

BARCLAY ACADEMY

NEWSLETTER

Friday 8th December 2023



Dear Parents / Carers

It has been a busy week as we now start to gear up for Christmas!

On Tuesday, we held our Christmas concerts at St Nicholas church. Well done to all the students who performed and thank you to Mrs Rooke for organising the two events.



On Wednesday, the Year 9 girls' football team won both their matches against two of the other academies in our Trust. They beat The Grange Academy 10-0 and they beat Laureate Academy 1-0. Well done to everyone involved!

Next Friday, we have Festive Headwear Day! We would like students to put on some festive headgear and donate £1 which will go to Save The Children. There will be prizes for the best ones!

Many of our children cycle to school which is really good. Now that it gets dark early, they should have lights and reflector stickers for their bikes so that they can cycle safely.

As I keep saying, students must have a proper school coat. Lots of children were getting soaked yesterday in the rain because they did not have a waterproof coat.

We received a note from the Stevenage branch of the Royal British Legion yesterday informing us that we raised £109.60 for the poppy appeal. Thank you to everyone who donated.

Best wishes,

Dr Matthew Laban
Executive Principal

CAREERS – YEAR 12 MISSION 44

Last week two lucky Year 12 students started an exciting opportunity. The students attended the launch at the STEM Discovery Centre in Stevenage. They joined a focus group with other students from Stevenage Schools. This is part of a Stevenage programme sponsored by Sir Lewis Hamilton's Mission 44 Charity.

The aim of the programme is to raise the awareness of the vast array of Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths (STEM) related businesses in Stevenage with students at Stevenage schools. STEMPPOINT are the East of England's STEM Hub, raising awareness and aspirations about careers in STEM.

Further meetings will take place at various business settings across the area such as GSK and MBDA and will include talks from STEM Ambassadors and other employees about industry and career opportunities. Workshops will include employability skills, career pathways, wellbeing and developing a personal brand. Students will work together to formulate and carry out a plan of action to feedback information to their schools.



ENRICHMENT – KART CLUB AWARDS

On 16th November, The Barclay Kart Team held its Annual Presentation Evening. Drivers, friends and family spent the evening together celebrating the 2022-2023 season. Team members past and present gathered to reflect on the previous season and others before that. Special Guests included Jim Hardey, Colin Fenwick, and Andrew Russell - founders of the Barclay Kart Team. In addition, the Chairman and Director Of the Championship (National Schools Karting Association) Gaynor Heath & The Lady Mayor of Stevenage, Mayor Myla Arceno joined the celebration to present awards. The Lady Mayor gave a speech commending the efforts of the team and their achievements. Guests enjoyed a reception afterwards networking with the Lady Mayor and NSKA representative. Barclay Kart Team would like to thank all the members who made the evening run so smoothly and congratulate all its many members for making the club possible and so successful.



CAREERS – YR 11 & YR 13 MOCK INTERVIEWS



During the past two weeks, over 150 Year 11 & Year 13 pupils attended virtual mock interviews. More than 40 interviewers from 16 organisations helped facilitate the event.

Prior to the event, all students accessed our amazing Unifrog platform to write their CV's. Please encourage your child to show you Unifrog.

This event gave students the opportunity to experience live online interviews in addition to receiving help with their interview skills and guidance regarding their CVs for use in the future.

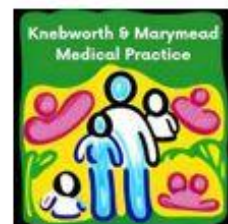
A huge thank you to the following companies for their support:

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CONJECTURE



HEART HERO AWARD NOMINEES

Here at Barclay Academy, we recognize students face many challenges that can affect their learning and achievement and supporting them with these challenges is a priority. We have some young carers in our school, who care for relatives as well as preserving with their studies. When supporting these young careers, Miss Crouch and I recognized the work of two particular student Taylor P 9APO and Hayden B 9Zue1, they do under such challenging circumstances and nominated them for the Heart Hero Awards, Young Carer category. We are pleased to announce that both have been selected as finalists. They will be attending the awards ceremony with three-course meal in St Albans in January. We are immensely proud of them and wish them the best of luck at the finals!

CAROL CONCERT



On Tuesday afternoon, all of Year 7 participated in a Christmas Carol concert. This was the first time all of Year 7 had gone on a trip together and their behaviour was excellent. The students sang Christmas songs, listened to musical performances and a range of readings. We are particularly proud of those Year 7s who read to the whole of their year group. House points have been awarded for this. In the evening, we held our annual Barclay Christmas carol concert. We had a range of students performing festive musical items and readings. The standard of performance was excellent.

SPORT

Year 7 football team had starred in a tournament with two schools from Future Academies. The tournament was a really positive experience for the team. They came away from the tournament with a win and a loss. They won their first game 1-0 after a first half goal from Dylan. He had shown some excellent footwork and composure in the box to calmly slot the ball in the goal. The team were unlucky to not add to their tally. The team defended really well to deny the opposition of creating an attack on goal. They had struggled to deal with Barclay's high press.

Barclay came just short to lose their second game 2-1. Barclay had started brightly by putting their opponents on the back foot. Their perseverance

paid off as Josh had scored the follow up after the goalkeeper made a save. Through the course of the game Barclay kept knocking on the door to add a second but the opposition goalkeeper made some good saves. The opponents scored a goal towards the end of each half to help them win the game 2-1.

The team were disappointed that their efforts did not pay dividends. However, the team can come away from the tournament with their heads held high. Several spectators were really impressed with the way the team had played football. The team had produced some excellent linked up play and were complimented on their playing style. The team will use the experience as a learning curve and will bounce back stronger.

GARDENING CLUB



This week the Barclay Garden Club braved the chill to plant up the beds outside reception with spring bulbs. Hopefully they flourish and we will have a riot of colour come spring!

YEAR 7 DISCO



THE YEAR 7 CHRISTMAS DISCO WAS A GREAT SUCCESS, THANK YOU TO ALL OUT SIXTH FORM AND PTA VOLUNTEERS FOR ORGANISING THE EVENT. THERE WAS SOME GREAT DANCING AND WE HOPE ALL OUR STUDENTS HAD A GOOD TIME..

STUDENT OF THE WEEK



Congratulations to the following students for being invited to Feast Friday with Dr Laban. The students were chosen at random from the Feast Friday weekly raffle. All students who have received a Student of the Week award are entered into the raffle.

ANNIE S 7 ZEU2, AMBE R O 7APO1, OLIVIA M 8APO, SHANNON C 8ZEU1, Alexander M 9APO2, Brianna M 9ZEU2, Elsie G 10APO, Ben S 10ZEU, Liv N 11ATH2 and Amelia C 11ATH1.

BARCLAY REVERSE ADVENT

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Students have already started bringing in food and hygiene products for our reverse advent drive. Please feel free to send students in with a bag or individual items and they can be dropped off at the table next to reception up to Friday 22nd December.

Thanks to all who are donating it will make a real impact in our community.



PRE – LOVED UNIFORM SHOP

Barclay Academy's Second Hand Uniform Shop opening time is Wednesday 1.30pm - 3pm

Please email admin@barclay.futureacademies.org to check stock levels with the size, requirements and arrange an appointment, which will be on Wednesday between 1.30-3pm to collect. Anyone that would like to donate old reusable uniform please hand into Reception.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Thursday 14th December – Year 11 Parents' Evening

Monday 8th January – INSET Day

Thursday 18th January – Year 13 Parents' Evening

Tuesday 23rd January - Year 9 GCSE Options Evening

Thursday 1st February – Year 9 Parents' Evening

Thursday 15th February – Year 8 Parents' Evening

Wednesday 28th February – Friday 1st March – PGL Adventurous Activities Trip Year 7

Monday 4th to Thursday 7th March – Malaga Spain Trip Year 9 and Year 10

Thursday 7th March – Year 12 Parents' Evening

Monday 11th to Friday 15th March – Year 12 Work Experience Week

Thursday 14th March – Year 10 Parents' Evening

Monday 18th to Friday 22nd March - Year 10 Work Experience Week

Tuesday 26th March – Year 7 Parents' Evening