

Be kind to one another, forgiving one another, as God forgave you. Ephesians 4:32

15 March 2024

#### **Year 8 Netball Festival**

Our wonderful Y8 netball team played in the Barnet netball festival at Christ College this week, where they had a lovely afternoon playing matches with schools from across the borough. A huge well done to the team for their dedication, their commitment and their sportsmanship when playing. Stand out performances from Olivia M, Michelle W and Aseela J!

Miss Walt | Head of Year 11 & Teacher of PE



#### Message from the Headteacher

Sport is all about teamwork and we have had some great examples of that from our netballers and female footballers this week. Although our footballers were knocked out of the Y10 ESFA Cup, reaching the last 64 in the country is a great achievement from a team containing many much younger players and bodes well for the future. Teamwork of a different kind was very much on display at the Barnet Dance Festival recently, where again a mixture of age groups worked together superbly well and the creative choreography of the girls themselves really shone out.

We have had an incredibly positive response to our Root Word initiative, designed to build vocabulary. Please take a quick look at this week's word and do test your son and daughter on words deriving from credo, the Latin verb meaning 'I believe'.

Our Christian belief is at the heart of our preparations for Lent and particularly 'Clean Monday', which marks the beginning of Megali Sarakosti next week. Do have a look at the Powerpoint below, prepared by Mrs Koveri and Mr Bamford on the history and traditions around the Lenten Fast. Coincidentally, this year, the dates quite closely correlate with Ramadan (Monday 11th) which marks a special time of reflection, community, and faith for millions of Muslims around the world, including those in the United Kingdom and at our school. This ninth month of the Islamic lunar calendar is dedicated to fasting, prayer, and acts of charity, as prescribed in the Quran.

Before the Fast starts I have been enjoying achievement celebrations in the canteen with pupils from all year groups. We have taken the opportunity to look over the fence at the progress of our new buildings — the foundations are going in on the main block of the new school, the area for the all-weather football pitch has been levelled off and the Sports Hall is being finished off with the application of external brick cladding.

Students also gave me feedback on colour schemes for a new logo design that our governors, the Archdiocese and school staff have been looking at. With the new building coming soon, we are looking to update our logo as we move into our second decade of existence and we would like any new design to really stand out on the side of our new buildings and proclaim our Christian faith to the local area - watch this space for move details!

**Philip Hills** 

#### Upcoming Dates and Information 2024

- Please click <u>here</u> to access term dates.
- Please click here to access school calendar.



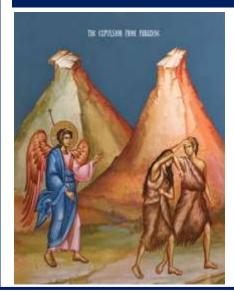




Be kind to one another, forgiving one another, as God forgave you. Ephesians 4:32

15 March 2024

### **Faith - Sunday of Forgiveness**



As we begin the Great Fast, the Church reminds us of Adam's expulsion from Paradise. God commanded Adam to fast (Gen. 2:16), but he did not obey. Because of their disobedience, Adam and Eve were cast out of Eden and lost the life of blessedness, knowledge of God, and communion with Him, for which they were created. Both they and their descendants became heirs of death and corruption.



From this Sunday we are invited to cleanse ourselves of evil through fasting and obedience to God. Our fasting should not be a negative thing, a mere abstention from certain foods. It is an opportunity to free ourselves from the sinful desires and urges of our fallen nature, and to nourish our souls with prayer, repentance, to participate in church services, and to partake of the life-giving Mysteries of Christ.

At Forgiveness Vespers we sing: "Let us begin the time of fasting in light, preparing ourselves for spiritual efforts. Let us purify our soul, let us purify our body. As we abstain from food, let us abstain from all passion and enjoy the virtues of the spirit..."

The Power point in the link below explains in greater detail how and when we fast in Orthodox Lent. The Great Lenten fast in the Orthodox Church

#### **Year 10 Girls Football**



The Y10 girls football team made the long journey to Bishop Stortford which is on the border of Hertfordshire and Essex. The girls were playing against Hertfordshire and Essex College in the last 64 of the English Schools' Football Association trophy. The team have done exceptionally well to reach this stage of the competition after wins against local schools Ashmole and East Barnet. Unfortunately, Monday was a bridge too far against strong opposition with strong pedigree for the competition. STA took the lead with the first attack when Lindi scored after great work from Melina D. As the game progressed STA struggled with the attacking prowess of the opposition who took the lead which could not be pulled back by the team. Special mentions to Imani who played out of position and Sofia D who was voted player of the match by Hertfordshire and Essex College.



Be kind to one another, forgiving one another, as God forgave you. Ephesians 4:32

15 March 2024



#### **Barnet Schools Dance Festival 2024**

This year, our incredible dancers set to the stage to portray two very important messages at Barnet Dance Festival. The dancers have been rehearsing tirelessly for several weeks, and months to perfect their skill, timing and choreography which were all executed brilliantly on the night.

We had two dance troupes who performed dances choreographed by some of our wonderful Y10 Students. Both groups included a mixture of students from years 7-10.







This piece was choreographed by Jana and supported by Megi. The piece was a mash-up of 3 songs and the message was that even though we all seem different, and the gap between Y7 and Y10 seems big, we are all one and we are very similar. We have performed in the dance festival every year and this was our last year to perform so we wanted to make it extra special, and the best one yet.



### **Telephone**





The dance to Lady Gaga and Beyonce's song 'Telephone' was choreographed by Isabella and supported by Anamaria. This dance was a fun, upbeat piece where the girls portrayed how much fun we can all have without our phones: something that we all rely on. We were proud of the girls and how much hard

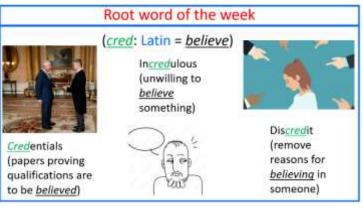
work and dedication went into the dance.



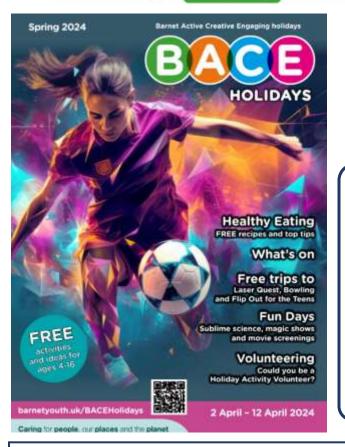


Be kind to one another, forgiving one another, as God forgave you. Ephesians 4:32

15 March 2024







### MONKEY

As part of our ongoing commitment to online safety, we want to inform you about Omegle, a site now closed down due to concerns over abuse taking place online, and Monkey, which has taken its place and is gaining popularity among some teens. These platforms pose potential risks due to unmoderated content and interactions. Please discuss safe internet practices with your children and monitor their online activities closely. Stay informed, stay vigilant! Click here for further information.



