# **BARCLAY ACADEMY NEWSLETTER** Friday 28<sup>th</sup> April 2023

EURACADEMIES. BRACH

Dear Parents / Carers,

Despite the teacher strike on Thursday, it has still been a very busy week at Barclay Academy with lots going on.

On Tuesday, military historian, Dan Hill, came into school to talk to Year 9 about the First World War. He brought with him a collection of artefacts from the trenches that the students were able to handle. On the same day, a group of Year 7 and Year 8 students went on a trip to Pizza Express in Hitchin where they were able to make pizzas. This is a good local trip and I know that the students involved enjoyed it.

Next Friday afternoon, we will be holding a tea party to celebrate the coronation of King Charles III. I cannot believe that it is less than a year since we did something similar for the Queen's Platinum Jubilee but it is important to mark this historic occasion. Donations of cakes would be most welcome.

Next Tuesday, there will be another day of national strike action. On this day, all Year 11, 12 and 13 students will be expected to attend school. All other year groups will receive online lessons for those subjects where their teacher is not striking. Year 11, 12 and 13 students need to be in school by 8.25am as usual.

Congratulations go to Harry in Year 12 who has won a place at the prestigious Sutton Trust Summer School at the University of Cambridge. This is an excellent opportunity and, hopefully, it will be the first of many going forward for our school.

Have a lovely Bank Holiday weekend.

Best wishes,

#### Dr Matthew Laban

Principal





## Y9 WWI OBJECT HANDLING EXPERIENCE

On Tuesday 25th April, we welcomed military historian Dan Hill into school to lead a range of sessions for our Year 9's on World War I. Students were shown how the war progressed by representing a number of significant sites on the Western Front before then being shown what a First World War 'Tommy' would have looked like, and what he would have experienced in the Trenches. Students were chosen to model the uniform of a First World War soldier as well as examples of gas masks. One area of particular excitement for the students was holding and pretending to fire, a Short, Magazine Lee Enfield rifle (or SMLE for short). Year 9 had a great experience, and we thank Dan for giving up his time to deliver this to them.



#### BRONZE DUKE OF EDINBURGH EXPEDITION

Last weekend, year 9 students completed their Bronze practice expedition. Over the two days, students had to carry everything they would need including tents and stoves. In the evening, students cooked their dinner before heading to bed. They did fantastically well, with the temperture dropping to 0°C overnight.



### PIZZA EXPRESS VISIT

On Tuesday, a group of Year 7 and Year 8 students attended a Pizza workshop at Pizza Express in Hitchin. Whilst at Pizza Express, students learnt about where the produce was grown, how pizzas were made, hygiene when working with food and finally, how to make a pizza. The students all kneaded their own dough, stretched it out to fit a pizza base, put the marinara sauce on and finished it with cheese on top. The students had fun making the pizzas and even more fun eating their pizzas.





#### KARTING CLUB – CAMBERLEY

Well done to those who attended Camberley race meet with the karting club. Some fantastic results were celebrated by all over the weekend. Evan H received 1<sup>st</sup> in both class 15 and Rotax class 162, Josh P received 1<sup>st</sup> in class 12 MSUK, Oliver J received 1<sup>st</sup> in class 11 MSUK, Oliver C received 1<sup>st</sup> in class 14, Reece W received 3<sup>rd</sup> in class 14, Harley G received 4<sup>th</sup> in class 7, Leo G received 5<sup>th</sup> in class 11 and Cameron H-C received 6<sup>th</sup> place in class 11.





On Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> April we welcomed 43 year 9 Spanish students and 4 teachers Colegio Nuestra Señora de la Paz –Cantabria, a Spanish Secondary School. 30 Barclay Academy Year 9 students took on the role of hosts for the day.

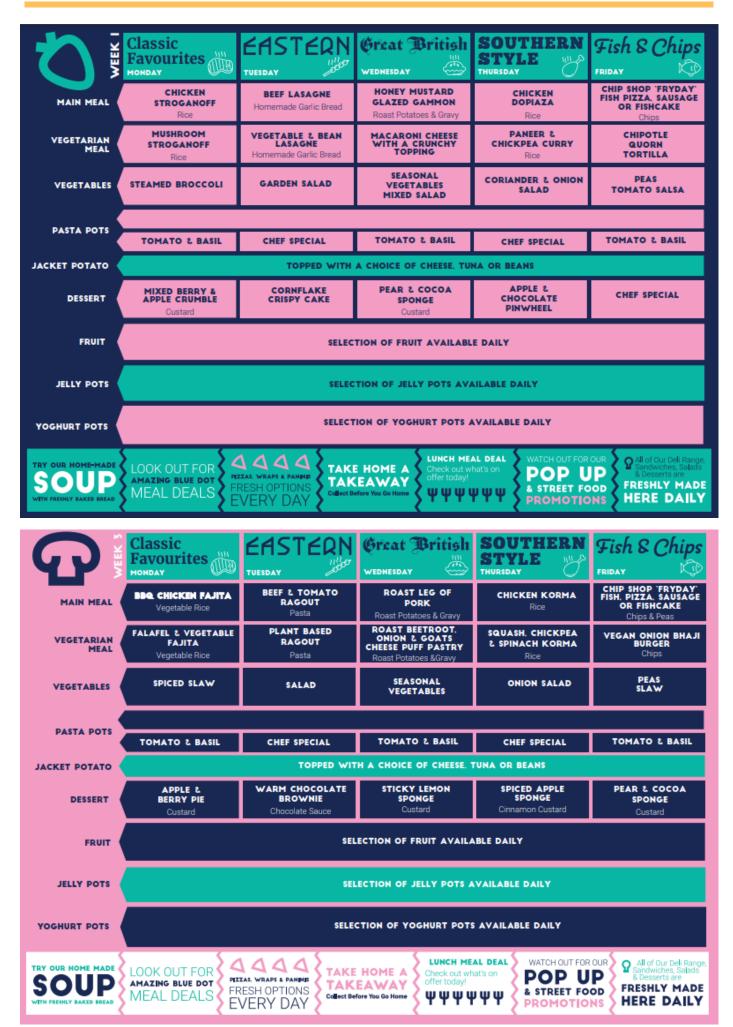
After an ice breaker speaking activity, students spent time in mixed groups, preparing a bilingual presentation about the differences and similarities between their schools. Each mixed group then presented their findings on stage to the rest of the group; Nuestra Señora students delivering in English and Barclay students delivering in Spanish.

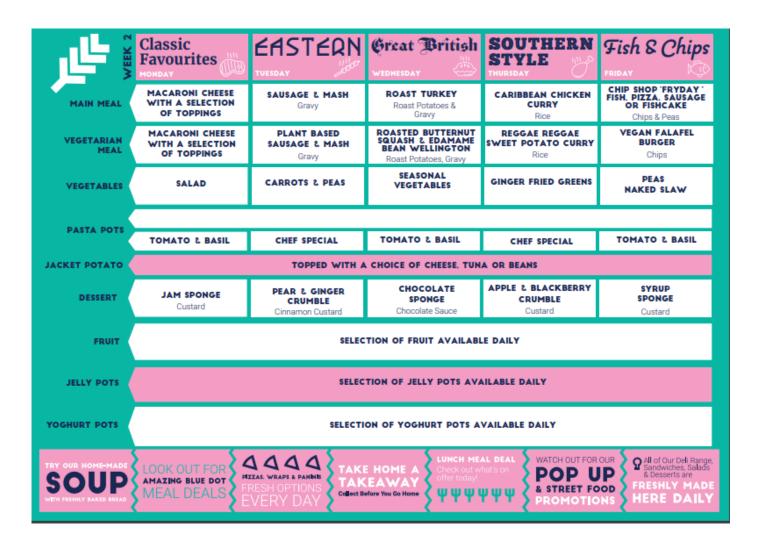
The Spanish teachers judging the presentations were extremely impressed with all the participants. The day concluded with Spanish conversations and a game of football, before bidding farewell to our visitors.

Y9 thoroughly enjoyed the linguistic immersion day, while improving their speaking skills and forging new friendships. A special mention goes to Y13 Spanish students, Joseph and Kyle, who proved to be a wonderful addition providing support throughout the day.



# BARCLAY BISTRO SUMMER MENU





#### GARDENING CLUB



The Gardening Club and Mr Bickerstaff would like to extend thanks to the Vanstone Park Garden Centre in Codicote for their incredibly generous donation of a trolley full of plants for the school garden. A broad range of plants, flowers and edibles for the students to nurture and grow.

#### DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Monday 1<sup>st</sup> May – May Bank Holiday Friday 5<sup>th</sup> May – King Charles III Coronation Afternoon Tea Monday 8<sup>th</sup> May – King Charles III Coronation Bank Holiday Friday 12<sup>th</sup> - Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> May – KS3 Football and Netball Sports Tour Monday 15<sup>th</sup> May – Start of External Summer Exams for Year 11 & Year 13