



We have enjoyed a busy term and I hope everyone manages to have a little rest and relaxation over this coming holiday period. I mentioned in an Edulink email last week that we bid farewell to Mr Saidoune, Mr Yamson, Mr Bennett, Mr El-Suleiman, Mr Patel, Mrs Coleman and Miss Cupid this term and we welcome a

number of new colleagues in January: Mrs Ghinlan, Lead Teacher of Computer Science; Ms Holmes to the Mathematics department; Ms Giraud as Head of DT and Ms Beddoes as Head of Creative Arts.

Ms Begg and the Poetry Club students have been working really hard this year to produce our own poetry book 'A Collection of Children's Poems' and we are almost ready to publish it. We will send further information regarding how to purchase a copy once it is available to buy. Well done to everyone involved; I highly recommend it!

I still look forward to Tuesday mornings and Principals' Breakfast with our students. It is wonderful to see so many different faces across all year groups and I have been impressed with some constructive feedback they are able to put forward; I am sure we have potentially one or two inspiring teachers amongst our student body.

The Winter Concert took place last week and it was a joy to see. Thank you to Mr Kilner, his team and all students involved. What a lovely way to showcase the work they have been doing. We also enjoyed celebrating Jolly Jumper Day and students and staff had fun getting into the festive spirit with a special lunch yesterday.

Wishing you all a very happy holiday season.

*Ms Dohel
Principal*

Principal's Breakfast This Month



Nominated by the Senior Leadership Team



Embodiment of all College Values

Attendance

It is paramount to your child's education that they attend school regularly. Although this may be the coldest time of year, students who miss days of school struggle to catch up on lost learning and end up underperforming.

The impact on lost learning due to absence can be seen as;

Between 92- 93% attendance - up to 15 school days absent in the academic year, high risk of underachievement.

Between 90 - 91% attendance - up to 19 school days absent in the academic year, severe risk of underachievement.

Under 90% attendance - up to 22 school days absent in the academic year, extreme risk of underachievement with potential court action.

Can I also remind families that you should not take term time holidays. Any application should be made using a proforma which can be found on the college website. A decision will be made by the Principal – taking into account the reason for the trip, the student's attendance history over the rolling preceding 12 months and whether other term time holidays have been taken recently. Unauthorised holiday must be marked with G and may be liable to a penalty notice issued via Educational Welfare.

Message from the English Department

Merry Christmas everyone! English at Ernest Bevin College is coming to the end of another exciting term.

Year 7s are finishing learning how to 'keep Christmas well' from their study of A Christmas Carol. It is one of my greatest privileges as a teacher to see young students reading such difficult texts like A Christmas Carol and engage so maturely in discussions around challenging topics, such as the horrors of greed and poverty, and the importance of charity, humility, and kindness to one's fellow man. The Year 7 students have not let us down one bit – we do hope they enjoyed this novel!

Meanwhile Year 8 students, through their reading of In The Sea There Are Crocodiles, are coming to the end of the harrowing, yet uplifting, journey of an Afghan refugee named Enaiatollah. It is through this novel that students are building awareness of different cultures around the world and learn of the importance of respect, tolerance, and community.

In preparation for their GCSE years, Year 9 have dived deep into the murky, sinister and gothic world of Victorian London by becoming active sleuths, detecting their way through their study of Sherlock Holmes and his adventures in The Sign of Four. It is through this text that not only do our students build resilience in handling difficult Victorian literature, which they will have to do for their GCSEs, but they also learn about important events in British and Indian history. Along the way, they can debate other issues, such as who is a better superhero – Sherlock or Batman? I received one student report saying, 'this is the best book I've ever read!'

Along with completing preparation for their GCSE exams by reading The Tragedy of Macbeth and The Strange Case of Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde, several Year 10 students have also gone the extra mile by bravely agreeing to take part in the nerve-inducing Jack Petchey Speak Out Challenge. For this event sixty Year 10 students were given the opportunity to test out their public speaking capabilities by standing tall and proud and speaking on topics dear to their heart. The students represented Ernest Bevin College with poise, conviction, and sensitivity as they were guided by two guest public speaking specialists. Leading students from this Speak Out Challenge will represent the College further by going on to a regional competition to speak to large crowds from across different schools in the borough. Here's to our boys hopefully taking home

the trophy this year!

Finally, our Year 11 students have learned the necessity of hard work and grit as they have knuckled down and completed two lengthy mock examinations for Language and Literature. Students are working marvellously as they have already completed the subject content for their English GCSEs and are now currently revising the content. When the exams come around in May, they will be in the perfect position to smash through them and obtain the amazing grades that match their potential.

I wish you all a Merry Christmas. Here's to 2023 and all the exciting times ahead for our boys here at Ernest Bevin College.



Mr P. Leonard
Head of English





The School Falcon



This school was very dull and abandoned. It had crisp leaves and crumbled bricks, no one ever went there. Stories had been passed on about how COVID 19 came and destroyed it. I only lived round the corner from this school, and that's why I know so much about it. The school was named Balham High School, and it was populated with year groups from seven to thirteen, but some students never made it through. The fog affected the whole road, making it dark and misty too. And I was not looking forward to living next door!

It was two days before the move, and I tried to pack as many of my items as I could so that I would have some sort of comfort. My friend Max also attended Balham High School when he was in Year 7.

He always came to my house to debate what was so scary about this abandoned building. I woke up the next morning and thought to myself, what if Max and I went there tonight; finally find out what was up with Balham High once and for all. But I don't think he had the same idea. He disagreed with everything I said. However, I managed to tempt him after a long and very meaningful lecture, I know he hated every minute of it.

We met up outside the school with all the equipment we thought we would need to get in then out as quickly as possible. The door creaked open as we approached it, both in fear of what could happen. We stepped in the building slowly, trying not to make a sound. Although that was hard as the old floorboards were so creaky, and there were vines hanging from the ceiling. The school didn't just feel empty, it felt like it had not been inhabited for thousands of years. We tried to look for any clues on what could have happened, but there was nothing. Soon we both agreed that we should split up and then meet up later if we found anything. The lights didn't work, which was bad as we'd have to use the small torches on our phones. But I guess I was fine with that. As I walked through the dark building I found the exit for the playground. The football courts were all rusted and some of the goal frames were broken, the floor had crisp leaves scattered around, some dating back to who knows when.

I soon stumbled across another building at the side of the playground, so I thought I'd have a look. One of the classroom doors labelled Room 41 was open so I slowly stepped inside.

There were tables and chairs, and, on the walls, there was something written in a red liquid that could have well been blood for all I knew "ESCAPE THIS PLACE OR NEVER LEAVE!" I thought it was time to leave so I did just that. I tried to run out and I did not want to leave Max, but I had to go. I started to speed walk, which then turned into a jog and then a quick sprint. As soon as I stepped foot outside of the school gate, I felt a tug. It was like a rope wrapped around my waist pulling me into my doom. I was confused at first, before realising I had to escape this mysterious grasp. I tried desperately to escape it, but it dragged me back into Room 41 in one of the broken-down chairs, tied there forever. Facing the message that haunted me for 78 years since. I thought maybe I'd die one day of hunger or maybe thirst. But I never did. And Max never came looking for me either, I was stuck here. Every day I would look out the window and see a falcon that circled the school, I would try to figure out what it meant but my mind was blank.

NEWS REPORT 200 YEARS LATER

Grand Reopening for Balham High School, falcon chosen for school logo! Mysterious dead body found in a room labelled 41! Where was it from? How did it get here? This is Central News reporting.

By Malakai B, Year 9



Pain

The pain you caused, the hurt you made me feel, an agonising thought through my mind.

A spear through my heart a hole left to rot, a hole made by your hate, your pain. The pain you made me feel. A pain that will never heal, a hole that will never fill. The pain you caused, a pain like venom, corrosive as acid, more painful than punches. Your pain it can never heal.

By Nasir B, 9SNS

Ernest Bevin Cadets Passing Out & Promotions Parade

Tuesday 6th December saw Royal Marines Cadets from Ernest Bevin College take part in their annual Passing Out & Promotions Parade which takes place in December each year.

25 cadets took part, parading in front of proud parents, staff and local residents. Guest of honour was Lieutenant Colonel Simon Dinsmore RM, the Commanding Officer of the Royal Marines Reserve based on Merton Road in Southfields.

Cadets who joined in September and who have successfully passed their first phase of basic training were awarded their Cadet rank slide. They will now begin two further phases of training in the Spring and Summer terms. This will prepare them to take part in

a week-long training exercise on Dartmoor in July.

Several more experienced cadets were also promoted to more senior ranks, indicating that they are considered capable of leading teams and delivering training.

Following the parade, parents and staff were invited to the Cadet Training Centre to see a display of equipment and hear from cadets about the training they take part in.

Students in Red and Green Ties will be able to apply to join the Combined Cadet Force from April 2023.



Creative Arts Showcase

On Wednesday 7th December, the Creative Arts department held their annual Winter Showcase. Individual students played recitals on a number of instruments, including, drums, guitar and piano, before the Four Mirror Theatre Company performed a fantastic adaption of 'A Christmas Carol'! It was a very fun evening and certainly put everyone in the Christmas spirit!



Basketball Club at Ernest Bevin College

There are a wide variety of extra curricular clubs available at Ernest Bevin College, including, football, table tennis, cricket and volleyball.

One of the clubs that I really enjoy is the basketball club which I have attended since it was introduced in 2021. I find it enjoyable and it is very helpful if you want to improve your basketball skills.

We started from the basics with the left and right hand layup and went on to improving on our stamina.

The club takes place every Wednesday after school from 3:00 to 4:30 and is in the sports hall. I really like the fact that you are pushed to your limits and taught new skills which really does help you improve.

In my opinion everyone should participate in at least one of the many extracurricular activities available at the college.

By Noffil A, 9SNS



Bullying Hurts the Most

Bullying is very bad because it makes people sad.
People talking, having fun,
Bullies strike and hurt you like a gun.

Bullying must stop.
Bullying averages must drop.
If you have bullying evidence,
Expose the bullies with confidence.

Stop bullying and being rude.
Fix your mistakes and be good.
Know what is right or wrong.
Face your bullies and be strong.

If your background is a mess,
And you have immense stress,
Don't take it out on another,
Because others might suffer.

If you are ruining someone's life
It's like stabbing them with a knife,
Ask yourself, 'Am I a bully?'
Answer this in your heart, truly.

My Football Club

I play football for a club called Balham FC. The team is in the Surrey Youth league and is a semi-professional club, I have been with them since I was eight years old.

Achievements in this Club

During my time at the club, I have received several awards for being the top goal scorer and I have won the player of the year award.

Professional Players who have played for Balham FC

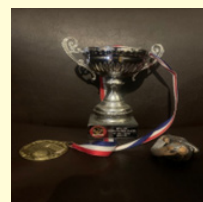
There are several professional players who are former members of Balham FC. Fábio Carvalho is a Portuguese winger and attacking midfielder who plays in the premier league for Liverpool FC. My coach used to train him for Balham FC.

Cheick Diabeté is another former Balham FC

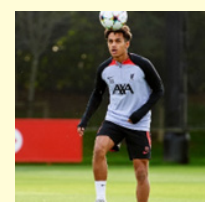
player, he now plays for Exeter and the Mali national team as a defender.

My dream is that one day I will be scouted to play for a big premier league football club like one of the previous players for Balham FC.

By Matthew K, 9JKI



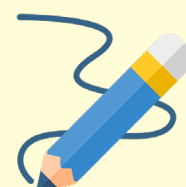
Player of the Year



Fábio Carvalho



Cheick Diabeté

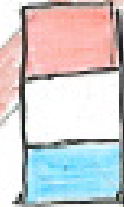
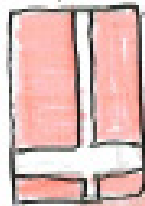


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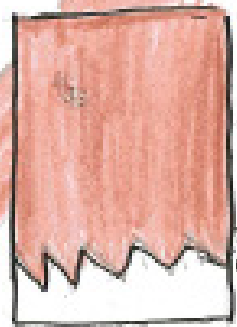
WORLD

32

Teams



CUP



Qatar

London Youth Rowing

Thursdays are rowing days! We are lucky enough to have a coach from London Youth Rowing again this year giving students an opportunity to experience rowing and improving their general fitness through rowing-related training. We hope to have students participate in the London indoor championship and eventually experience rowing on the open water next term.



Wellbeing Ambassadors

Dear parents, carers and students,

I'm pleased to announce that ten Purple Tie students have been recruited as Wellbeing Ambassadors after applying and successfully completing an interview process.

The students have now been fully trained, following the Eikon programme.

The Wellbeing Ambassadors will begin working with Blue and Red Tie students in the new year, with the aim of providing peer support and wellbeing advice. This programme forms part of our efforts to improve the mental health and wellbeing of our community, and to successfully re-apply for the 'Wellbeing Award for Schools'.

Best wishes and happy holidays,



William Tweed
(Mental Health Counsellor & Wellbeing Support)



The Wellbeing Ambassadors

Tooting Community Kitchen Collection



The Ernest Bevin College community has been busy collecting donations for the Tooting Community Kitchen over the last few weeks. Every year the College supports local families in Tooting by donating non-perishable goods that can help those in need. This year we have seen amazing donations from across the College, but we would like to give an honourable mention to Green Tie students Isa and Naphi, who both donated multiple bags full of food.

Thank you all for your kind generosity.

Key Dates and Reminders

Friday 16th December:

College finishes at 1pm for students

Tuesday 3rd January:

First day back at school – 8:40am start time

Monday 9th - Friday 13th January:

Year 13 mock examinations

Thursday 12th January:

Year 10 Parents' Evening

Thursday 26th January:

Year 11 Parents' Evening

Free School Meals Reminder

All children in receipt of free school meals are entitled to a payment of £15 per week during the school holidays in the form of supermarket vouchers. If you have already registered and are entitled to free school meals, you will automatically receive your voucher via text message or email.

Contact

voucherandholidaysupport@wandsworth.gov.uk



A2ndvoice CIC
18th May 2012 - 2022
#10thAnniversary

Winter Autism/SEND Holiday Club (4 - 16 Years)



WANDSWORTH CONNECTED Winter Fun

A range of indoor activities for Autistic/SEND children and their siblings. Responsible adult to remain with their children at all times. Hot meals provided and snacks.
FREE for Autistic/SEND children eligible for free school meals.

Boxing Session: 11 - 16 Yrs
20th - 21st December, 12 - 2pm
Carney's Community
30 Petworth Street, SW11 4AW

Autism/SEND Family Club: 4 - 16 Yrs
21st - 23rd December - 1 - 5pm
Tooting Leisure Centre
Greaves Place, SW17 0NE

Autism/SEND Family Club: 4 - 16 Yrs
28th December 2022 - 11 - 6pm
Tooting & Balham Sea Cadets
89 Mellinson Road, SW17 9AS

Some of our activities.....

- Bouncy Castle
- Pop Up Arcade
- Food Workshops
- Basketball Tasters
- Sensory Arts & Craft
- Boxing Techniques
- Developmental Dance
- African Drumming
- Swimming Fun Time

M: +44 (0) 7908 380 415
E: holidays@a2ndvoice.com

BOOK VIA QR CODE



Funded by
Department for Education



www.a2ndvoice.com

Community Notices

Sessions for Autistic/SEND Children and their Siblings

A range of indoor activities: bouncy castle, soft play, gaming session, board games, arts and crafts. Indoor ball games, swimming and preparing simple meals. [More information is available here.](#)

In Battersea

20th & 21st December from 12 - 2pm (11 - 16 Years)

Two days boxing classes at Carney's Community, Battersea

NOTE: Please wear appropriate footwear and clothes.

Join us at Tooting Leisure Centre (and on **28th December at Tooting & Balham Sea Cadets**).

Parents need to remain in the facility.

- Bouncy Castle & Soft Play
- Brio Trains
- Arts and Crafts
- Board Games

21st December

12.30 - 2pm Basketball Taster with USA Basketball legend, Renaldo Lawrence! Drafted by the San Diego Clippers in the 1979 NBA draft and came to the UK in the 80s.

1.30 - 2.30pm Swimming in the teaching pool - dependent swimmers - Parents need to go into the pool.

22nd December

12.30 - 2pm Basketball Taster with USA Basketball legend, Renaldo Lawrence! Drafted by the San Diego Clippers in the 1979 NBA draft and came to the UK in the 80s.

1 - 2.30pm Pop Up Arcade Gaming Sessions with gaming host

1.30 - 2.30pm Swimming. SEND Student (aged up to 16) and Parent/Carer

2 - 4pm Cookery Sessions: Nut Free Chicken Korma with Quinoa (Student and Parent/Carer)

23rd December - TOOTING LEISURE CENTRE

1.30 - 2.30pm Swimming. SEND Student (aged up to 16) and Parent/Carer

2 - 4pm Cookery Session with Chef. Make three immune boosting smoothies: raspberry, pineapple, ginger and coconut milk; blueberry, mint, oats and apple juice; avocado, mango, spinach and coconut milk.

3 - 4.30pm African Drumming & Dancing (aged up to 16 years)

28th December - TOOTING & BALHAM SEA CADETS

1 - 2.30pm - Pop Up Arcade Gaming Sessions with gaming host

11 - 6pm - Sessions for autistic/SEND students. A range of indoor activities: soft play, gaming session, board games, developmental dance, arts and crafts (check times for dance and food activities).

Cost of Living Help from Wandsworth Council

[Further information is available here.](#)

Warm Spaces

Wandsworth Council is providing a network of Warm Spaces across the borough where you can get a hot drink, access the internet or just keep warm for a few hours.

Libraries, children's centres, community centres and venues managed by the local voluntary sector are all opening up to provide warm places to spend time.

As well as a warm welcome, you'll be offered hot drinks, snacks and in some locations a range of events and activities.

All libraries also offer free internet and computer terminals so you can get online to find further help and advice.



Help with household bills

- One-off crisis payments in the form of vouchers for food and fuel are available through the council's **Crisis Assistance** scheme
- The **Warm Home Discount Scheme** could reduce your winter electricity bill by £150
- If you're on a low income you may be eligible for **Council Tax reduction** or a **Discretionary Housing Payment** to help with costs
- **Winter Fuel Payments** of between £100 and £300 can help pensioners pay heating bills. Plus, an extra one-off £300 Pensioner Cost of Living Payment is available this winter

More at wandsworth.gov.uk/hub or call freephone 0808 175 3339

Help for families

- **Free school meals** are available for all children in reception and years 1 & 2 of state-funded schools, as well as for families receiving benefits. Check with your child's school directly
- **Help with uniform costs** for children entitled to free school meals and starting reception or a new school
- **NHS Healthy Start Scheme** may help you buy healthy food and milk if you are on a low income and over 10 weeks pregnant or have a child aged under 4
- **Free early education** and childcare for eligible children aged 2-4

Help with food

- **Wandsworth Foodbank** has welcome centres in Battersea, Clapham Junction, Furzedown, Nine Elms, Putney, Roehampton and Southfields. Local agencies such as schools, Citizens Advice or housing associations can refer you to your local centre

Get advice

- **Citizens Advice Wandsworth** is a local charity providing free, independent, confidential and impartial advice on a range of issues including benefits, employment, housing, debt and tax. They can also help with advice in other languages. Find out more at cawandsworth.org/get-advice or call freephone 0808 278 7833
- **Thinking Works** can provide energy saving advice for Wandsworth residents with a Winter Warmth home visit or telephone session
- **Step Change** is a national debt charity which offers free debt advice and support to help people get their finances back on track
- **Work Match** is the council's employment service offering advice, training and support to help you find work with a wide range of employers in Wandsworth

More at wandsworth.gov.uk/hub or call freephone 0808 175 3339