ISSUE 516

End of Term

EBS NEWS

FRIDAY 22ND MAY 2026

Headteacher's Message

This edition of EBS News captures the energy and creativity that continues to characterise life at EBS. From our students becoming published authors in *Ghost Stories: Creepy Tales*, to the remarkable success of our Year 9 students whose winning design will feature in EA SPORTS FC 26, there is much to celebrate. We have also seen students embrace new opportunities through enrichment activities, sport, creative writing, geography fieldwork and leadership experiences beyond the classroom.

Particular highlights this term include our vibrant Culture Day celebrations, the inspiring visit from the Rapping Science Teacher, and the recognition of one of our students as the Mayor's Cadet for the London Borough of Barnet; a significant honour and a testament to the character and commitment of our young people.

What shines through every story in this newsletter is the willingness of our students to participate fully, challenge themselves and support one another. Whether representing the school in competitions, developing new skills through Brazilian Jiu-Jitsu, conducting fieldwork at Flatford Mill, or simply discovering a new passion during enrichment afternoons, our students continue to demonstrate resilience, curiosity and creativity in abundance.

I would also like to thank our dedicated staff, support teams and families for their encouragement. The breadth of opportunities available to students at EBS is only possible because of the commitment of the adults who care for our children.

I hope you enjoy reading this edition of EBS News and celebrating the many successes of our students and staff. As we approach the half-term break, I wish all members of our community a restful and enjoyable holiday.

L. Swaine
Headteacher

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...and lots more!

Rapping Science Teacher Returns

This morning's Key Stage 3 assembly for students in Year 7, Year 8 and Year 9 was led by Matt Green, aka the Rapping Science Teacher. Matt is a TV broadcaster, author and business owner – famous across the globe for his edutaining rapping science videos on social media – and we were thrilled he was able to visit East Barnet School. Content creator Matt uses his teaching skills to educate and entertain students by releasing weekly 30-second science rap videos with chart-topping soundtracks to help young people remember key concepts and succeed in their exams. During the assembly, students enjoyed his energetic presentation style and saw first-hand how creativity and music can make learning both memorable and engaging. Matt also performs his science raps in a popular YouTube series, where he teams up with other famous creators and celebrities to inspire students in a fresh and exciting way. Matt regularly appears on prime-time television and is about to publish three revolutionary Rapping Up revision guides, set to change the face of learning for future generations. Featuring his famous raps, the guides are designed to help students Rap, Remember, Revise! Students and staff thoroughly enjoyed the session.

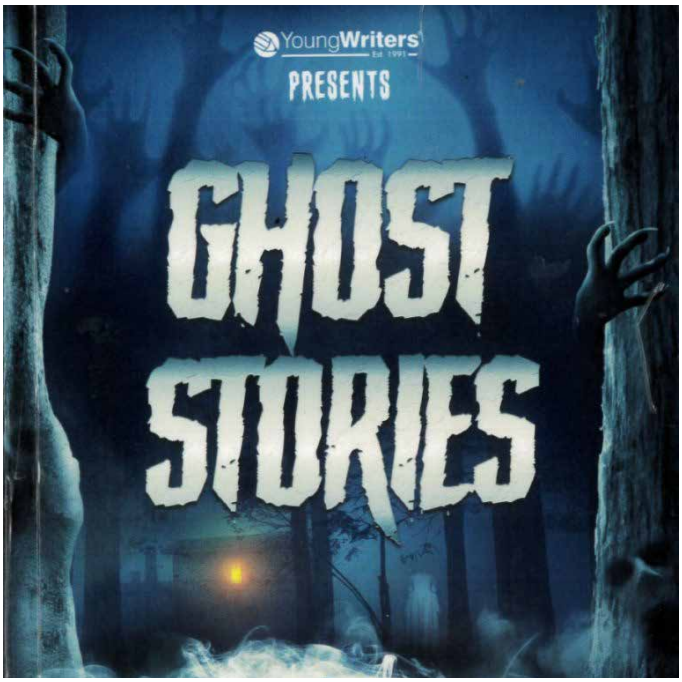
Students Win EA Sports FC 26 Competition

We are delighted to share some fantastic news about our Year 9 students, who have been crowned winners of the EA Sports FC Futures Partnership Competition through their work with Football Beyond Borders. The group took part in the FC Futures module, where they explored creativity, teamwork, and design through football-inspired projects. Their commitment, imagination, and collaboration throughout the programme have been outstanding, and this achievement is a brilliant reflection of their hard work. As part of their winning entry, the students designed a tifo that impressed judges and stood out for its originality and impact. Their design has now been selected to feature in EA SPORTS FC 26, giving them the exciting opportunity to see their work showcased in a global football game. This is a fantastic achievement and a moment of real pride for the students, their families, and the school community. It also highlights the powerful role that partnerships like FC Futures with Football Beyond Borders can play in bringing learning to life beyond the classroom. We are incredibly proud of all the students involved and look forward to seeing their creativity celebrated in EA SPORTS FC 26. Their amazing artwork is below - look out for it!

23RD APRIL 2026

Ghost Writers at EBS

Two talented students from the lower school have become published authors after their short stories were recently awarded a place in an anthology of children's ghost stories. Ivy T. (8E) and Bronwyn J. (7D) had their original short stories, Wicked Whispers and The Haunted Gym Cupboard, selected for publication by Young Writers, an organisation that promotes and publishes children's creative writing in partnership with UK and US schools. The competition attracted thousands of entries from hundreds of schools across the UK. Ivy and Bronwyn's work was chosen by an editorial panel known for its exacting standards, making this a significant literary achievement for these young authors. Both students were celebrated in year group assemblies on 23rd April, where they were presented with certificates of merit from Young Writers and a small token of esteem by Mr Gallagher. Writing for literary competitions takes great courage, perseverance, and skill, and the school hopes their success serves as an inspiration to other students to pick up a pen and explore their own creative voices. A fantastic way for our students to develop their writing skills and authorial voice is to read from the collection in the library and attend our creative writing club, hosted by our resident writer Ms Green and English Team member Ms O'Toole Monday after-school. A copy of the anthology, Ghost Stories: Creepy Tales, can be found in the school library. You can read Ivy and Bronwyn's entries by clicking here.



27TH APRIL 2026

Year 7 Enrichment Afternoon

Year 7 students enjoyed an inspiring and energetic afternoon of Enrichment Activities that showcased creativity, curiosity and teamwork in all its forms. The event offered students the chance to explore new interests, develop practical skills and work alongside friends. A huge thanks to all our staff who offered a wonderfully varied range of activities. Budding gardeners rolled up their sleeves to learn about planting and looking after the EBS 'garden', while others expressed their creativity through Slinkachu-inspired art, transforming tiny figures into imaginative scenes. In Science, excitement (and a few bangs!) filled the air as students took part in hands-on experiments and safe, spectacular explosions that brought learning vividly to life. Creative writing enthusiasts tried their hand at crafting gripping murder mysteries, carefully plotting clues and suspects. Outdoors, orienteering challenged students to navigate and problem-solve as a team, while First Aid activities equipped students with valuable life-saving knowledge and confidence. The afternoon was a huge success and a fantastic reminder that learning doesn't stop at the classroom door. Well done to all our Year 7s for their enthusiasm and to the staff who made the event memorable and meaningful.

Mayor's Cadet Recognition

We were delighted to welcome The Worshipful The Mayor of the London Borough of Barnet to our school to celebrate a very special achievement by one of our students. Each year, the Mayor may appoint a Mayor's Cadet – a prestigious role awarded to a young person who has demonstrated outstanding commitment, leadership and service within a cadet organisation or uniformed youth group. This appointment recognises not only their dedication to their cadet unit, but also their contribution to the wider community. As the Mayor's chosen Cadet, Evelyn has the honour of supporting the Mayor at a range of civic events throughout the year. These have included important occasions such as remembrance services, community celebrations and official engagements, where the Cadet represents both young people and their organisation. This is the first time a Barnet mayor has a chosen a cadet who is not a military cadet. The role is widely regarded as a significant honour, highlighting the positive impact that young people make within their local area and providing valuable opportunities to develop confidence, responsibility and leadership skills. We are incredibly proud of Evelyn for this well-deserved recognition and look forward to following her journey over the coming year.

Stephen Lawrence Day

To mark Stephen Lawrence Day, students took part in the '22 Challenge', focusing on the values of kindness, respect, and standing up for others. Students explored how small, genuine actions can have a meaningful impact on those around them, and were challenged to carry out one act of kindness on 22 April, reflecting on their actions the next day during Form, sharing them with peers. Examples included:

- making a cup of tea for a parent/carer
- holding the door open for others
- helping a friend who was struggling with learning
- including someone who had been left out

These acts demonstrated how students are living out the EBS values, particularly doing the right thing – choosing to act thoughtfully and support others, even when it is not required and kindness – showing care, empathy and consideration through everyday actions.

Brazilian Jiu-Jitsu

Some of our Year 9 and Year 12 students had an amazing time taking part in an after-school Brazilian Jiu-Jitsu session on Tuesday 12th May. Led by an external black belt instructor, students learned new techniques, challenged themselves and showed fantastic determination throughout the session. We can't wait to see how their skills continue to develop - future martial arts champions in the making!

Sound of Writing

On the afternoon of May 18th, the Library, in collaboration with Writer in Residence Caroline Green, hosted a creative writing event focused on the inspirational role of music in the writing process. Students from Years 7 and 8 listened to an eclectic selection of music, ranging from Satie's hauntingly enigmatic Gnossiennes No. 1 to Molly Nilsson's bittersweet 21st-century rendition of Hey Moon. Inspired by the tracks, they wrote a series of prose pieces exploring setting, tone, rhythm and imagery. Delicious hot chocolate, juice and snacks prepared by our wonderful catering team kept us all refreshed. Ms. Green and Mr. Gallagher provided guidance throughout the session and were immensely proud of students' efforts and the excellent quality of work produced. Well done to all of those involved and keep up the writing habit!

A-Level Geography Visit Flatford Mill

Our A-Level Geography trip to Flatford Mill offered a fantastic chance to investigate both human and physical geography through practical fieldwork skills. On the first day, we travelled to Walton-on-the-Naze, where we carried out a range of methodological approaches to explore the impact of coastal management. The students engaged in techniques including beach profiling, wave counts, measuring infiltration rates, sediment analysis and field sketches. They did wonderfully, despite the heavy rain! After a productive day at the coast, we travelled to the FSC Flatford Mill Centre where we stayed overnight. We enjoyed a hearty dinner and then returned to the classroom to graph and statistically analyse our results. The blue skies welcomed us in the early evening, and we explored the site and were lucky to see lots of rabbits and leaping lambs! After a very competitive game of UNO, we retired to the bungalow for a good night's rest. On day two, following time in the classroom, we visited two contrasting wards in Colchester to explore urban inequalities for our human fieldwork day. This included a range of techniques such as questionnaires, environmental quality surveys, urban drifting and crime perception. The trip greatly enhanced our understanding of the requirements of the NEA and gave us invaluable hands-on experience with data collection and analytical techniques. A huge thank you to Miss Brown and Mr Baxter for running the trip!

Celebrating Culture Day

On 1st May, Sixth Form students put on the cultural finest and enjoyed cuisines from all around the world!

National Walking Month

May is National Walking Month, a chance to enjoy the benefits of getting outdoors, staying active and exploring your local area on foot. Whether it is walking to school, taking an evening stroll or heading out for a longer family walk at the weekend, every step counts! With half term just around the corner and over a week of National Walking Month still to go, now is the perfect opportunity to get involved. Why not challenge yourself to discover a new route, visit a local park or swap a short car journey for a walk? Walking is a great way to support both physical and mental wellbeing while spending quality time together as a family.

Redpath
Moving & Storage

On the Move

Moving house in the spring? Need a reliable moving company? Look no further than Redpath! EBS is in partnership with Redpath Moving & Storage, a friendly local company with over 30 years of experience and based just down the road in N20. Support locally and help East Barnet School earn £50. If you are planning a move or need storage, why not get a free, no-obligation quote from Redpath?

Want to advertise your business here? All funds raised go back into the school to benefit the students. Please email info@eastbarnetschool.com for the attention of Nina Bain for more info.