers. Some even got to wear a jedi robe donated by Lucasfilm Studios. At the end of the morning, we watched their films on the cinema screen, before reluctantly departing. All of the students involved were enthusiastic, creative and showed outstanding teamwork skills. Ms Arrowsmith

Creative arts trips and workshop



YOUNG BARNET FOUNDATION

Christmas Campaign



Christmas is a time of generosity, kindness, and community, but sadly, many children and young people in Barnet face hardship and may go without a gift this festive season.

At Young Barnet Foundation, we aim to wrap and deliver over 3,000 gifts this year to local children who would otherwise go without.

Can you help us make a difference?

Scan here to buy a gift for a vulnerable child this Christmas and give what you can

Please select the option to deliver to our office or contact us to arrange drop off:
Old East Barnet Library
Brookhill Road
East Barnet
EN4 8SG

www.youngbarnetfoundation.org.uk
info@youngbarnetfoundation.org.uk



[Young Peoples Foundation](#) | [Young Barnet Foundation](#) | [Edgware](#)

School lockers

To purchase a locker for the 2025-26 school year, please click the link: www.locker.rentals

secure locker rental
thinking outside the box

Two simple ways to rent your locker

Simple, safe, secure...

Visit www.locker.rentals or Scan this QR code



Once on the web app do the following:

- Enter your location
- Choose your preferred locker area from the drop down menu (if available)
- Click on check availability
- Where prompted enter your details and read and agree to the terms and conditions
- Click on rent locker and follow the instructions for entering your payment details
- You will then be emailed a locker code and the number of your locker compartment.

How to Access your Locker:

- Go to the locker number detailed on your confirmation email
- Enter the 4 digit code detailed on your confirmation email and open the lock
- Should you forget your code it can be reissued by visiting www.locker.rentals and clicking on the re-issue my locker code link.

For all other enquiries, please email enquiries@securelockerrental.uk

Cheaper than a new School jumper!

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 seven 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 www.locker.rentals and book your locker today!
For other enquiries, email enquiries@securelockerrental.uk

Secure Locker Rental Limited, Suite A, 82 James Carter Road, Mildenhall, Suffolk IP20 7CE
01493 601 0226

Please contact the main office at school@friern.barnet.sch.uk to find out about discounts for lockers.



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 electronic school report
- View your child's timetable including their current and next lessons
- View your child's home learning
- 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](#)

School Shop

Parents/carers can buy revision guides, stationery items, and school ties on our School Shop. The link can be found under the Parents and Students menu on the website or click on the link below:



[Friern Barnet School \(parentpay.com\)](#)

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.

Just a reminder, when making payments can we ask you not to use the 'One click' 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 'Other Payment Methods'.

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 £2.86 a day. Parents/Carers are welcome to top up their lunch accounts.

Help - if your child needs help with their pin code, finger 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.

Reminders and notices

Dates to Remember

Monday 5 January	Staff development day
	Online Kick Start meetings and SEND Outcome Review meetings
Tuesday 6 January	First day of spring term 1
Thursday 15 January	Year 11 Parents' Evening
Thursday 5 February	Year 10 Parents' Evening
Monday 16 to Friday 20 February	Half term holiday
Monday 23 February	First day of spring term 2
Thursday 12 March	Year 8 Parents' Evening
Friday 20 and 27 March	Year 9 booster vaccinations
27 March	Last day of the spring term

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

Medication at school

Parents/Carers must complete and return a medical form to the main office when their child requires medication. All medication must be supplied by the parent/carer and needs to be in its original packaging including the prescription label. All medication, including pain medication or antihistamines, need to be stored in Student Services. **Students should not be carrying around any medication in their bags or taking medication without staff supervision.**

School Streets

Just a reminder to parents/carers, if you are driving your child to and from school please remember vehicles are not permitted to enter Hemington Avenue or Bethune Avenue/The Ridgeway, N11, from 8.00 - 9.00 am and 2.45 - 3.45 pm

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 up date your details on ParentPay so you do not miss out on any important information.