



Diversity celebrations!

This term we celebrated our Diversity Week, with assemblies focusing on being proud of yourself and creating an atmosphere of kindness where all people in the community feel comfortable being proud. Students made flags in tutor times that represented their heritage and identity, supported rainbow-themed non-uniform day and attended our first Edgbarrow Culture and Heritage celebration. We really hope this is going to grow each year and in the future to invite families and community members to join us in these celebrations. It was wonderful to see our students listening to music and trying foods from all over the world, which had been brought in by our student leaders and staff. Our Student Council and Leadership Team organised a fantastic event, enjoyed by all.

Headteacher Update: Mr Matthews

A warm welcome to our Summer Term Newsletter and an opportunity to celebrate all the exciting events of the last few months, to thank staff, students and families and look forward to September.

Firstly, my thanks to those staff who are saying farewell or changing roles:

Julia Cooper. It is impossible to remember a time when Julia wasn't at Edgbarrow having served the school for 23 years. Julia has been an outstanding teacher of Science, a wonderful Head of Year and a brilliant Senior Pastoral Leader. Julia has led us through countless reviews of the behaviour system and has been instrumental in introducing our positive learning routines and supporting our most vulnerable students. She is the most reliable, helpful and professional colleague whom we will miss

hugely. Julia has decided to start a well-earned retirement. We wish her every happiness and I know she'll stay in touch.

Gareth Croxon has been with us for 16 years having joined us as a teacher of Psychology in 2007. During his time with us, he has taken on various roles, mainly focused around responsibility for Sixth Form before moving into the Senior Leadership Team as Assistant Headteacher and then in 2020 as Deputy Headteacher. Gareth has had a hugely positive impact on the school, particularly in the development and growth of our Sixth Form and more widely as our lead for whole school Teaching and Learning. I am delighted that he has been appointed as Headteacher of Sandhurst School from September, our loss is most certainly their gain.

Jane Crowe is almost leaving us after seven years, but not quite! Jane has been a versatile and talented teacher of Design Tech, covering Food, Textiles as well as Engineering and Product Design. Jane has shared curriculum responsibility for her department, been a Deputy Head of Year, supported personal development and staff well-being and most importantly organised staff cake at break! Jane is off on a new adventure supporting young people's mental health but will be staying with us one day a week as a Learning Supervisor.

Ventura Ruiz Villar. Mr Ruiz joined us seven years ago as a teacher of Spanish and also supported the department as our Spanish Curriculum Lead. His lessons are fully immersive and he has supported students to achieve some wonderful results.

In this issue:

[Headteacher Update](#)

[PTA News](#)

[Head of Year News](#)

[News Around School](#)

[PE Department](#)

[Duke of Edinburgh Awards](#)

[Reminders including Exam Results Information](#)

[Term Dates](#)

Many of the students will also remember the annual visit to Spain, which included receiving the hospitality of his family at their restaurant. Ventura is returning to Spain this summer and we wish him every happiness.

Jonathon Woolman joined our Science Department in 2017. Over the last six years, he has developed into a fantastic teacher leading our Biology Curriculum. Jonathon has been a great Form Tutor, supported school sports, and countless trips, been a Deputy Head of Year and is a highly regarded member of the team. Jonathon has gained a promotion to a school closer to home and his growing family. We wish him every success.

Keniesha Mills has been our Head of Business and Economics for the last six years. She took over a department in a time of great flux with staff and courses and has helped deliver both stability and brilliant outcomes. Keniesha is full of fire, passion and a wonderful sense of humour that will be much missed. She is very sadly leaving the profession to set up her own property-based business and spend some more time with her family. We wish her every happiness.

Yvonne Scott may not be a familiar name to students; Yvonne has been with us for five years as the Advanced Maths Skills Programme Co-ordinator. The school leads this programme for the South East and Yvonne has organised events and supported staff training across the region. She has also very kindly stepped in and taken classes for us. We wish Yvonne a long and happy retirement.

Sylvie Cluzel started with us as a Learning Support Assistant five years ago before taking on an apprenticeship to become a Maths teacher. Sylvie was brilliant in supporting some of our students in the Progress Department and this year has thrived leading lessons. I am delighted that she is staying in the profession and will complete her training and become a fully qualified teacher with Kings Academy, Binfield.

Joe Riley is a much-loved teacher of English who has been with us for four years; his lessons are always fun and engaging and his passion for the subject shines through. Joe also has a passion for Drama and some of you may have enjoyed listening to him croon at school performances. Joe is about to start a family and has taken a position closer to home that will also allow him to teach Drama. We wish him every success.

Grace Hancox is a member of our Languages Department, originally joining us as a German teacher four years ago, but has more recently taught French and some History. Grace is a wonderful teacher and Form Tutor and always carries a smile around the school. She has been hugely supportive as Deputy Head of Year 7 and we are sorry to be losing her. She is returning to her original passion of teaching German in Hampshire and we wish her every success.

Stephen Rayner has been with us for a year as a Maths teacher, he has worked incredibly hard and can be relied upon to volunteer for all the extras that make a school tick. Stephen is moving on to pursue a career in data analysis, using his incredible talents as a mathematician.

Laura Briggs has been with us for the past year as a Geography teacher and has been a brilliant member of the department. We are sorry to see her go but we couldn't compete with an opportunity to teach in the Caribbean. We look forward to receiving the postcard!

Carolyn Pyke has been with us for 18 years as our school Business Manager. It has been a tumultuous 18 years and I don't know what I would have done without her help and support. Balancing the budget, putting up with my requests to spend money and managing the support staff is a hugely important role and Carolyn deserves huge credit for supporting the success of the school. Carolyn is moving to semi-retirement, as she moves to a part-time role supporting the Trust and we wish her every success and happiness.

Isabel Stoolle has been our brilliant Design Technician for the past nine years. There is nothing that Isabel cannot do, from the most advanced machines in D&T to brilliant displays to helping us fix the odd pair of shoes. The department is devastated to be losing her, but an opportunity to work on a research project at Reading University is too good to miss. We wish her every success.

Mike Rousou joined us from industry as Learning Supervisor eight years ago and has been brilliant. As a Learning Supervisor, you come to school having no idea what your day might hold covering for absent teachers. Mike is flexible and probably knows more students than anyone else and is a regular face on school trips. Mike never quite retires; I have no doubt he'll continue to pursue business interests and I hope he stays in touch.

Michelle Adnams has been with us for seven years as our Sixth Form Study Skills Supervisor. Michelle supervises the study room and helps to ensure that the students have the best possible environment to learn in. Michelle has also been brilliant in helping us track destinations, organise our Certificate Cream Tea and throws herself into anything related to helping the Sixth Formers. She's moving back into industry where we know she'll be brilliant.

Cassandra Bos has only been with us for a year supporting the Languages Department as a Higher-Level Teaching Assistant. I am delighted that she is moving on to train as a teacher.

In September we look forward to welcoming new colleagues:

Mrs Chapman	Second in English
Miss Ismail	Joint Second in Design Technology
Mrs McGuinness	Teacher of Science
Mr McCarthy	Teacher of Business Studies
Miss Renn	Teacher of Languages
Miss Mackenzie	Teacher of History
Mr Hallet	Teacher of Languages
Mrs McCready	Teacher of Maths (apprentice)
Mrs Evans	School Business Manager
Miss Herbert	Languages HLTA
Mrs Butler	Safeguarding Officer
Mrs Wyld	Learning Support Assistant
Miss Kalsi	Sixth Form Study Room Supervisor
Mrs Browning	DT Technician
Mrs Divall	Data Assistant

Our congratulations to Miss Pilgrim who has been appointed to the position of Head of Year 7. Mr Dangerfield will move to Head of Year 9 as we say farewell to Mrs Cooper.

We also welcome Ms Bransfield, Mr Russell-Smith and Miss Mullane as Associate Members of the Core Senior Leadership Team. These are one-year appointments as we are unable to afford to replace Mr Croxon as Deputy Head, it is also the case that my role as Director of Education for the Trust is taking

more time so our three Associates will help SLT whilst also maintaining their substantive posts. Senior Leadership responsibility and leadership of behaviour issues are also changing, Mrs Rea-Palmer will be working with our Sixth Form, Mr Burges will lead Key Stage 4 and Mrs Gascoigne will lead Key Stage 3.

It has been a busy term and lots of events are celebrated throughout the newsletter, but I wish to add my thanks to those involved.

School Trips. Too many to mention! From Duke of Edinburgh to Disneyland Paris, Land and Wave, Skiing, Battlefields, lots of fieldwork and any number of day trips. School trips form an important part of a student's education and personal development. Whilst I'm sure many will gain a huge amount from classroom lessons; it is the moments and memories from special events and trips that students remember most. Those who organise and lead trips take on huge responsibility entirely voluntarily, it is a huge amount of work and I want to publicly thank them for their contribution. I also want to thank the support team that sits behind the visits; the paperwork, payments, medical needs and risk assessments are complex and time-consuming and they do a wonderful job. The trips cannot take place without staff giving up their evenings and weekends to make it happen. This half term alone, there have been 60 staff that have volunteered their weekends - of course, school trips are great fun but they are also exhausting and I recognise that teachers often leave their own families behind to look after our students.



Enrichment Days. Another exciting couple of days where we try to broaden the curriculum and provide students with opportunities to gain new experiences. From Work Experience to Enterprise, the students complete a huge amount of personal development that prepares them for life after school. My thanks to Karen Robinson who co-ordinates the two days and all the event and trip leaders who make this possible.

Induction. We welcomed 210 Year 6 students to complete their two taster days and we are really looking forward to seeing them in September. We also have a bumper year for Sixth Form with approaching 250 completing Induction and looking to join us in September.

Sports Day. Always a treat and an opportunity to bring the whole school together. Lots of great performances across track and field. I was disappointed not to make the cut for the staff relay; there's always next year. My thanks to all the participants and the PE department for organising.

Celebration of Success. This is one of my favourite events as we get to celebrate with the students. It is impossible to have everyone attend and a real challenge to select individuals from subjects or form groups - a privileged position to be in. My warmest congratulations to all those who received a prize.

Whether it was for attainment, progress or kindness it is lovely to recognise our fantastic students - well done!

Year 11 and 13 Proms and Exams. We are always sorry to see year groups leave, but excited for their next steps. The Year 13s celebrated in style at Windsor Race Course and Year 11 at Pine Ridge Golf Course. Two absolutely lovely evenings where the students looked fantastic and behaved impeccably. My thanks to the Year teams and committees for organising the send-off. We wish you all every success and happiness.

Culture and Diversity Afternoon. This is a new event and I hope you will have seen the photos. It was a real opportunity to celebrate the many cultures represented at the school, what could be better than food and music to finish a Friday afternoon? This is an event that we want to repeat and grow, thank you to those who have already expressed an interest. Well done to all those involved in organising the event.

Governor News. David Boothe, our current Chair of Governors is stepping down from the Governing Body. David has been Chair for the past four years and a Governor for almost nine years. During his time as Chair he has led us through the pandemic and OFSTED, he has always been incredibly supportive of the school whilst also providing appropriate challenges. I have learnt on his experience and found him to be a source of great strength and wisdom. On behalf of all of us at the school, I thank him for his service and kindness and know he will remain a friend of the school. We are fortunate to have great strength in our Governing Body and so as David moves on, we have been able to appoint another exceptional Governor, Daphne Hill, a parent of children who formerly attended Edgbarrow and the current Chair of the Finance and Buildings Committee. She has been recommended to the Trustees, by the Governing Body to become our new Chair of Governors from September, we know she will be brilliant.

The PTA continue to do a wonderful job of supporting the school, not only through fundraising but through gardening and the provision of refreshments at school events and much more. The committee is brilliantly led by Ella Page and we are always looking for new members. I encourage you to join their AGM in September. As always, we are grateful for the continued support of our parents and I can't complete a newsletter without encouragement to sign up for the [school fund here!](#)

Student Leadership Team. My thanks to our outgoing team Head Students: Hannah Merry and Dzi Juru; Senior Student Leaders: Charlotte Ambrose, Billy Bartlett, Zak Crean, Matilda Ferrar, Kailen Meade and Suzanne Perry; Student Leaders: Sahib Dhillon, Eowyn Elliott, Darrell Funani, Katie Hall, Max Lowther, Olivia Mead, Emmanuel Padilla, Marguerite Sautelle, Jerrisha Vincent and Amelie Wickramasinghe. As always, they represent the school brilliantly and are very happy to hold me to account to implement their ideas and events. They've done a brilliant job, thank you!

We welcome our new team Head Students: Susannah Nash and Flavia Obeng Munoz; Student Leaders: Ted Daley, Isabelle De Sousa, Thomas Dodds, Jack Grundey, Steven Owino, Hana Stevens; Student Ambassadors: Zoey Arinze, Elinor Boese, Lydia Kan, Hannah Kim, Harry Main, April Palmer. This year they had to write applications, make a presentation and go through an interview. We are incredibly lucky to have such talent willing to support the school's leadership.

Student numbers. We are full with a waiting list in each year group, with nearly 100 on the current list for Year 7. This is always good news and a compliment to the staff, students, and the community supporting the school. I am sorry that we have not been able to accommodate all of those in catchment, we simply don't have the classrooms or staffing available.

School site. This is an annual reminder that students should not be on the site over the summer, we have a large number of hirers as well as several projects taking place (as mentioned in my last update). Should you wish to hire our facilities please contact lettings@edgbarrowschool.co.uk.

Next year. I hate to talk about September before we've had a chance to enjoy the holidays, but there are some exciting things ahead. As we hit September we are moving to a new rewards and sanction system, hopefully a little simpler but most importantly a new app that will give students and parents easier access to what's happening at school (see opposite for further information). Of course, the priority is to celebrate success, but it should also give parents easier access to any issues and detentions.

As always, we ask students to return in full school uniform and full details can be found here. Students should check that pencil cases are appropriately stocked and they are clear on expectations around excellent behaviour and active participation in all aspects of school life. We will go over our updated vision Enjoy - Grow - Achieve and our values of Ready Respectful Safe and Positive. We will put out our normal social media reminders towards to end of the holidays.

And finally, my thanks to all members of the school community. I say this every year, but it is true, running a school requires the contribution of the whole village and I am grateful for all the help, support and kindness we receive. Everyone deserves a good break this summer, I wish you all a happy and relaxing holiday.

Best wishes

S Matthews, Headteacher

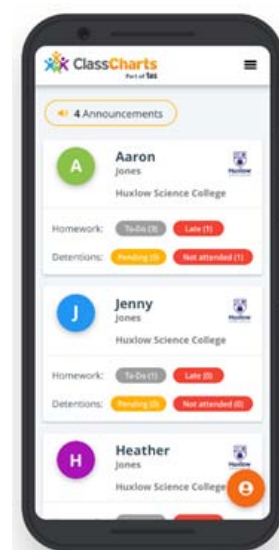


In September we will be launching a new app to help us improve parent and student access to rewards/Edgpoints and behaviour information.

We are also hoping to use the app alongside Google Classroom so it's easier to see what homework has been set. We'll be rolling this out with staff in the first week of September, then with students, with the aim of getting parents/carers on board before we get to October.

We hope the app will give you daily information about what's happening in school. Primarily this is an opportunity to celebrate success and inform you about all the positives; we hope this will add value to the rewards system and encourage students to collect their Edgpoints. In the unlikely event that students pick up any negative behaviour points or detentions, you'll also be able to see these along with when detentions are being served.

This won't replace the SIMS app, we still need this for timetable and data collection but we are hoping that the Class Charts app will eventually be used for a wider range of communication. The system is used by lots of local schools with some great feedback. Watch out for sign-up information in the new term.



Corporate Sponsorship

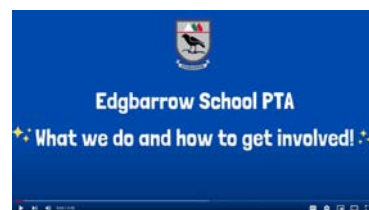
Do you work for a company with a CSR budget?
Do you run a business that's interested in corporate sponsorship?

If so we would love to hear from you! As you know, the school's finances are incredibly tight and we are struggling to move ahead with projects that would benefit the school community. We have a range of projects to support! From renewing the lease on the school minibus, library refurbishment, and toilet upgrades to the provision of spaces for counselling - we need your help. We can brand spaces or vehicles as a lasting reminder of your kindness, along with features in our newsletters and social media channels that reach a large local audience, equally we are happy to support anonymity.

If you would like to have a discussion, Mr Matthews would be pleased to meet with you, please email nicola.clarke@edgbarrowschool.co.uk for an appointment.

PTA News

The PTA raises much-needed additional funds to benefit our children, but it is also a great way to meet other parents/carers/teachers and feel more part of the school community. There are many opportunities to be involved, whether for just one activity a year or joining the committee and being actively involved in running the PTA. To learn more about the PTA, parent Catherine Nottage recently created this brilliant short video. Click on the image opposite to take a look!



Events



We had a successful Gardening Day. Thank you to all the volunteers and students who gave up their Saturday morning in May to tidy the many flower beds outside of the school reception and planted the donated bedding plants.



The latest Bag2School in May raised £334. Thank you to parent Tanya Jacobs and volunteers for organising this regular fundraiser after every half term. Please keep an eye out for our next collection date after October half term.

Current Vacancies

Our current Vice-Chair Richard Love will be stepping down in September 2023 after several years on the Committee. We are looking to recruit a new Vice-Chair to join the PTA Committee. If you are interested or want to learn more about this role, email pta-chair@edgbarrow.co.uk.

Upcoming Events

Sponsored Walk	PTA AGM
Friday 22nd September Edgbarrow	Tuesday 26th September 7-9pm Edgbarrow
This annual walk on a marshalled route around Crowthorne Woods raises funds for the PTA and is always fun for the students.	At the AGM, all formal PTA posts are open to re-election. It is also a good opportunity to welcome new parents, get to know everyone and agree on future school projects to fund.

Fundraise for Edgbarrow

While you shop online	Choose a donation site and brands will donate part of your spend.
While you earn	Give through your payroll or by company donation matching.
Bracknell Lottery	Be in with a chance to win £25,000 and other great prizes!
Bag2School	Collections are arranged after every half term.
School Fund	Donate through our JustGiving page.

Please visit our [fundraising page](#) on the website for further information on supporting our PTA. You can join our WhatsApp group, [drop us an email](#), or join the [Facebook Group](#) to keep up to date with all the latest Edgbarrow PTA information, dates for upcoming events and PTA Meetings/AGM.

And finally, I want to thank all the PTA Team, volunteers and PTA liaison staff for all their hard work. Without your volunteering spirit and generosity, the PTA could not support the school as we do and make a difference for all the students.

Have a wonderful summer.

Ella Page, PTA Chair

Keep in touch!

Email: PTA@edgbarrowschool.co.uk

Facebook: facebook.com/edgbarrowpta

Head of Year News

Year 7: Mr Burrell

I'm amazed at how quickly the last few months have flown by. Our Year 7s have almost completed their first academic year at Edgbarrow, and for the vast majority of students, it has been a busy and very successful year.

The Summer term has provided many opportunities for us to celebrate the achievements of members of the year group. In addition to some outstanding individual sporting performances in the County Athletics competition, our boys' football team came runners-up in their League, and our rugby team went undefeated in all of their games in the Bracknell competitions.



We have recently enjoyed an assembly prepared and presented by our Charity Representatives, who have delivered events throughout the year to raise a massive £554 for Macmillan Cancer Support, brilliantly led by Miss Hancox.

I have been delighted to see the year group actively involved in the many different opportunities at school. So many of the students have joined our co-curricular clubs including Creative Writing, Drama Club, Science Club and Choir. It has been a pleasure to see Year 7 students taking part in sporting clubs including, in this Summer term, cricket, rounders and athletics.

As I write, the rain is hammering down and our Sports Day has been postponed in the hope of better weather in the coming days. Field events have already taken place, and we look forward to seeing the Year 7 tutor groups competing for points on track soon. Each tutor group has its colours, and support from the spectators will be loud and strong. This is one of the highlights of the school year and is a great opportunity for each tutor group to work as a team. *(See pics below of some Year 7 runners.)*

We recently celebrated Diversity Week at Edgbarrow and students enjoyed themed assemblies and tutor activities, as well as the opportunity to experience food and entertainment representing many of the different cultures within our student population. At the end of term, we will hold our enrichment days. The Year 7 events will present new ideas to our students in terms of entrepreneurship, cultural diversity and sustainability - but I don't want to give too much away beforehand.

The opportunities and successes that students have enjoyed and achieved over the year would not have been possible without the tremendous amount of work put in by their tutors. I extend my thanks to them for all their hard work and commitment over the year. In particular, our Deputy Head of Year Miss Hancox has been wonderfully supportive to me, the tutor team and her own tutor group. The Year 7 team has done so much to ensure that all students have been able to make a successful transition to Edgbarrow.

I am delighted with the fantastic year that Year 7 has had, and the progress that the students have made in lessons during the year. The grade reports have been very encouraging and it has been a pleasure to ask Mr Matthews to present so many certificates during the year for fantastic work. Well done Year 7.

Lastly, let me thank you for all that you continue to do to support the school. I wish you and your families all a well-earned rest over the summer holiday. Have fun, stay safe and return to school refreshed and ready for a very successful Year 8.

T Burrell



Year 8: Mrs Cooper

I am extraordinarily proud to be the Head of Year 8. What an amazing group of young adults they are becoming and are showing themselves to be such a conscientious and hardworking group of students, who have absolutely grasped the opportunities available to them this year.

An incredible number of the students have attended co-curricular clubs and fixtures this year which range from sports clubs, Latin, geography, and board game club, to creative writing and science club. Not only does it demonstrate their interest in areas outside of lessons but develops them as young people, and gives them opportunities to enrich their experience at school. Our sports teams have been amazing this year and a special shout out to both our girls' and boys' football teams who excelled this year.



In addition to these opportunities, we have had many students representing the school at competitions and events as well as acting as guides and runners throughout the year. Without exception, each and every one of these students makes us proud. They conduct themselves with maturity and responsibility and it is always commented on by members of the public and other schools how fabulous they all are.



In May half term, a large number of the year group attended the Barcelona Sports Tour. Again, staff commented on what a pleasure it was to spend time with them and they were delighted at their fabulous attitude whilst away. They were a credit to the year group and represented the school so well. Please visit the [Galleries page](#) on our website to see more photos from this trip.

More recently, we took 140 of the year group to Land and Wave along with a group of staff. We had an absolutely brilliant time and it was a delight to see so many of the students having a go at new things despite any fears and reservations. They should be rightly proud of themselves. Judging by the tired but happy faces in school the following Monday, everyone had a great time. Please see below for some of the photos.

We have recently had the pleasure of the Celebration of Success Awards Evening and I feel so privileged to be the Head of Year overseeing such an amazing group of young people. It is lovely to recognise and celebrate their hard work and dedication over the last year.

So, a busy year and throughout the students have had the support of their amazing tutors and my two deputies, Miss Butler and Mrs Hartley. I am truly grateful for their hard work in looking after the students and ensuring that they are able to take all the opportunities that they are given. A heartfelt thank you goes to them.

Finally, as you may be aware, I am retiring this year. This has been a tremendously hard decision for me as I have enjoyed every second of my time at Edgbarrow and although excited I leave Edgbarrow with sadness. I feel exceptionally lucky to have had the opportunity to work in such a fantastic school with great colleagues and amazing young people and I will miss them enormously. However, I know that they will be looked after well by their tutors and Mr Dangerfield, their new Head of Year. I wish them all every success in the future.

J Cooper



Year 9: Miss Kadodia

And just like that - we are almost heading into our GCSE years and I am not quite sure where the time has gone. I returned to school after maternity leave after May half term to be greeted with the same wonderful year group I left, just a little bit taller, voices a little bit deeper, hair a little bit longer and altogether much more teen-like. It was honestly, much easier to return to work when greeted with such a brilliant group of young people, that dare I say, I missed.

It has been great catching up on all the goings on this year and some particular highlights that have stood out to Miss Pilgrim and the tutors have been events like the school production, where so many of our year group showcased their talents, both on and off the stage. One person in particular to mention is Ethan Handy who, according to Miss Carr, the show could not have run without due to his incredible behind-the-scenes lighting work with the tech crew. The PE department were exceptionally impressed with the attitude and behaviour of all the Year 9s on the Barcelona Sports



Tour. Again, a mention to Phoenix Dickinson who was a complete gentleman throughout the week and proved himself to be courteous and kind when helping an elderly member of the public with their bags through the airport. I always think that small acts of kindness like that really show how incredibly thoughtful and special our students are. Please visit the [Galleries page](#) on our website for more Sports Tour photos.

We also had a huge number of students complete their Bronze DofE award, racking up hours and hours of voluntary time, and learning new skills as well as the expeditions themselves. I believe a great time was had by all, so thank you for your support with this and a huge thanks to the staff who willingly give up their weekends to help make this happen.



This term I have had the pleasure of teaching Year 9 their music lessons alongside Mrs Banks. We have had such a brilliant time watching them create their bands, find songs, rehearse and perform. For me, it was great to see Year 9 in lesson time applying themselves and creating incredible outcomes. A special mention to Thomas Jennings whose saxophone talents are just incredible, Joe Finucane and his ability to play almost anything on the piano and Caitlin Itta for her courage to sing so beautifully in front of her peers.

At the end of term we will be saying goodbye to Mr Woolman who has been the tutor for 9Q. As he moves on to ventures new, they will be placed under the wing of Mrs Anigbo. We also say a temporary goodbye to Miss Shaw as she leaves to have her baby due in September. 9T will be covered by Mrs McAdam until Miss Shaw's return. It is sad to say goodbye especially as I know their tutor groups feel an affinity towards them but we send them off with love and best wishes. I would also like to extend a public thank you to Miss Pilgrim who held the fort whilst I was gone and did a brilliant job at continuing to nurture all 210 pupils. Sadly for us she is leaving the year group at the end of term to take on the much-deserved role of Head of Year 7. We wish her the best of luck - not that she needs it!

When we return in September we will be moving onto new subjects and leaving some behind, which for some is exciting but for others can be a daunting process. Please do let us know as early as possible if you and your child feel a certain subject choice is not right for them. I thank you for your continued support with uniform and for maintaining our high standards. Please can I ask this carries on in September and that students return to us with the correct footwear, no false nails/eyelashes, and if they were lucky enough to have some new piercings over the summer, that these are removed prior to school starting.

I wish you a lovely, safe summer. Enjoy the well-earned break and see you in September.

Y Kadodia



Year 10: Mrs McClatchie

I cannot believe we have made it to the end of another academic year, time really does fly! What a year this has been, it has been such a pleasure to watch the year group grow, develop and flourish as they have started Key Stage 4 and their GCSE courses. We are now more than halfway through these courses and it is a credit to you all for how well you have responded to the step up in workload. You have recently undertaken mock exams and had your first experience of sitting exams under official exam conditions for both Maths and English.

This year you have accomplished so much on so many different fronts, it is important to look back and remember what you have done. You will not be surprised when I start with your sporting achievements! We have fielded many successful teams and the Summer term is no different with cricket, tennis and rounders teams all being very successful. I was particularly proud of the large number of Year 10s who represented Edgbarrow at the district championships this year. Sadly, rain led to sports day being postponed but I look forward to seeing you all show off your talents when it is rearranged.



We have had an amazing group of Sports Ambassadors this year who have helped organise and run a variety of sporting events for the local primary schools. I always hear from the staff accompanying them, how fantastic they are in supporting the primary school children and what wonderful role models they are.

We have also had lots of students involved in drama performances and concerts. Billy Elliot remains one of the highlights of my year and the cast was full of fabulously talented Year 10s. I look forward to seeing you all involved again next year.

Trips have played an important part again this year with many students going on a variety of different excursions. The ski trip was a great success and the staff who accompanied spoke so highly of the Year 10s they took and how well they skied but also behaved whilst away. The Trenches trip departs in the last week of term and I am sure they will have an amazing time and do us proud in the way they conduct themselves.



A large number of the year group have undertaken their Silver Duke of Edinburgh Award this year. Later this week we have groups departing to complete their final expedition weekends in walking and canoeing will be in the Autumn term. I look forward to hearing all about their adventures on their return and hope the weather is kind to them! We have also had a number of day trips in Geography, Photography and Drama.



Next week Year 10 embark on a week of work experience, which I am sure will be invaluable experience as this time next year you will want to choose a path for a future career, whether it be an apprenticeship, college or sixth form.

Finally, I would just like to say a big thank you to all the form tutors who work tirelessly to support and help you when needed. They are going to play a big role in helping you through your final year and it is important you keep an open dialogue with them. We will be doing lots more work on exam techniques, ways to revise and how to manage your time and worries about exams. However, it is important to regularly chat with your tutors about how you are coping.

I hope you and your families have a great summer and a well-deserved rest. Make sure you keep yourself safe, well and enjoy the next six weeks. We can then return to school in September refreshed and fully motivated to start our final year together!

L McClatchie



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@edgbarrowofficial

Year 11: Mr Dangerfield

And then they were gone! As a Head of Year that follows a year group through the school years, you get a feeling of relief when all Year 11 exams are completed but you also feel a little lost. Since the final exam in June, it has felt strange being in school. Lack of issues to deal with, no general questions about the day, and no buzz in the Year 11 area of the playground to name a few reasons why. This may seem like bliss, and don't get me wrong a few days of it was certainly needed, but I miss you all being in school already. I know the four years we had were very unusual with Covid and temporary buildings but what a great group of young people to work with through these times.

During the past few months with the pressure of the exams, you have conducted yourselves in a very professional manner so a big well done to you all. I have had many staff members mention to me how amazing you have done and how you naturally just take things in your stride. The atmosphere around school during exams was settled and calm which is exactly what we wanted and needed so again this is a credit to you all. Please [click here for exam results day information](#).

We do need to also give a shout-out to the tutors and members of staff who have played pivotal roles in your time at Edgbarrow and this year in particular. We have had the luxury of Mr Jackson and Mr Rousou as attached tutors who would step in at any point and Mr Whiddett as another attached tutor who was also my right-hand man when coordinating any tutoring and some other alternative provision for students when needed. I know he has also been a support network for many of you along with the Progress Department and Student Support. We are lucky to have so many supportive members of staff and we certainly used them as a year group.

The tutors; Mr Fisher, Miss Carr, Miss Guillen, Mr Law, Mrs Rolls-Roake, Mrs Anigbo and Miss Madz have just been magnificent to work with both for myself and also for you as students over the years. They have always been there to listen to you, work with you and support you where needed. This year in particular they have played a much bigger role in helping design revision timetables and also deal with any exam issues. I know lots of you had really positive relationships with your tutors and will miss them being a major part of your life. Many of you have shown your appreciation already to them but I would also like to personally thank them from the bottom of my heart as they certainly make being a Head of Year much easier.

Leaving Year 11 is the end of one chapter but it is also a very exciting time as it is the start of the next chapter in the students' lives as they move on to sixth form, college or apprenticeships. I hope they look back on their time at Edgbarrow fondly and remember the friendships they have made and the fun and laughter they have shared. I hope they will remember the good times, learn from their mistakes and in the future make the most of every opportunity that comes their way to live a rich and fulfilling life.

R Dangerfield

Year 11 Prom



Sixth Form News

Head of Sixth Form: Mrs Hume

We hope this newsletter finds you in high spirits and brimming with excitement, just like we are here in the Sixth Form! It's been an eventful period filled with amazing achievements and memorable moments.

Firstly, we are delighted to introduce our exceptional new team of Student Leaders and Student Ambassadors. They've hit the ground running and are already making a tremendous impact on the school community. Their dedication, enthusiasm, and creative ideas have been nothing short of inspiring. We couldn't be prouder of how they have seamlessly taken on their roles and embraced the opportunity to lead by example. One of the exciting projects our Student Leaders and Ambassadors have been tirelessly preparing for is the upcoming Sports Day Tuck Shop. Get ready for some sweet treats, refreshing beverages, and a lot of fun.



Our recent Leavers Day was a huge success, thanks to the relentless efforts of our incredible outgoing team. Due to the hard work of Dzi, Hannah and the Senior Leaders, we marked the day by ensuring our departing students have memories to cherish. Laughter, camaraderie, and joy filled the air as we bid farewell to these exceptional individuals who have grown and thrived over the last two years. We couldn't have asked for a better celebration of their achievements and the remarkable bonds they have formed.



We also take immense pride in the proactive involvement of our students in the wider community. Recently Student Leaders focused on celebrating diversity. They helped organise a positive event that showcased the multicultural tapestry that our school community is fortunate to embrace. The event brought together students and staff from different backgrounds celebrating and appreciating our differences. It was heart-warming to witness the unity and support.

Last but certainly not least, we extend a warm welcome to new Year 12 students on our Induction Day. It was fantastic to see so many bright minds who are excited to embark on the next step. Our dedicated staff were ready to guide and support each student as they navigate this new chapter in their lives. We are looking forward to the next academic year which promises to be filled with achievements, discoveries, and unforgettable memories.

We are genuinely privileged to work alongside our students in creating an inclusive and vibrant learning environment. Thank you for your continued support, trust, and partnership.

R Hume



Students Leaders 2022-23



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News Around School

Art & Photography



Our annual Art and Photography Exhibition was very well attended and really showcased the Year 11 and 13 students' work. The Deputy Mayor, Jenny Penfold, came to the private view and voted for her favourites, along with all attendees.

The winners will get a voucher and certificate and they are:-

GCSE Art - Isabelle Reynolds

A-Level Art - Talia Smith

GCSE Photography - Abbie Ratcliffe

A-Level Photography - Riley Wilson



Our department has been very busy with practical lessons this Summer term. Year 7 has been concentrating on ceramics, making ocean-themed pots and Year 8 students, looking at 3D, are producing Lion King-inspired masks. Year 9 students are concentrating on music in art, culminating in producing their own album cover designs.

Year 10 GCSE artists are now looking at Identity, producing some fantastic sketchbooks and artwork to help this part of their projects. Year 10 GCSE photographers are in the middle of their second coursework project on Surrealism and are adding some lovely images to their digital portfolio.



A very successful visit to South Hill Park for a life drawing tutorial session produced some lovely large pieces from the Sixth Form artists, using several different methods of capturing the human form. Both Year 12 artists and photographers have started their Personal Investigation and completed a mock exam which prepares them for the final 15-hour exam in February.

Our Art Club students have produced some lovely ocean-inspired illustrations.

A Jackson, Art & Photography

Gardening Club

The Progress Gardening Club has successfully grown a variety of vegetables, fruits and plants, and have had lots of fun making some recipes from the fruits of their labour. We'd like to thank Brewers Decorator Centres, Woodley, for donating the little wooden bee houses which were given to students as an end of term present. Well done to all the students involved.



English

Accelerated Reading Programme

All students in Years 7, 8 and 9 continue to use the Accelerated Reader Programme to help boost their reading. It has been fantastic to see how well students have engaged with the programme. Since September, 504 students have taken 3027 quizzes on books they have read - this is a total of over 100 million words read so far this school year! 90% of students in Year 7, 80% of students in Year 8 and 60% of students in Year 9 have now taken a quiz.

Congratulations go to our 17 Word Millionaires who have passed quizzes totalling more than a million words. A special mention goes to Matthew Sahdev 7P, Roxy Bonewell 7S, Imogen Barker 7S, Emily Remedios 7U, Sebastian Walmsley 8T, Martha Reaney 9P and Edith Scarr 9P who have all read more than 2 million words so far this year.

There are now 222 members of the 100% Club for students who have achieved 100% in a quiz since September - 94 in Year 7, 77 in Year 8 and 51 in Year 9. These students have been awarded a 100% Club bookmark. Word Millionaire readers and 100% Club members can find their names on the Accelerated Reader noticeboard in the English corridor.

Paired Reading Programme

This year we selected 30 Year 7 students to take part in the Sixth Form Paired Reading Programme. A fantastic group of Year 12s and Year 13s were trained earlier in the year to support Year 7 readers. After the Year 13s finished at Easter they were replaced by some lovely Year 10 volunteers. Students reported that they felt lots more confident with their reading and we have seen huge progress in their reading ability as well. Some students have improved by nearly two years! We are looking forward to continuing the programme next year. Congratulations to the Year 7s who took part in

the programme and a huge thank you to all the sixth formers and to Mrs Gray who ran the programme over the year.

Miss Ford's Creative Writing Club has thrived this half term with some thoughtful contributions from its Key Stage 3 members. We have explored the art of guerrilla marketing, short story writing, and more recently, emotion poetry. We have many talented writers, and Chelsea Baumann has made a particularly impressive contribution with her 'Poem of Emotion' which follows:

Poem of Emotion

By Chelsea Baumann Year 7

Clouds fog my dismal mind,
Screaming in the shade,
Though my words are not heard,
They are created and made.

Ships sink in the back of my mind,
In craters deep and Gloom,
Though these things seem to bind,
Light shines through brighter than the moon,
They sink through the sands of demise,
In waves deep and black,
Things wash by, forgotten,
They scuttle by like rats.

Though dark and dismal the way I think,
Light does, indeed, seep through,
If not by the cold, wet sands of time,
The weary lanterns do.
Sail away, sail away, through the dreary winds,
I hear the faint voices cry out,
They sing cheerful songs, as darkness seeps in,
Though cheerful rows there is a shout,
As Reality takes her hints.

Library

Things get quieter around school and in the library during exam season but we've still been really busy behind the scenes ordering new books and preparing for next year. One of the main things I have been working on this year is putting together fiction booklists for a lot of the subject areas in school, firstly to help them encourage reading for pleasure within their department and secondly, so we can launch a Read Around the Subjects challenge next year. If you go to our [wakelet](#) page you will find some interactive reading lists for Maths, Science, Geography, History, Art and ICTS.

We had planned to shadow the Yoto Carnegie Illustration Award with some local primary schools this term but unfortunately, this had to be cancelled last minute. If anyone is interested in seeing the shortlisted books you can find them here: [The Yoto Carnegies](#).

Another thing we have instigated this term has been 'Quiet Wednesday' which has been a great success! I know some of our library kids who like to come and hang out and chat are not too impressed but we feel it is important to offer a quiet, less rowdy option for our students with sensory issues. It's been really nice to see so many students embrace it and come in to play chess and do word searches etc as well as quietly working on the computers. This will continue next year.

N Mansfield & S Daniel, Library



School Council

It's been a busy term for School Council which saw us involved in various projects and trips across the school! We have continued to work with Culineria this term to provide feedback on behalf of students about the current offering. It was lovely to see Culineria take our ideas on board, for instance by introducing our suggestion of meal deals.

We were also involved in the interview process for a senior staff position, coming up with insightful questions to ask and providing valuable feedback to SLT as part of the process.

School Council and the Student Leadership Team had the privilege of attending Royal Ascot as representatives of Edgbarrow School, where we had the opportunity to observe the Royal Parade, watch various races and enjoy a picnic in a dedicated area for schools. It was lovely to see School Council members engage with students from other local schools on the day.



As part of Diversity Week, School Council created a tutor activity whereby all tutor groups created a selection of flags that represented the culture and heritage within their tutor group. We then created posters using those flags. These flags were used to decorate the tables for Culture and Heritage Afternoon and will also be displayed prominently in school next term.

School Council also helped out at the Culture and Heritage Afternoon by helping to set up the tables, decorating the tables, helping to hand out the food samples and helping to tidy up. It was a great afternoon, enjoyed by the students and it was fantastic to see so many cultures represented... and to taste so many delicacies!

School Council want to say a big thank you and good luck to the Year 11 School Council members who are leaving us this year. In particular, Gabi (Gabriella Jones) has been a fantastic leader of School Council this year and has been a hugely valuable team member for many years. She has attended all meetings, and given up her time before school, at lunchtime and after school to help out with each and every event that School Council has been involved with - thank you Gabi! We also want to say thank you and good luck to Morgan Williams, Archie Proud, Katie Finucane, Peter Holdstock and Afia Adu-Gyamfi for their involvement with School Council.

Finally, please can we encourage any student who would like to be part of School Council to help represent the views of students at Edgbarrow to get involved. You can apply to be part of School Council in September so keep an eye out for posters and information from your Heads of Year. If you want us to raise something you can email us or come and speak to us - there are School Council members in every year group.

We hope all students and staff have a fun summer!

Careers & Work-Related Learning



Year 10 Work Experience. The majority of our Year 10s have just completed a week's work experience. We were delighted that approximately 50% of students, with parent/carer support, were able to source their own placements. A handful of students who were unable to participate in work experience outside of school completed a virtual work experience programme as part of an alternative work-related learning-based curriculum.

Adviza. Once again Adviza has been in school one day a week offering external impartial careers guidance to students. In line with statutory guidance, all Year 11s were offered appointments; we also ran drop-in sessions, visited five primary schools to deliver careers workshops to Year 6 pupils; attended Key Stage 4/5 parent/carers evenings to offer careers guidance to students and parents/carers during transitional times. All these events mean that approximately 500 students from Year 6 upwards have had a meaningful encounter with an impartial careers advisor.

We have renewed our Adviza provision for next year and if any students or parents/carers need further help or support they can use the member schools' careers portal for further research and to chat with a careers advisor online. www.adviza.org.uk/careers-guidance-for-you.

Enrichment Days will be taking place on 18th and 19th July with a range of events planned as detailed in the letters sent home last month. We will report back on those in the next newsletter.

Can I take this opportunity to remind you of our dedicated [Careers and Work-Related Learning area on the school website](#) which includes details of the careers programme offered in school at each Key Stage, along with apprenticeship information, labour market information and much more to support students and parents/carers.



K Robinson, Careers Manager

Music & Performing Arts

Edgbarrow FM



Our third and final podcast of the year is available now! Click on the icon opposite to listen.

In this episode, we catch up with Mr Riley as he answers those all-important Edgbarrow Escapes questions and reflects on his time at Edgbarrow as he

moves on to pastures new. Thank you to all of our guests this year and of course our host, Daniel Joyce.

Festival of Education

On Thursday 6th July, we were invited to perform at the Festival of Education at Wellington College. This was an amazing opportunity which saw Darrell Funani, Mollie Bourton Cole and Jordan Crittenden showcase their wonderful musical talents at the prestigious festival! Congratulations to the team, we are so proud of you!

Drama Club

This term, the Key Stage 3 Drama Club started! It has been fantastic to see so many students exploring team-building games as well as improving their improvisational skills through a range of activities with Mr Franklin. The students have also started a mini project where they have been writing scripts and taking them from page to stage.



Physical Theatre Workshop

On Wednesday 24th May, our GCSE Drama students participated in a two-hour physical theatre workshop with trained actor and performer, Steve Fletcher. The workshop saw students explore the concept of time through a number of physical theatre exercises and we were very proud of what they created.

Swing Band & Choir

The Edgbarrow Swing Band has been hard at work continuing to learn two pieces this term: *Dancing in the Street* and *The Girl from Ipanema*. Swing Band has also been learning new skills including how to play in a Bossa Nova style and how to write/perform jazz improvisation and, most importantly, they have been having a lot of fun making music together! Choir has been working on *The Climb*, *Dance Monkey* and *Believer*. Once again, a big thank you to Miss Yatirawana and Mr Meyer for all of your work with these wonderful musicians.

Groundhog Day

On Monday 3rd July we took a group of Year 9 and 10 students to see *Groundhog Day* at The Old Vic in London. Described as "a comic parable of love, hope and transformation", we were in awe of this stunning musical and really enjoyed watching it!



Drama & Music Stars

Congratulations to this term's drama and music stars!



Drama: Lucas Howell, Haden Westood, Clara Mitra, Henry Hewett, Ata Rodriguez and Logie Barr.

Music: Maya Saleh, Georgina Kontopanos, Isabella Kieran, Livi Barnett, Shaan Sood, Qaylah Wark, Josh Mollett and Joseph McQuillan.

This term has seen yet again a number of performance opportunities for our students. A huge well done and congratulations to the following who have showcased their talents at a number of events:

Performers in assembly: Natasa Albert, Chelsea Baumann, Felix Morris, Yousuf Ahmad, Erin Nothard, Chloe Garden and Eivie Reid.

Performers at the Celebration of Success: Jordan Crittenden, Mollie Bourton Cole and Sofia De Melo Fortuna Duraes.

End of Year Assembly: Mollie Bourton Cole, Darrell Funani, Sofia De Melo Fortuna Duraes and Team Choir: Hannah Bradley, Sophie Pope, Eivie Reid, Chloe Garden, Erin Nothard, Poppy Humphries, Sophia Cruyton, Roxy Bonewell, Ichigo Ah Ling, Chelsea Baumann, Suzi Hoare, Natasa Albert and Ben Sawyer.

My huge thanks to all the students, staff and parents/carers who have helped support the department over this academic year!

R Carr, Head of Drama, Acting Head of Performing Arts

Junior Maths Challenge Results

This term some of our fabulous students have taken part in the UKMT competitions. On Wednesday 26th April, 66 Year 7s and 63 Year 8s attempted the challenging problem-solving questions which required them to be really creative in the way they answered the multiple choice problems.

The following students scored well enough to achieve certificates (the top 7% in the country receive a Gold, 13% receive Silver and 21% receive Bronze).

Year 7		Year 8	
GOLD	Matthew Sahdev*	GOLD	Finnian Walsh*
SILVER	Robert Parteni Imogen Barker Sandeep Cheema Edward Turkington Cara Farrington Abigail O'Dwyer Henry Roberts Brayden Dear Samuel Chalkley Oliver Berrington Adam Mackie	SILVER	Lila Bhambra Anikith Kapoor Jessica Blackmore George Clark James Beaumont David Ellington Tom Jackson Keren Trainer Anrudh Raj Sofia Whitehouse Anya Agarwal Liza Kazantseva
BRONZE	Lucy Allan Shayan Patel Iason Kompis Jacob Woods Matthew Wright Amy Sigurdsson Karsten Yeung Gabriel Arnold Robert Gent Thomas Jacobs Evie Curry Krystal IU Grace Lawrie Bobby Thomson Charlie Lewis Hugo Millett Aine Moruzzi Callum Dawkins Mahala Brookes Izabel Gibson Ava Godfree Oliver Martin Aleena Moyo	BRONZE	Nicholas Buckley Annalise Irwin Sebby Walmsley Qaylah Wark Tom Bridges Ava James Harry Johnson Tomer Merzer Zac Bowles Maya Saleh Clara Mitra Josh Nunn Chloe Robson George Maynard Anita Dacheva Evo Ivanov Tyler Beasley Max Brownhill Phoebe Holden Hannah Hadley Gurmeet Nandra Tristan Pert Ryan Batt Molly Nottage Lia Otter Alfie Sommer

* also received a certificate for 'Best in their Year'

Matthew Sahdev also achieved a certificate for Best in School and qualified for the Junior Kangaroo paper which proved to be a challenging but fun experience.

The Maths department would like to thank all the students who have taken part in the enrichment activities this term and congratulate those that have been awarded certificates. Well done!

D Holloway and the Maths Department

Stock Market Challenge

This term our Year 12 Economists competed against other schools in the area such as Windsor Boys, Holyport College, Charters School and Emmbrook (to name just a few) at the 2023 Stock Market Challenge at ICMA Centre, University of Reading. We had four Year 12 Economics students representing Edgbarrow: Sam Chapman, Thomas Dodds, Zane Khan and Rudy Smith.

Their challenge was to manage a portfolio of investments. They had to master understanding the effect company decisions and economic fluctuations have on share prices. In the first trading session our Edgbarrow traders made a profit overall and enjoyed the trials and tribulations of short selling stock. They effectively analysed the markets and anticipated changes, negotiated deals with other traders and collaborated brilliantly as a team. As the trading day progressed into the second trading session, our students became rather adept and were very busy "shorting Tesco's stock" amongst others, and managed to turn around a £19 million loss into a £30 million profit with some effectively negotiated deals.



R Heffernan, Economics

Duke of Edinburgh Award

The Summer term has been another busy one for the DofE team. Students in Years 9 and 10 have been on both practice and qualifying expeditions alongside submitting lots of evidence on eDofE to support their ongoing commitments in the physical, skill and volunteering sections of the awards. We would like to thank all the students for their efforts in adding evidence on eDofE and encourage everyone to keep uploading pictures and evidence to support their other sections. It would be fantastic if this could be completed over the summer so that we can hold our presentation evening in the Autumn term.

Our current Year 8s will be introduced to the Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme in assembly early next term which will be followed by a parent information evening.

Bronze

Having completed one day of training in school on navigation, first aid, route planning and food preparation, 81 Year 9 students attended their Bronze practice expedition walking around Black Park Country Park and Burnham Beeches implementing their new skills in navigation and camp craft. From about 4pm students started to arrive at camp, some weary, some still full of energy sharing stories of their day. After cooking their evening meal which mainly consisted of different types of pasta and sauce, the students played football on the campsite and continued to run around tiring themselves out - you wouldn't think they had just walked for six hours carrying all their own kit.

Day 2 was completed successfully and the students were now well prepared to be remotely supervised for their qualifying walk in June. For the qualifier they walked from Great Missenden to Aldbury Village Hall. The improvement in their navigation and preparedness for the weekend was obvious and we were delighted that all students successfully passed. The assessors were very impressed with our students and complimented them on their behaviour and attitude towards their expedition.



Silver

39 students have been working hard towards their Silver DofE Award and have done both walking and canoeing expeditions. The paddlers completed four days of training on the River Thames paddling from the Waterside Centre in Reading towards Windsor. They were scuppered on the final day by river conditions but the instructors were very impressed with the improvement in paddling technique. Sadly, the students were unable to go and complete the qualifying expedition on the River Wye this term but we are looking forward to them completing this early in the Autumn term.



The Silver walkers spent six days hiking around the New Forest overcoming the challenges of carrying all their equipment, ticks, gorse bushes taller than their heads and even a couple of hours of torrential rain. At the end of their qualifying expeditions, they were described as "a great bunch of students... a credit to the school!" by the expedition leader. All of them have now successfully completed the expedition section of their Silver DofE qualification.

Gold

We currently have 18 students working towards their Gold Awards which, in addition to the physical, skill and volunteering sections, requires students to plan their own 5-day expedition and attend a residential week away. Once complete they will be invited to the Palace to be presented with their award by the Duke Of Edinburgh. Alistair Allen recently attended the Palace to receive his Award which looked like a fabulous experience. Congratulations Alistair!

V Rice, M Meyer, N Hartley, M Whiddett
Duke of Edinburgh Volunteers



PE Department

Football

As is the case most years, the majority of the football fixtures took place during the Spring term. However, when teams progress through the tournaments well the season does tend to spill into the Summer term. This was the case for our Year 10 and 8 boys' teams and the girls' Year 8 team. The Year 10 boys reached the semi-final of the cup narrowly losing to Desborough 2-1 after a closely fought match. The girls' team lost the league final held at Ascot FC after putting up a fantastic fight against an athletic Piggott side. On the same night the Year 8 boys were beaten by Forest in a grudge match after beating them in both the cup and league finals last year. The boys however did pick themselves up and later that week beat Park House School 2-0 in the cup final at Cantley Park. The boys worked incredibly hard on a boiling hot day, Luke Grey burst through from defence twice running the length of the pitch to score both goals. This gave the boys back-to-back cup wins and a win rate of 26 Wins to 1 Loss. The boys then continued this run on the Barcelona Sports Tour, winning their tournament and bringing home even more silverware! Will their streak continue next year?! Well done for all your hard work this year



Athletics

We have had another busy summer of athletics with a number of meets. Years 8-10 had their annual District Meet at Bracknell Athletics where a number of our athletes went on to represent Bracknell at County. The following went one step further and qualified for English Schools; Nathan Rollins, Callum Welch and April Palmer.

Year 7 had their event too in which Brayden Dear, Josh Philpott and Evie Curry qualified to represent Bracknell at County.

We hosted our usual year group events with all Bracknell schools in attendance at which we saw some incredible athletic performances.

Well done and a thank you to all of our athletes who represented Edgbarrow this year.



Rounders

This Summer term we have taken part in several rounders tournaments playing against Bracknell Forest Schools. Brakenhale and Sandhurst were the hosting venues and we would always play against teams from Kings Academy Binfield, Garth Hill, Ranelagh, Sandhurst and Brakenhale. The tournaments produced some excellent competitive play, on some very hot afternoons. As always, the Edgbarrow team did us proud. Winning a few of the tournaments and coming runners up in two. The teams we take on these fixtures are a real delight and make a slightly later evening at work, bliss.

Have a lovely summer to all and we look forward to starting netball in September.

Cricket

It has been a slightly quieter year this year for cricket. The poor weather before half term meant we had to postpone our U15s game four times! When we eventually played, we narrowly missed out to Bradfield, albeit an excellent batting display from Tom Brookes.

Our U13s fared a bit better making it to the semi-finals of the plate competition missing out to The Reading School. Some stand-out performances from Sam Mansfield and Hugo Millet.



Over May half term the PE department accompanied by supporting staff from around the school, took 127 students on our Barcelona Sports Tour. The trip consisted of 44 girls participating in both netball and football and 83 boys in rugby and football. The trip saw us compete against local schools and clubs in all the respective sports, culminating in a tournament against other English touring teams. The tour broke a master class record for a touring school with; 7 netball teams, 3 rugby teams, 3 girls and 6 boys football teams. Some of the highlights included; the number of participants, the Year 8 boys winning the overall football tournament, competing, and enjoying the culture of welcoming local Spanish clubs or a '3rd half' and of course the stadium tour of the world-famous Camp Nou. The trip was extremely enjoyable with both staff and students representing the school admirably on what is a fantastic trip. More Sports Tour pictures can be found on our [Galleries page](#) on the website.



Sports Ambassadors

This year saw another exceptional group of volunteers for the Sports Ambassador programme. During the year they have helped to run weekly clubs, run school events, help run secondary and primary sporting events and just been generally amazing around the PE department. This summer they have been working hard running the finals of the primary indoor curling event and the multi-sports summer festival as shown by the pictures below. They also helped to run a local triathlon event, creating their own mini-triathlon for themselves at the end. We have also seen the introduction of next year's Sports Ambassadors who have helped out with two events this term as the current Year 10s pass the torch. A massive well done to all the Sports Ambassadors for their efforts this year, they have done Edgbarrow proud and represented the school exceptionally well.



Sports Day

The sun finally shone for our Sports Day on Monday. Well done to all students who took part and congratulations to U tutor groups who were the overall winners. A few school records were broken including the Girls 400m by Sophie Cook 8Q, the Boys 400m by Luke Gray 8R, the Boys 1500m by George Dalton 8R, the Boys Relay by 8S, and Mixed Medley by 8R and 10P.



Reminders

Exam Results

We have been really pleased at how hard our students have worked for their examinations and we hope they are delighted with their results. If anyone has any concerns, particularly about university or sixth form places, staff will be on-site to help.

A-Level Results: Thursday 17th August

Students can collect their results from the Sixth Form Atrium at 9am. However, students may come in at 8.00am if they have already accessed their UCAS account and are worried about university placements. Staff will be there to help you. Students can also access their results via email by 10.00am.

GCSE Results: Thursday 24th August

Students can collect their results from the Sixth Form Atrium at 9am. Staff will be there to support students who have any concerns regarding their sixth form places. Student can also access their results via email by 10.00am.

Year 12 Results: Thursday 17th and Thursday 24th August

Students will receive their results via email by 11.00am.

For information on Post Results Services, please visit the [school website](#) for deadlines, fees and charges.

Exam Certificates:

Certificates will be available for collection w/c 4th December from school reception between 9.30-11.00am, and 2-4pm.

S Kidd, Exams & Data Manager

Exam Office Opening Hours

The Exam Office will be open at the following times should you have any queries about your results:

17th August 9am - 2pm

18th August 9am - 1pm

24th August 9am - 2pm

25th August 9am - 1pm

(via email only examsoffice@edgbarrowschool.co.uk)

Medical Hub

Please visit our online [Medical Hub](#) for all our information about First Aid, medical support for students and all medical forms.

Pastoral Information

Please visit our website for updated policies on [Uniform](#), [Authorised Leave of Absence and Behaviour](#).

Support for Service Children



Service children are children with one or more parents currently serving in the British Armed Forces.

As a school we are entitled to claim additional money for all Service children on our roll under the government's funding arrangements and this has also

been extended for Service children for up to two years after their parent has retired from HM Forces.

If you are in or recently retired from HM Forces, please would you confirm this by emailing secretary@edgbarrowschool.co.uk who will send you the relevant forms.

Contacting Us

Please do not reply to messages from InTouch as they are not received by the school. Emails should be directed to: secretary@edgbarrowschool.co.uk and they will be forwarded to the relevant member of staff.

Free School Meals

If you would like to see if you are entitled, please select this [LINK](#) to apply. Applications can be completed online at: www.bracknell-forest.gov.uk/learn-free-school-meals

Personal Development



Look out for our termly [Personal Development Newsletter](#) with information about SMSC and the PSHE curriculum. This will give you an insight into what your children are accessing, and also enables you to have important conversations with your child on pertinent and emerging topics.

Notice Board

STUDENT ABSENCE

We would like to remind parents/carers that we have a dedicated telephone number for reporting student absence whether it's a medical appointment or absence from school.

The number is: **01344 467675**.
Parents can also advise of absence by using the email absence reporting facility on the school website.

ATTENDANCE

Although we strive for high attendance from our students, if you know your child is unwell or injured and not fit to be in school please do not send them. If a student becomes unwell or injured during the course of the school day it is the parent/carer's responsibility to collect their child or arrange for a responsible adult to do so. Please ensure that your contact details are kept up to date so we can efficiently ensure the health and safety of your child.

ADDITIONAL MEDICAL NEEDS/HEALTH CARE PLAN

The lead first aider kindly asks that all students requiring medication in school and a health care plan please remember to update these as medical needs change/arise. Please make a note of the expiry date of any medication coming into school. It is the responsibility of the parent/carer to ensure that medication kept in school is in date in case of emergency use. Many thanks in advance for your help. If you have any questions, please contact
Keely.Benn@edgbarrowschool.co.uk

STUDENT SUPPORT CENTRE

The Centre is for any students experiencing social, emotional or behavioural difficulties that may have an effect on their learning. Students and parents are welcome to contact Mrs Martin and her team directly. However referrals will always be agreed with the Head of Year. The team can be contacted via the main school number on **01344 772658**.

STUDENTS' PERSONAL PROPERTY

Parents should note that school cannot be responsible for personal property of students whilst the students participate in off site activities. The school will not be liable for loss of or damage to such property should this occur. By agreeing that your child may participate in the activity proposed, you also acknowledge and agree that the school shall have no liability in this respect.

NON-SMOKING SITE

May we remind parents and other visitors that we are a non-smoking site, therefore smoking is not permitted anywhere within our buildings or grounds.

SOFT FOOTBALLS

Please remind students that they should bring soft footballs (not leather ones) into school to play at lunchtime.

MEDICATION IN SCHOOL

If it is necessary for students to take any medication in school (including non-prescription medicines), the medication and a signed consent form (this form can also be downloaded from the school website) must be handed in at Reception where it will be stored safely. The medication should be sent in its original container, complete with the expiry date and dosage details. The student must come to the medical room at the required time to report to the First Aider before taking the medication.

MOBILE PHONES

It is a serious breach of examination regulations to bring a mobile phone into an examination room – see the school website for more details. Please ensure that students do not bring mobile phones to school during examination sessions. At other times mobile phones should be switched off and remain hidden and not used at any time on the school site.

LOST PROPERTY

Items of lost property can be reclaimed from Reception at lunchtime from 1.45pm onwards only. Items of PE kit are kept in the PE department for a short time before arriving in Reception. Can we please remind all parents that all personal effects should be named and that unclaimed lost property will be disposed of at the end of each term.

MEDICAL APPOINTMENTS

Please could any medical appointments be written in your child's planner and can they also be reminded to sign out at Reception when they go to their appointment.

MINIBUS

Can students please make sure that when using the school minibus they do not eat when travelling in it and certainly do not leave any litter behind. Furthermore, please do not wear dirty boots while travelling in the bus and ensure that the whole bus is left clean and tidy after every journey. This is a fantastic bus; let's make sure we can all enjoy it.

PARACETAMOL

Paracetamol can be accessed via the Lead First Aider if needed. Contact with the parent/carer will be made for consent. We hope this will enable your children to remain in school and that they will be more comfortable and able to concentrate on their lessons. We will of course still ask you to collect your child if they remain unwell or in severe pain. An accurate record is kept of Paracetamol use. If you have any concerns regarding this please contact the **Lead First Aider** on **01344 772658**.

Absence Reporting

In routine matters of absence, we would be grateful if parents would contact the school before **8.30am ON EACH DAY OF ABSENCE** if a student is going to be away. We need **DAILY** notification of your child's absence to ensure they are safe. Failure to provide a reason for absence will result in an unauthorised mark being applied. If your child has a medical appointment that interrupts their school day, please ensure that we are also made aware of this.

The school has a dedicated telephone line and email address specifically for absence reporting. Please note that the telephone number is only able to take messages and you will not be able to speak to a member of staff. The telephone number is: **01344 467675**, alternatively, please email the school (absence@edgbarrowschool.co.uk) on **each day of absence**.

If we do not have a reason for a student's absence, under our First Day Response system contact will be made with home.

If a child becomes ill whilst at school they will be looked after until a parent/carer can collect them from school. The school does have fully qualified First Aiders who can provide medical assistance where necessary. Contact will also be made with the parents/carers as rapidly as possible. In an emergency, an ambulance may be called to take the child to the hospital, but treatment cannot usually begin until a parent gives consent. We respectfully ask that if your child has a minor ailment (e.g. cold or cough) that they attempt a day in school. Our school First Aid team will make contact with you to arrange for you to collect your child if they feel that they are not well enough to be in school. Alternatively, quiet spaces can be provided for your child to work in.

IMPORTANT: PUPILS WHO SUFFER DIARRHOEA/VOMITING SHOULD NOT RETURN TO SCHOOL UNTIL 48 HOURS AFTER THE LAST EPISODE OF VOMITING OR DIARRHOEA.

Permission will not be given for family holidays during term time. Any request for Leave of Absence should be made using the form on our website, ([Leave of Absence Request Form](#)) which is also available from Reception. Any absence during term time has a detrimental effect on learning and social interactions. Students with poor attendance may be invited to an Attendance Action Plan meeting or be required to provide medical evidence for any absence or appointment, in consultation with the Education Welfare Service.

It is extremely important that emergency contact numbers are kept up to date. Please inform us immediately if personal details change.

M Fisher, Attendance Officer

Attendance Matters

Minutes late per day	Equates to days of teaching lost in ONE year	Which equals this number of lessons missed
5 mins	3½ Days	17 Lessons
10 mins	7 Days	35 Lessons
15 mins	10½ Days	52 Lessons
20 mins	14 Days	70 Lessons
30 mins	21 Days	104 Lessons

Attendance during ONE school year	Equates to days absent	Which is approximately	Which means the number of lessons missed
94%	10 Days	2 Weeks	50 Lessons
90%	19 Days	4 Weeks	100 Lessons
85%	29 Days	6 Weeks	150 Lessons
80%	38 Days	8 Weeks	200 Lessons
75%	48 Days	10 Weeks	250 Lessons
70%	57 Days	11½ Weeks	290 Lessons
65%	67 Days	13½ Weeks	340 Lessons

Greater than 95% Attendance	77% of pupils achieved at least 5 GCSEs, including Maths and English, when attended more than 95%
Less than 90% Attendance	43% of pupils achieved at least 5 GCSEs, including Maths and English, when attended more than 90%
Less than 80% Attendance	32% of pupils achieved at least 5 GCSEs, including Maths and English, when attended more than 80%

Source: Department of Education

Summer Information

Water Safety. A national and local current safeguarding concern is young people and water safety. In the UK, there were 277 deaths from accidental drowning in 2021 from inland and coastal locations. Forty percent of people who lost their lives had no intention of entering the water, with slips, trips and falls being the main cause of them entering the water. The Royal Berkshire Fire and Rescue Service recently visited our Year 7s for an assembly and they have asked us to share the following guidance.

[Be Water Aware \(RBFRS\)](#)

[Water Safety \(RBFRS\)](#)

EDGBARROW STUDENT DISCOUNT



**Keep cool this summer
20% OFF
Milkshakes, Smoothies,
Frappes & Iced Coffees**

Two Sisters

Term Dates

Autumn Term 2023	
Staff Inset Days	Friday 1 st , Monday 4 th September and Friday 24 th November
Start of Term	Tuesday 5 th September
Half Term	Monday 23 rd to Friday 27 th October
Last Day of Term	Friday 15 th December (school closes at 12:05pm)
Spring Term 2024	
Staff Inset Day	Tuesday 2 nd January
Start of Term	Wednesday 3 rd January
Half Term	Monday 12 th to Friday 16 th February
Last Day of Term	Friday 28 th March (school closes at 12.05pm)
Bank Holiday	Monday 1 st January
Summer Term 2024	
Start of Term	Monday 15 th April
Half Term	Monday 27 th to Friday 31 st May
Last Day of Term	Friday 19 th July (school closes at 12.05pm)
Staff Inset Day	Monday 22 nd & Tuesday 23 rd July
May Bank Holiday	Monday 6 th May

Term Dates can also be found on our website at:

www.edgbarrowschool.co.uk/termdates/

Further dates for events, trips and exams can be found on our website calendar:

www.edgbarrowschool.co.uk/calendar/



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