ISSUE 515

End of Term

EBS NEWS

FRIDAY 27TH MARCH 2026

Headteacher's Message

This half term has been characterised by a real sense of energy, creativity and community across East Barnet School. It has been a pleasure to see so many students getting involved, trying new experiences and making the most of the opportunities on offer.

There have been some fantastic moments that brought our school together. The PTFA Mega Music Quiz was a highlight, combining fun, teamwork and a strong sense of community spirit. At the same time, our recognition of International Women's Day provided an important opportunity for reflection, celebration and meaningful discussion across the school. The performing arts have been a particular strength this term. Our production of *9 to 5* was a true showcase of student talent, commitment and collaboration, both on stage and behind the scenes. Alongside this, World Book Day reminded us of the importance of reading, imagination and storytelling in students' development.

Educational visits have also played a key role this half term. From the adventure and resilience shown on the ski trip, to the cultural and academic experience of Brussels, students have represented the school with maturity and enthusiasm while broadening their perspectives beyond the classroom.

What is most striking is the way in which students have embraced these opportunities; with confidence, curiosity and a willingness to contribute to school life. These experiences, alongside their academic studies, are central to the development of well-rounded, thoughtful young people.

Thank you, as always, to our staff and families for their continued support in making these opportunities possible. I hope you enjoy reading about the many achievements and experiences from this half term.

L. Swaine
Headteacher

IN THIS ISSUE:

- Brussels Trip
- Legendary Ski Trip
- World Book Day
- International Women's Day
- 9-5 Production
- Kitchen Themed Menus
- Holocaust Education Day

...and lots more!

Sixth Form in Brussels

Our recent school trip to Brussels was an amazing experience and definitely one of the highlights of Year 13. It was very well organised, with a great balance of educational visits and free time, making it both enjoyable and meaningful. During our time in Brussels, we visited the European Parliament, the Atomium, and a chocolate factory. All of the activities were interesting and engaging. Even the European Parliament, which some might expect to be less exciting, was surprisingly informative and gave us a real insight into how the European Union works. Visiting the Atomium was another highlight, offering incredible views and fascinating exhibitions, while the chocolate factory visit was both fun and interactive. Having free time to explore the city independently was another fantastic part of the trip. We explored the main square, visited the cathedral, went shopping, and even tried an escape room – one of the most enjoyable experiences of the trip. This balance between structured activities and independent exploration made the experience even more special. The trip also gave us a chance to relax and unwind before the busy months ahead with A-Levels. Spending this time with both peers and teachers made it even more memorable, helping to strengthen friendships and bring people closer together in our final year. The teachers were fantastic throughout – supportive, engaging, and great company. The hotel was also excellent, with comfortable rooms and plenty to do, including arcade games and karaoke on the final night, which was a brilliant way to end the trip.
Overall, the trip to Brussels was an unforgettable experience filled with fun, learning, and lasting memories. It was a wonderful way to round off Year 13, and I am very grateful to the staff for organising such a successful visit. See more pictures here.

By Stephanie Theodorou, Year 13

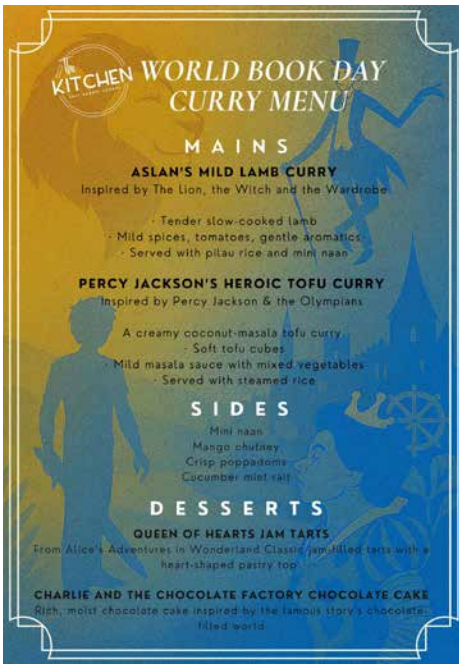
Legendary Ski Trip

While the Winter Olympics were taking place, EBS students enjoyed their own week of snow-filled adventure in the stunning resort of Les Orres, nestled in the French Alps. Students of all abilities, from beginners to experienced skiers, took to the slopes each day after a hearty breakfast at the Le Trappeur hotel. With enthusiasm and determination, they tackled a range of runs – from green and blue to red and even black. It was inspiring to see students supporting one another, cheering on their peers as they built confidence and pushed themselves beyond their comfort zones. Beyond the slopes, the trip provided valuable opportunities to build friendships, develop teamwork, and create lasting memories. The students were a credit to the school and their families throughout. Overall, the week was an outstanding success and a truly unforgettable experience for everyone involved. See more pictures here or on our the EBS X page.

Celebrating World Book Day in the EBS Library 2026

We marked World Book Day with a range of engaging activities that encouraged a love of reading, writing and creativity across the school. Students explored new titles through a mystery book selection (with a few golden ticket surprises!), entered a national book voucher design competition, and created imaginative potato book characters. A creative writing workshop for Years 7–9 saw students craft mini sagas for the Young Writers "Stranger Sagas" competition. Year 8 Lexia students also took part in a 17th-century escape room, solving puzzles inspired by John Dee. It was fantastic to see such enthusiasm and engagement throughout the day. Read more about the day and see more pictures here.

Our Kitchen Themed Menus for the Second Half of the Spring Term



Working 9 - 5

Our recent school production of *9 to 5* was a fantastic success, showcasing not only the incredible talent of our students but also the strong sense of community that underpins everything we do. From months of rehearsals to the final performances, students across all year groups worked together to bring this energetic and meaningful show to life. On our website we have some great messages from our students about their experience of being in the show, and of course, lots more pictures, please click here. We had to share Melissa's message below, how could we not? She played the infamous Doralee, originally Dolly Parton!

"Playing Doralee in *9 to 5* has been one of the most rewarding experiences of my time at EBS. Taking on such a well-known role - made iconic by Dolly Parton - was both exciting and a significant responsibility, especially as this year we welcomed Year 7 students into the production. As one of the Year 13 cast members, I felt it was important to set an example by demonstrating a professional and positive attitude throughout rehearsals and performances. Live theatre can be unpredictable, and one memorable moment came during the Friday evening performance when my wig slipped off onstage - something I still haven't quite processed! The way I carried on in character highlighted the resilience I've developed through my drama studies here. As this was also my final show at EBS, I couldn't have asked for a better way to end my theatre journey. Being surrounded by such a talented and supportive cast and crew made it incredibly special. Above all, I'm especially grateful to Mr Messios, who has taught me since Year 7. His guidance and encouragement have shaped both the production and us as performers, making this a truly memorable final chapter. Yeehaw!"

International Women's Day 2026

To mark International Women's Day, our school community took time to reflect on and celebrate the impact of inspiring women in our lives and beyond. Throughout the day, our digital screens showcased a range of influential women from across the world, highlighting their achievements and contributions in a variety of fields. This provided students with the opportunity to learn about and recognise the lasting influence of women both past and present. Students were also invited to take part in a postcard activity, writing messages to women who inspire them. These included members of staff within school as well as important figures at home, such as mothers, carers, and other role models. It was wonderful to see students expressing their appreciation and recognising the positive impact these individuals have on their lives. Staff also got involved by sharing their own pledges, reflecting on how they can continue to support and empower others within our school community. While simple, these activities created a meaningful opportunity for reflection, appreciation, and celebration, values that remain at the heart of our school every day.

PTFA Mega Music Quiz 2026

Friday 13th of March was lucky for some, as a team named 'Beelzebub Has A Devil For A Sideboard', led by the Front Office's very own Mrs Williams, won the first ever EBS Mega Music Quiz by a mere half point. The quiz, organised by the EBS PTFA, was attended by more than 80 guests, which included teams of parents, carers, teachers, support staff and governors. Quiz masters Richard Gardham and Jay Okoro asked 60 music questions starting in 1960 and ending in 2019, along with a picture round through the decades. On top of the fun of the quiz itself, PTFA volunteers collected dozens of incredible prizes, including £100 Amazon vouchers, sessions with a personal trainer, a handmade cardigan, meals at restaurants, boxing, horse-riding, premium homeware and much more for a raffle that made a profit of approximately £1,900. All proceeds will go to replacing our non-ULEZ-compliant minibuses.

Holocaust Education Day

Today, East Barnet School had the privilege of hearing from Janine Webber BEM, who shared her testimony with Year 9 as part of our Holocaust Education Day. Born in Lwów, Poland (now Lviv, Ukraine) in 1932, Janine survived the Holocaust as a child, enduring the loss of her family, life in a ghetto, and periods in hiding under constant threat, before being liberated in 1945. She later settled in the UK, where she has dedicated her life to sharing her story and educating young people about the Holocaust. We are deeply grateful to Janine for bringing this vital history to life for our students.