



Barnhill Bulletin

End of Summer Term Issue - July 2012

www.barnhill.hillingdon.sch.uk

A Night at the Prom

Princess dresses, spray tan, sports cars, limousines and a few emotional farewells can only mean one thing - the Barnhill Year 11 Prom!



Students did not disappoint in a great array of dashing dresses and dapper suits arriving in flashy Ferraris and luxury limos at the Renaissance Hotel at Heathrow on Tuesday 26th June.



Dinner and dancing followed, but not before the crowning of the Prom Queen and King and presentation of a range of prom awards, from most successful and most caring to the most likely to be a millionaire!



Staff and students, all in high spirits, enjoyed the evening, a fitting way to say goodbye and good luck to Year 11, class of 2012.

In this issue....	
Y13 Leavers	Reading Champions
Creative Design Show	School Trips
SHSSN Awards	Staff vs Students Football

Headteacher's Letter



Dear Families

This half term has been filled with many excellent events which have showcased the talent of our students.

I have been delighted to welcome the Mayor of Hillingdon, his worshipfulness Councillor Michael Markham and his wife at four occasions over the last four weeks, and at each event, we have both been incredibly impressed by the work produced.

Showcasing Talent

The Art Exhibition showed off some stunning work at GCSE and A Level. Alongside the high quality painting and drawings, I was pleased to see work from photography, textiles, graphics and design. The online voting introduced this year was a great success, and a particular well done to Nancy Lund on winning the overall prize.

A few weeks ago, the South Hillingdon School Sports Network (SHSSN) held its first award ceremony at the Beck Theatre. We were treated to an inspiring presentation by World Champion and Double Olympic canoeist Anna Hemmings. The event celebrated achievement in both local primary and secondary schools but paid special attention to the work of our school sports Ambassadors. They have

done an outstanding job in working with younger students and developing their leadership skills.

Our Junior Sports Day was a tremendous success, and for about the first time this summer, the weather was kind. The sun was even spotted for a short period! Well done to the Green House for their victory. At the time of writing, Senior Sports Day is still to come.

Work Experience

We have had extremely positive feedback about our Year 10 students who have gone out on Work Experience. They have worked in a wide variety of placements, ranging from Nurseries to Hairdressers, and Banks to Accountancy firms. A number of employers have commented how they would be delighted to offer our students a job.

Activities Week

The Activities Week Programme has been as full as ever with trips of all kinds, leaving to all kinds of destinations. I hope in particular that the Year 8 Bushcraft Camping trip goes well, and of course the School Production, Camp Rock.

Despite the pressures of exams and achievements, we remain firmly committed as a school to all of these activities which develop the whole person.

Farewell to Staff

This is also the time of the school year when we say goodbye to a number of colleagues. We are very fortunate to have a fantastic staff, and I am sure you would join with me in wishing them well for the future – in new posts abroad, in promoted

posts, or in retirement. I am pleased to report we have made high quality replacements for September.

Belmore Sponsor

In the next Academic Year, I have some important news about our relationship with Belmore Primary School. In April, the Department for Education (DfE), told Belmore that it must convert to an Academy, and needed a sponsor. Following a rigorous process, Belmore and the DfE have agreed that we will become the sponsor, and support it in raising its results. I believe this will be very beneficial for both schools, and it is a natural development of the close relationship we already have. It is also shown that the DfE have a great confidence in us to do the job. There are many details still to be worked out, and I will keep all informed as the process takes shape.

This has been a further piece of positive news in what has been a very successful year for the school. Our Good Ofsted, our own conversion to Academy status, and the prospect of strong results at Key Stages 4 and 5 in August, means that we can look to the future in good heart.

Thank you for all of your support over the last year, and I wish you all an excellent Summer break.

*Robert Lobatto
Headteacher*

2012 Year 13 Leavers Celebration

After a stressful year of UCAS, exams and coursework the Year 13 students reached the end of their journey at Barnhill this term.



and friends at the Leaver's Ball later in the evening at the WatersEdge. Awards, voted for by the students, included Sportsperson of the Year, Academic Achiever and Prom Emperor and Empress. We wish them well for their futures and hope that those hopes and dreams do indeed come true.



An emotional farewell assembly ended as each student wrote and tied their hopes and dreams for the future to a balloon and released them. Full of excitement and anticipation for what lies ahead the students celebrated with their teachers



SHSSN Award Ceremony

Olympic and Paralympic values were celebrated at an awards show at the Beck Theatre in front of a large audience. Complete with performances from Barnhill's talented singer, Timileyin Adepipe and dances from other schools, there was a truly inspirational talk from Anna Hemmings MBE, Britain's most successful ever female canoeist, double Olympian and 6 times World Champion.

All primary and secondary schools in the South Hillingdon Schools Sport Network had nominated seven students for each of the Olympic and Paralympic values: Inspiration, Equality, Determination, Respect, Friendship, Courage and Excellence.

Anna then awarded the students with medals for each of the values.

Barnhill's Platinum and Silver SHSSN Ambassadors were on hand to present the values and it was expertly compered by Y13 student Nathan Bayley.



Barnhill vs Cancer

Many thanks to everyone for the tremendous efforts around the Race for Life events. Our cake sale, memory balloons, poster competition, Y10 non-uniform day and the balloon release just before half term raised £602.21. Well done!





On 4 July, a group of Y9 Princes Trust students visited Blackberry HQ in Slough.

The students were shown demonstrations of the latest Blackberry phones and gadgets.

They split into groups, took a blackberry apart, put it back together and had to name the different parts of the phone.

The highlight of the day was when the students were split into groups with Blackberry staff & Princes Trust staff and they had to do a presentation on a new

phone. They had to come up with a name, target market and design in front of two Senior Blackberry Managers who judged them and gave prizes for 1st/2nd/3rd places. They said they were the best Princes Trust group they have had and their presentations were outstanding!

I was so impressed by the behaviour of all the students they made Barnhill proud.

*Ms Gabriel
Learning Mentor*



Vanessa St. Louis is the Programme Executive for XL writes:

"I had such a lovely day at Blackberry with the xl club last week. The young people were so well behaved and respectful. I was particularly impressed by the confidence displayed when interacting with the Blackberry staff. Their presentations at the end of the day were exceptional. I hope they found the visit informative and fun."

Creative Design Summer Show



Barnhill's annual Creative Design Summer Show and Awards Ceremony was on 4 July 2012.

Work was displayed in the Assembly Hall by year 7,8, GCSE and A Level students from graphics, resistant materials, textiles, food, art and photography.

The standard was incredibly high and it was fabulous that people voted on-line in their hundreds for the award winners.

Congratulations to all our creative talent and particularly, overall winner Y13 student Nancy Lund.

You can see examples from our Creative Design students on our website at:

<http://www.barnhill.hillingdon.sch.uk/about/creative-design>

Reading Champions

Barnhill's Reading Champions, sponsored by the National Literacy Trust, has had another successful year, with 27 year 7 and 8 boys participating in a variety of competitions intended to promote reading enjoyment. The boys were once again divided into teams with designated colours. Guided by their mentors, they competed to earn points for their teams as well as the individual overall prize. Every boy who participated, regardless of overall points, received an award.

This term, the yellow team, led by Mr. Shepherd, won the team trophy, having earned 446 points overall. They were closely followed by the orange team, led

by Mr. McComb and Mr. McFadyen, with 385 points. The individual award went to Mohammed Kassar, also from the yellow team, closely followed by Manmeet Sanhu (yellow team), the overall winner in spring term, and Baljeet Sethi (orange team).

The programme could not run without the support of our mentors: Chris McNay, Chris Jackson, Michael Cairns, Shane McComb, Robert McFadyen, Greig Pilkington, Mark Willis, Gavin Duffy, and Peter Shepherd. Thanks to all of them for their continued support.

Congratulations to all the boys who participated in Reading Champions this year. Keep reading.



During half term a group of 21 Year 10 students took part in the Yes to Success programme.

The programme is designed to improve young people’s employability skills, understanding of the world of work and personal focus to support them in finding paths that lead to a successful future. As part of the programme students travelled to central London to meet a range of successful corporate leaders.

Over the two days students completed a range of tasks including CV writing and honing their interview skills. The students were so successful that the programme leader said “the students were all brilliantly behaved and I was really



impressed with how much they got stuck in and participated. They were a real credit to the school and I would be immensely proud if they were my students”.

The students were:

Jack McDermott	Aleena Khan	Gagandeep Kaur
Aaliya Semy	Razia Ahmadi	Anmol Ladva
Anmol Rattan	Ahsen Shaikh	Julien Jeyakumar
Tooba Yaqoobi	Sangavi Sanmuanathan	Mahamed Ali
Ali-Hassan Amjad	Saampare Sanmuanathan	Nigina Hadaf
Sinhujuan Vickneswaran	Kiran Pandhare	Timileyin Adepipe
Mariam Khan	Komalpreet Kaur	Rebecca Sealey

A special congratulations must go to the students for representing Barnhill so well.

*Miss Leonard
KS Director 9-10*

Meet the Mathematician

Back in March, six A level Maths Students, Sakar Aumar, Samir Islam, Sejal Patel, Taschana Rajarantnam, Matthew Elstone were selected to attend the Meet the Mathematician event at the University of London. This event is held annually at a top university in the field of Mathematics. During the day the students attended 4 Lectures and interactive sessions with leading UK scientists.

The talks gave a fantastic understanding into the

application of mathematics to science and engineering from Einstein's theory of relativity to the mathematics involved in the creation of



LCD televisions and how mathematics can be used to model bubbles. The students also had chance to meet and interactive with a group of entertainers called the maths busking group and participated in a number of amazing maths tricks.

The trip gave the students a great insight into the wide field of Mathematics and what to expect when studying Mathematics at degree level.

Hillingdon Year 7 Maths Challenge

Congratulations to Abdullahi Mohamed 7B, Ahmed Shiil 7B, Sabid-Ali Mohamed 7A and Oliver Graham 7A for participating in and coming 4th in the Hillingdon Year 7 Maths Challenge which took place this term at Abbotsfield School.

The students represented Barnhill showing their outstanding Mathematical Skills and Ability to a high degree allowing them to come in 4th position out of 20 Hillingdon schools. Well done and congratulations from the Mathematics department!!



Swanage Bay

One dreary Tuesday morning, nine sixth form Geography students set off in search of Swanage Bay. Our mission was to measure and collect data on the sand dune and all factors that affect vegetation change.



Adjacent to the second biggest natural harbour in the world, Swanage Bay is an attractive place to study physical geography for many schools.

We were all assigned roles in this task and started off on the beach by measuring the distance between each change in gradient. Between each change the wind speed was measured along with the percentage of vegetation and pH of the soil/sand, to give a quantified cross section of the sand dune.

We took this trip in preparation for our Geographical Skill exam in January 2013 but it also turned out to be a generally enriching day among interesting scenery.

Courtney Flanders (Y13)

Visit to RGS

As Geography A-Level students visiting the Royal Geographical Society we discovered many of the opportunities and the doors that are open to us through our subject.

**Royal
Geographical
Society**
with IBG

Advancing geography
and geographical learning

It was interesting to both visit the building itself and to hear from the scholars that are at the head of their respective research fields.

We had chances to partake in seminars with current university students. We also had lecture type sessions in the (rather impressive) theatre. As a student who is interested in studying Geography at university it was very insightful and rather helpful.

Nathan Bayley (Y13)

A-level Biology & Ecology Field Trip

Leaving on 4 July at 8.30am not to return until 8.00pm this was a long day!

We stopped en route for a tour around Corfe Castle in glorious sunshine, before going on to Kimmeridge bay.

We carried the equipment from the buses down to the study area in fine drizzle, but when we got to the study area it proceeded to pour with rain for the next three hours.

We caught crabs, prawns, periwinkles and lots of other beasts found in rock pools, thinking about the problems associated

with life in this habitat. For many students this was the first time on such an activity.

The displays and aquaria in the conservation centre were really interesting and in the dry.

Since two students had slipped badly in the wet conditions we decided not to visit Shell Bay as planned, but crossed Poole Harbour on the chain ferry and made for home.

An inspiring day.

The Science Team

When most of us think of the British seaside, we think of rain and cold weather... well our trip to the Dorset coast was exactly that! However, the wealth of wildlife which we found, coupled with Mr Firbank's extensive knowledge, meant that we were able to study population field work and

marine populations with smiles on our faces. We studied various habitats such as rocky shores and other more inland environments such as Corfe castle. We located, caught and identified a range of different living organisms, paying particular attention to their adaptations, allowing them to live successfully in a somewhat harsh environment. The trip has helped to put our work from AS Biology into context and prepared us next year, when we will be studying A2 Biology and specifically populations.

Aaron Housen (12.3)





University of Reading

Thirteen A-level history students from Year 13 attended a two day residential at The University of Reading to experience History 'Beyond the Text'.

Students were involved in various seminars and lectures looking at Historical sources that they had not encountered before such as witness testimony from elderly slaves in 1930s and a manuscript from 1170 written by Henry II on sheep skin!

Students were also shown around the museum and archives where they could investigate sources first hand. They also had the opportunity to experience university life by looking around the campus and witnessing graduation day.

The lecturers were incredibly impressed by the mature contributions that the Year 13 students had made throughout the day. Well done to all!

Miss Sutton



The University of Nottingham

Our trip to Nottingham University started with a talk about what we would be doing over our two day stay.

We were then shown our rooms which had everything you would need for university life. Our guide took us to a computer room and gave us our questions to research for a presentation task the next day. Afterwards we split into two groups; one for history and one for biology. My group went to the Sutton Bonington campus to see a lecture about plant pathology which was really interesting. We got the bus back to the main campus and had pizza hut for

dinner and played games for the rest of the night. The next morning we presented to the rest of the group whilst the students who were interested in history went to speak to a history professor. Then the rest of the group went to biology lecture on evolution whilst a few of us spoke to the admissions tutor for psychology which was very helpful for our application process next year. After, we all went to see a professor of microbiology about her research and where a biology degree can lead you. Overall it was a really fun and interesting trip and helped us all understand more about universities and which degrees we would like to do.

Connie Blair (Y12)

The thirteen year 12 students visiting the University of Nottingham represented Barnhill impeccably. Each of the professors they met with commented that the students were bright and engaging, they said that the students asked the best questions they had heard from a school group and would be happy to welcome them back again at any time. The visit, which runs annually, allows students to experience university life, whilst gaining valuable information to help them to apply to university and to develop a range of skills, not least to discuss in their UCAS applications. Well done to all students that attended, you certainly gave Nottingham a taste of the Barnhill Way!

Big Lift for Europe

Seven members of Barnhill's Weightlifting Squad traveled to Austria during half term to represent England at the 11th European Clubs Youth Weightlifting Championships.



The students competed against 19 other clubs from 7 European nations in the prestigious "Fulda Cup" culminating in fantastic medal-winning performances. Bringing home one gold medal, two silvers and one bronze, the squad also collected two 'Best Lifter' trophies. In the U20 56kg category, Jaspreet Paul was first, while brothers Namatullah (U17 62kg) and Habib (U14 56kg) Ahmadi both achieved silver. Louis Hampton-Jones (U17 56kg) took a bronze, despite only in his first year of competitive lifting.

Gold for Barnhill

Six Barnhill students competed for Hillingdon at the Middlesex Country Athletics Championships at Barnet Copthall.

Returning with three gold medals in 100m Hurdles, Javelin and Discus, many congratulations to Jack Kirby (Y10), Courie Coley (Y9) and Jasmine Ferguson (Y8)!

After these fantastic results, some of our students are have now been selected to compete at the English Schools Athletics Championships held in Gateshead in July.

More Gold

Barnhill dominated the Junior Hillingdon Borough Athletics Competition bringing home an amazing 24 medals in total!

Although expectations were high, we were still very competitive and our students did not disappoint. We produced many Borough Champions and congratulations to the Year 8 girls team who topped the team competition. The Year 7 and 8 boys teams both achieved second places.

Congratulations to all who took part, not only did the students perform superbly but their behaviour was outstanding as well.

Staff Sunk by Sonny and Clayton



A recent June afternoon on Barnhill's astro-turf saw the inaugural Staff vs Students football match on Barnhill's astro-turf.

Fantastically supported by many staff and students for charity this turned out to be a rather one-sided affair. With weather threatening the fixture the game



kicked off with the staff team putting out their strongest team against a very well organised and fast sixth-form team.

The staff held out until just before half-time thanks to loan goalie Ben Clark who was challenged many times. The staff team were strong in defence, but had difficulty troubling the students' goal. A breakaway goal by Sonny Dulai broke the deadlock. Rolling substitutes were deployed by the staff (officially in an attempt to give everyone a game!). The staff lasted for a further twenty minutes into the second half before Ryan Clayton and again Sonny Dulai targeted the tiring legs.

Stars for the staff term were Mr Shepherd and Miss Williams who gave their all, but they also have to thank excellent refereeing from Y9 student Gemma Day and tactical use of the off-side trap. In stoppage time, with penalties not even looking likely, all the staff substitutes returned to the field (18 vs 11!!) but to no avail. Both teams enjoyed the good-spirited game and look forward to the return fixture!

IMPORTANT DATES

Summer Holidays

16 Aug	A-Level Results Day
23 Aug	GCSE Results Day

Start of Autumn Term

We have a staggered start. Details are as in the letters sent home, which are also available to download under Recent Letters in the Parents section of the school website.

The key points:

Wed 5 Sep	Y7 & Y12 (At specific times)
Thu 6 Sep	All Year Groups (At specific times)
Fri 7 Sep	On Track for Success Day (All Year Groups)

Autumn Term 2012

Start	See above & individual letters
Half Term	Mon 29 Oct to Fri 2 Nov inclusive
Finish:	Fri 21 Dec

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Spring Term 2013

Start	Mon 7 Jan
Half Term	Mon 18 Feb to Fri 22 Feb inclusive
Finish	Thu 28 Mar