



The

BARCLAY

BLAZE

WINTER TERM 2021



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HAPPY HOLIDAYS!

This academic year at Barclay Academy started with a BANG!

Although some restrictions remained, the school was free to get back to its usual. Students are finally moving around the school and able to enjoy school life at its fullest once more.

This term we have had exhilarating school trips, the fantastic production of Matilda and a wonderful Christmas Dinner for all!

We still face obstacles, but the ones we have conquered show our strength and our triumph.

A PGL ADVENTURE

BY BLAKE T AND INDIANA G, YEAR 7

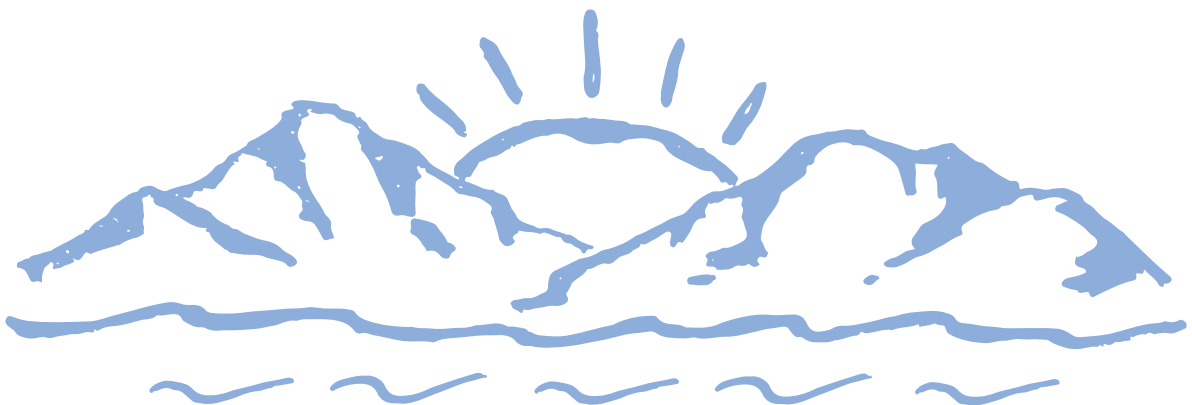
On the Friday the 1st October we set off on an amazing journey.

We travelled for three hours on a coach with all of our friends and form tutors. The bus drive was a bit boring but it was well worth it when we arrived. We had lunch - it was very tasty! Our first activities were Jacob's ladder, and buggy building. Then we had dinner. The options were spaghetti and fish and chips. After dinner we had a campfire, we sang many songs. Then we went to sleep (not really).

In the morning we woke up and went to breakfast - it was tasty. We had an English breakfast. Following this, we had two more activities, then we had lunch. Our next thing on the time table was the shop; most of us spent our money on sweets. Next, we did two more activities but the rain struck and our last activity got cancelled!

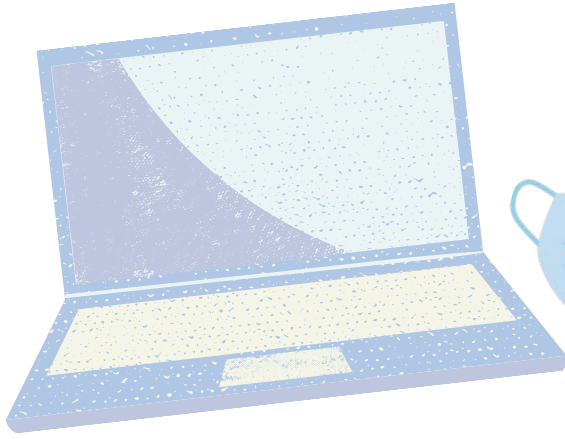
They gave us hot squash which was gross. By the evening, it was still raining so we had a game night (it was quite fun) then we went to bed.

The last day of our trip had arrived, first we woke up and had to pack up. Then we went to our final set of activities. After that we went home it was a long journey.



PGL 2021





LEARNING AND LOCKDOWN

BY LINA E, YEAR 7

Did you ever imagine that one day you'd wake-up to online learning and stuck in a never-ending lockdown?

We never expected it, but we still experienced it.

During our final year at primary school, we were sent into lockdown and we were taught to stay at home and to do online learning. It was really hard to do this, because we had to do homework online and to be prepared for every lesson. Sometimes, it was difficult to hear the teachers because internet was being silly. Parents and students tried their best, but it was clear that everyone missed school and the teachers.

Supermarkets, transportation, and schools were closed and we were allowed outside only for essential shopping. All day, and every day, we were doing online learning and couldn't go to our favorite places - I missed the library a lot!

And during this lockdown, let us not forget the NHS, the teachers, and the key workers who always worked hard for us. It was a really long year, and everyone was relieved when it was over.



Edukit at Barclay

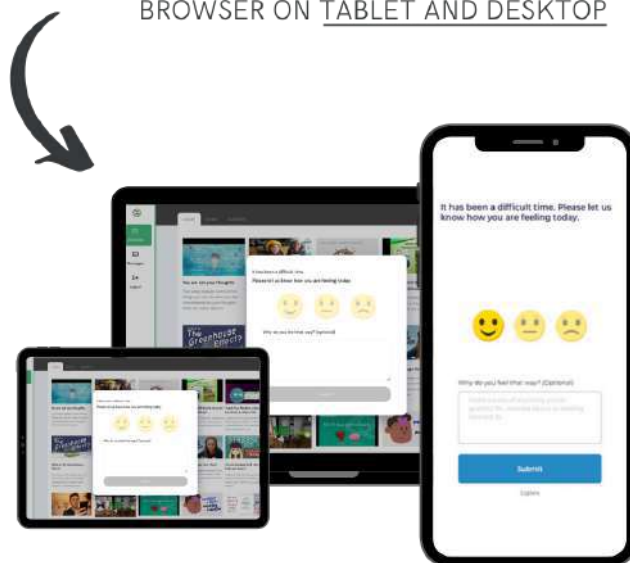
BY GABBY A, YEAR 8

I sat down with Miss Buttress and some Edukit ambassadors. Edukit is designed to get control of your mental state inside and outside of school without talking to anyone face to face. This app is to make students like yourself more confident talking and help with mental and physical wellbeing.

You can download Edukit in the app store, play store or any browser. Edukit can be used anytime. Honestly, it should be used daily. It is to support anyone with any problem at all and it can help with organization skill. The whole idea of Edukit is to give the students access to help their emotional wellbeing.



AVAILABLE AS A MOBILE APP, AND VIA WEB
BROWSER ON TABLET AND DESKTOP



Edukit's Story

BY GABBY A, YEAR 8

Edukit was founded to help schools to ensure all students could access life-changing support in order to achieve their potential.

7 years and going, over 150,000 students have taken Edukit's insight surveys and the program has connected thousands of schools with useful youth interventions via their free Edukit Connect service.

In the summer of 2020 in the midst of the pandemic, they worked with schools to launch a powerful Wellbeing mobile app to ensure that all children would have mental health and wellbeing support when needed. And through their Daily Enrichment webinars, which was launched during the closure of school in January 2021, they will make sure that young people are getting the emotional support that they need at this time. We all have mental health- so we all need to be open up about how we're 'really' feeling.

Nathalie Richards, the founder of Edukit, has been supporting and mentoring young people for nearly 20 years and feels that because of the pandemic, more than ever before, we all need to support and care for each other and protect and empower the youth of this generation. The pandemic has shown her and her crew that they are all interconnected and the importance of looking out for each other.

Speak to your form tutor or Mrs Buttress if you would like help to set up the app.



Cute Animals!

BY LINA E AND JORDAN S, YEAR 7

If you are fan of animals and love cats or dogs, then this article is for you! Here is a list of 8 cute animals that you might like:

Polar Bears

- They are talented swimmers and can sustain a pace of six miles per hour
- Polar bears are almost exclusively meat eaters
- They can weight up to 450 kilograms



Cats

- Kittens like to eat lots of small meals - around 10-12 throughout the day
- They like playing, and are generally curious
- They can weight up to 4.5 kg

Dogs

- Puppies are born blind and deaf and rely on their mothers for food
- Some puppies can weigh 1-1.5 kg, while larger ones can weigh up to 7-11 kg
- The tallest dog in 44 inches



Foxes

- Foxes are members of the dog family
- When fox pups are born, they are unable to see, hear or walk
- Foxes eat just about anything, including berries, worms, spiders and small animals such as mice and birds
- They can weight up to 1.6 kg



Squirrels

- Squirrels communicate using a range of calls, such as barks and 'quacking' noises.
- They mostly eat nuts, seeds, grains and fruit.
- Squirrels can weight up to 500 grams.



Rabbits

- A rabbit's teeth never stop growing
- They mostly eat hay, fresh veggies and fruit, and a few pellets
- They can weight up to 2.5 kg.



Clubs! Clubs! Clubs!

BY TAYLOR P, YEAR 7

There are lots of clubs to choose from at Barclay academy which are led by the most wonderful teachers. Here are some examples of the most popular clubs. Clubs are so important because you get to socialize with other students in different year groups than you.

Monday

Art club
Cookery club
Greek Myths
Music
Oasis (Y7)
Football (Y10)
History

Tuesday

Chess & games
Football (Y8 & Y9)
Hockey
Oasis (Y8)
Science (Y9)
Violin ensemble
Coding (Y10)

Wednesday

Girl's football
Guitar ensemble
Oasis (Y9)
Football (Y7 & Y11)

Thursday

Gardening
Lego
Netball
Newspaper
Oasis (Y10)
Rugby
Cheerleading

Friday

Choir
Creative writing

Christmas Facts

BY GABBY A, YEAR 8

The Origin of Father Christmas

The legend of Santa Claus (Father Christmas) is traced back hundreds of years to a monk named St Nicholas. Nicholas was born around 280 AD in Patara, near Myra in modern-day Turkey. Saint Nicholas, Saint Nick, Kris Kringle, or as you may know him as Santa Claus or Father Christmas, he has a long history filled with Christmas traditions. Santa's based on traditions surrounding the historical Saint Nicholas, the English figure of Father Christmas and the Dutch figure of Sinterklaas.

The image of Santa became popular in the United States and Canada in of the 19th century due to the influence of the 1823 poem 'A Visit from St Nicholas'. Thomas Nast, who was a Caricaturist and political cartoonist, played a role in the creation of Santa. This image has been maintained through song, radio, television, children's books, family Christmas traditions, films and advertising. St Nicholas Day is celebrated all over the world on 6th December.

The Origin of Snowmen

Bob Eckstein composed a book, *The History of the Snowman* which states that the earliest known depiction of a snowman sits in a manuscript of *The Book of Hours* from 1380. Bob Eckstein, the author of *History of the Snowman*, affirmed that no one knows who introduced the first snowman.

Traditionally, snowmen were possibly first made by people to scare away evil spirits. However, popularity of snowmen sky rocketed in when a movie called *The Snowman* was released in 1982. It is about a snowman who comes to life and takes a little boy of to see Father Christmas. Which is how it started in the UK.

A CHRISTMAS WORDSEARCH



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YJWZ
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KFUDCV
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BELLS
STOCKINGS
WREATH
ELVES
SLED

CELEBRATE
EGGNOG
TREE
JOLLY
SANTA

MERRY
MISTLETOE
CHIMNEY
REINDEER

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