



Grease is the Word!



Grease is the word... at Edgbarrow School this (almost) Summer Night. Congratulations on a slick performance to the entire cast, behind-the-scenes crew and live band of our school musical, Grease. The Grease cast performed to sell-out audiences and demonstrated incredible dedication, energy and talent, with rehearsals beginning in September - you have all put together an outstanding production which was showcased in three captivating performances last week. [Cont. on Page 9.](#)

Headteacher Update: Mr Matthews

Welcome to our Easter edition of the newsletter. So much has been going on across the school, it's a real pleasure to share with you the successes and activities that have taken place. Whether it's exam prep, careers evening, trips and visits, Grease or sports, there's lots going on.

When we plan our development work, we always try to keep in mind our school's vision of Enjoy, Grow, Achieve. Of course, lessons are hugely important but this newsletter gives you a flavour of the wider curriculum and hopefully lots of enjoyment. There's been a huge amount of activity in PE and we were delighted to host a festival of Football celebrating the growth in girls' football, supported by Reading Football Club. We have also just finished our school production of Grease. A huge cast and crew representing all year groups. I watched the show on Friday night and am always amazed at the performances and special talent we get to see. My thanks to everyone involved and to our families for their support. It's always a busy term for careers, we had a huge turnout of exhibitors and students at the Careers Convention, and all of our Year 10s have completed a mock job interview. It's important that the students aim high and are supported in positive job choices for the future.

We have now reviewed the Key Stage 3 curriculum and assessment system. This has been piloted with our Year 7 as we try to simplify the information we share with parents and try to make it more user-friendly. This will now be rolled out to Year 8 in September.

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My thanks for your support with school attendance. Since the pandemic, there has been a national issue, but I am pleased to report that school attendance at Edgbarrow is now almost back to normal and well ahead of the national average. Every day at school is important and it's a real team effort between school and families - thank you.

We continue to make changes to our Class Charts app, adding more functionality and of course upgrading the Edgshop with an ever-wider range of rewards. Thank you for your continued use.

continued...

We say farewell to Mrs Fisher. Mel has been an outstanding Attendance Officer; it is not an easy job trying to balance encouraging students into school whilst also looking after some of our vulnerable students. Mel is in before 7am each day to ensure our registers are up-to-date and accurate and was recognised by the Department of Education visitors for the amazing work she does. We wish her well in her new role at Ranelagh School.

The summer term is always busy as we complete final preparations for the exam season. I know our Year 11s and 13s will be working hard and we wish them every success.

You will be aware from my letters that the end of this term has been a period of great sadness. Jude Bryan of 8V sadly passed away following a battle with cancer. We will end the term fundraising for the hospital that took care of Jude and with a celebration of Jude's time with us. The response from the school community makes me incredibly proud. His friends, classmates and the wider school have felt the loss and supported each other brilliantly, I know they will continue to do so. We will continue to share our deepest sympathies and support for Jude's family and friends.

As always, thank you for your support of the school. I wish you all a restful Easter break.

S Matthews, Headteacher

Governing Body Update

The Curriculum, Learning and Outcomes Committee is the part of the Governing Body that monitors the intent, implementation and impact of the teaching and learning at Edgbarrow School. Each governor is linked to a department and we carry out link visits to talk to the Head of Department and other members of staff, carry out a learning walk and talk to students about their learning. We always find these visits useful and enjoyable and it helps us immensely to see what we hear about in action so we are grateful to staff for allowing us to carry out these visits.

In addition, we welcome a different leader to present information to us at each committee meeting. This term we were delighted to hear from Mr May, who told us about the impressive array of training opportunities provided for staff and how dedicated staff are to their own professional development.

This term, we have had the opportunity to view the verified external results and internal data that predict future outcomes for students. Edgbarrow School continues to go from strength to strength and these results were once again a testament to the hard work of the students and staff. We took the opportunity to celebrate the successes and identify areas where we can still make improvements. This information feeds into the School Development Plan, areas of which we monitor in the committee meetings and we are always impressed to see the drive from leaders to continue to improve the experience for students, staff and parents. This has included work by Mr Andrews to improve assessment and reporting and a review of ways in which information can be shared with parents through Class Charts, particularly to student successes.

Rebekah Brumby, Co-opted Governor

Bracknell Forest Lottery

This month's Bracknell Lottery superdraw gives you a chance to win a £1,000 Sainsbury's voucher (or £1,000 cash prize).

- Tickets cost just £1 a week
- Helps give our fundraising a boost
- By entering you have a chance to win up to £25,000

Supporters must be 18 years of age or older. See lottery website for full terms and conditions. Enter this draw by 30/03/2024.

Click on the image opposite to play.



PTA News

It's been another busy and enjoyable term for the PTA. We held an EGM in January to adopt a new constitution (ParentKind Model Constitution 2021) which means we can now officially run virtual PTA meetings. Sadly, Lisa Kemp stepped down as our Treasurer. We thank Lisa for her excellent work over the past 18 months and after a thorough handover, we warmly welcome our new co-opted Treasurer, Theresa Spanswick (Year 7 parent).

The recent annual Careers Convention took place on 7th March and was a huge success again. We secured the support of over 50 companies and hope all those students who were able to attend found the event useful and inspiring. A massive thank you goes to parent Jo Turner who volunteered and worked with the school (Karen Robinson, Careers Manager) to organise this event.

Are you a qualified accountant? We urgently need someone to sign off our PTA accounts for 2023. If you can volunteer a couple of hours of your time, or if you know a qualified accountant who can, please get in touch at pta-chair@edgbarrowschool.co.uk.

Fundraising Update

The Quiz Night held on 2nd February was a good turnout and was enjoyed by 11 teams, raising almost £600 for the school. A big thank you to Malcom May and Dawn for leading the event and to everyone who participated. Congratulations to Team Pinewood Football for winning first place!



Bag2School. The latest Bag2School collection in March raised just over £200. Thank you to those who donated items and a big thank you to parent Tanya Jacobs for organising this regular fundraiser every half term.

School Fund. Thank you to all who have donated so far. Please use the [JustGiving link](#) to donate if you haven't already. We ask families for a suggested voluntary donation of £60 per year per family, or whatever you can give is hugely appreciated.

Secondhand Uniform. We now have a dedicated email address PTASecondHandUniform@edgbarrowschool.co.uk. Please email with any requests for secondhand uniform. (NB. this email address is not monitored daily, but we aim to reply within a week.)

To keep in touch... You can join our WhatsApp group, drop us an email, or follow us on Facebook 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 the PTA team, volunteers, and the school's PTA liaison staff for all of 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.

On behalf of the PTA committee, have a wonderful Easter.

Ella Page, PTA Chair

Vacancies

Secretary

Our Secretary, Catherine, will be stepping down from the PTA at the end of this school year. The Secretary role is another crucial role in the PTA. The main responsibilities are monitoring the PTA's mailbox and taking the minutes at the PTA meetings.

Vice Chair

We've been seeking a new Vice Chair to support the PTA and help with liaising with the school and other groups.

If you're interested in any of these roles, please get in touch with me at pta-chair@edgbarrowschool.co.uk.

Upcoming Events

PTA Meeting

Tuesday 30th April
7-8:30pm

This PTA meeting will be held on Microsoft Teams. Come along and virtually meet other volunteer parents/carers and help plan future events.

Keep in touch!

Facebook: [facebook.com/edgbarrowpta](https://www.facebook.com/edgbarrowpta)
Email: PTA@edgbarrowschool.co.uk or
PTA-Chair@edgbarrowschool.co.uk

Head of Year News

Year 7: Miss Pilgrim

What a busy term for Year 7! Their tutors and I are delighted with the resilience, determination and hard work the students are putting into school life. It was an absolute pleasure to read their recent grade reports and I am delighted to see all the positives that the students continue to achieve in their lessons through Class Charts, we're very proud of all of our students - what a great start to their Edgbarrow journey.

I am so pleased to see many Year 7 students taking advantage of all the opportunities that Edgbarrow offers outside the classroom. So many of the students attend clubs at lunchtime, after school, and the PE clubs. Many students go to Drama, Creative Writing, Faith Hub, Art, Science, Board Games, Problem Solving and the other clubs that staff give up their time to run. It was great to see many of them perform in this year's school production of Grease (see pics below). If your child is not attending clubs, please encourage them to become involved in school life as it is an opportunity to develop their skills and character. Importantly at this stage in their school life, it's also a chance to develop new friendships in addition to the ones they have brought with them from their primary schools.



Students and staff greatly enjoyed the Geography trip to the Natural History Museum in London. The earthquake simulator was the highlight of the day.

Mrs Pearce (Deputy Head of Year) has been working with our charity reps to coordinate our fundraising for Read for Good, Year 7's chosen charity. Read for Good is a brilliant cause, which provides books and storytellers for children in Hospital.



Students have been busy raising money by participating in the Languages movie nights, lego lunches, a readathon and non-uniform day to raise a whopping total of £1560 so far. What a tremendous effort from Year 7!

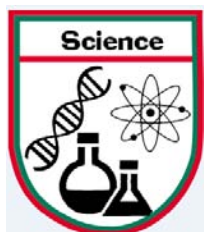
In our PSHE lessons, the students have recently been learning basic first aid skills from our lead first aider, have had a visit from Berkshire Fire Service to learn the importance of Water Safety and Road Safety and a workshop on substance misuse. Their tutors and I have been very pleased to see the mature attitude of the year group and their willingness to engage in their important topics.

The summer term will be equally busy for Year 7, but I am sure they will continue to approach every day with the same positive can-do attitude. Finally, I would like to wish you and your families a happy and restful Easter break, and I look forward to working with you all in the summer term. To all the Year 7s, have a magical Easter break.

E Pilgrim



Band Singer: Abbie Cook (left)



Science Club - All Year 7 and 8 welcome

Do fun experiments and learn amazing new facts!
Every Thursday, 3.20pm - 4.20pm in S3.

Follow the science department [@edgarrowscience](https://www.instagram.com/edgarrowscience) on Instagram



Year 8: Mr Burrell

This spring has been full of achievement and activity, I am delighted with the dedication so many Year 8 students have shown to their work and participation in co-curricular activities. The recent grade reports showed how many of the students are meeting our high expectations of them in lessons, and our tutors were able to present certificates to over 160 students who achieved excellent grade reports.



Live Band: Matthew Sahdev and Reggie Edwards



Eugene: Fahad Jalil

I am pleased to see so many involved in the many co-curricular activities on offer – although there is always room for more participation! As I write this, the school production has started its run to packed audiences. Students from Year 8 are on stage, behind the scenes and among the musicians making the show such a success (see pictures below). Our sports clubs are well supported by the Year 8s and I am proud to celebrate the successes of all of our sports teams.

The vast majority of the year group have taken turns to be school runners and without exception have shown a high level of maturity and sense of responsibility which is admirable. A number have also been tour guides and again have risen to this role, talking to visitors with enthusiasm and warmth about the school and proving themselves to be fantastic ambassadors for the school.

Year 8 has chosen to support the Thames Hospice as our charity, and organised a cookie decorating event during our Charity Week in February. It was good to see so many people coming to enjoy cookies and hot chocolate while raising nearly £60 for the Hospice.

Next term is the Year 8 assessment month which takes place in May. Some departments will take the opportunity to conduct assessments during lesson time and will inform the students when these will be taking place and what they need to revise. We will be discussing revision with the students and I would urge you to encourage some work at home to help the students recap and prepare for the forthcoming assessments. Developing good revision habits now will pay huge dividends in the future when students prepare for formal external exams.

Towards the end of term, the year group suffered from the saddest of news that Jude Bryan of 8V passed away. The great sadness among students and staff alike was a reflection of Jude's character and popularity. Our students have supported each other brilliantly during this time and I am incredibly proud of them. I am also hugely grateful for the support of the Year 8 tutor team who have looked after the students so diligently, while coping with their own sense of loss. We will miss him hugely, and we send our deepest condolences to his family and friends.



As always, I thank you for your support and encouragement, particularly over what has been a challenging period for the year group. I hope that the students have a restful break with family and friends over the holiday and return to us refreshed for a busy summer term.

T Burrell

Year 9: Mr Dangerfield

We are fast approaching the end of another busy term! Year 9 continues to impress me with their attitude and approach to all aspects of school life. I regularly visit them in lessons where I am delighted to see the wonderful learning environment they create. I am also regularly emailed by staff or stopped in the corridor to be told how well Year 9 are doing in their lessons.

Over this past term, Year 9 have had to make some important and, in some cases, difficult decisions about the subjects they will be studying next year. They all showed great maturity in the way they handled the process. We have now got all options forms in and Mrs Gascoigne will be working on next year's timetable over the next couple of months to confirm what subjects will be running and what options each of you have got. Unfortunately, this process does take time but I can assure you that you will have your options confirmed before the summer holidays.

The year group continue to get fully involved in a wide variety of co-curricular activities in all parts of the school. It is great to hear the results from the various sporting fixtures, even when we don't win. Both the boys' and girls' football teams have been extremely successful and it has been great to see such talent from the year group. (See pic above of our Rugby team in their new kit.) We also have some very dedicated and hardworking Year 9s who are putting their all into this year's school production of Grease (see pic below of our Year 9 T-Birds!).



Over 100 students in Year 9 have signed up for the Duke of Edinburgh's Award. They have training weekends coming up which I'm sure they are going to thoroughly enjoy. It

is also great to hear of all the volunteering our students are completing for their Award.

As a year group, we are supporting Great Ormond Street Hospital (GOSH) Charity this year. Earlier this term during Charity Week we completed a wellbeing walk to raise money. Next term we are going to be looking to collect gift donations of toys and games to send to the hospital for the seriously ill children and young people cared for at GOSH.

Finally, I would like to wish you all a wonderful Easter break. I hope you get to spend quality time with family and friends and that you stay safe and well. I look forward to another exciting term when we return on Monday 15th April, which is week A.

R Dangerfield

Year 10: Miss Kadodia

Another fantastic term for Year 10, of course, as expected! We have had numerous fixtures, trips and events for the year group and on top of all that they have had to endure their first proper round of mocks. I have the absolute pleasure of checking through the grade reports before they are sent home to parents and am blown away by the number of students who consistently meet and exceed expectations in their attitude to learning (AtL). I often find at this stage of Year 10, their AtL grade tells me far more about them as a learner than their predicted grades. Mocks are a great way to show students how exams run, and the conditions that are expected of them, which inevitably helps to relieve some anxiety before the 'real thing' in Year 11. We do have another round of mocks in June, and we will send out a timetable for the core subjects in due course.

This term students have also gone through their first-ever mock interviews. Seeing them all dressed up in their suits was lovely and I know they made an amazing impression on the volunteers kind enough to give up three days for us. These interviews should set them up well for next year (scary!) when they apply for colleges and sixth forms they are required to interview for, even Edgbarrow.

We have had some incredible successes this term from the sports field with both the girls' and boys' football teams experiencing success, to the Maths Feast where several of our students went on to represent Edgbarrow. I want to also say a huge thank you to our Sports Ambassadors who have taken on the role this year of running events for primary school pupils and also clubs for the younger years.

Over Easter, we are running our Ski Trip to the Claviere Region in Italy where over 50 of our Year 10s will be either learning to ski or perfecting their skills. I know they will be impeccably behaved and enjoy what is my favourite school trip - I am gutted to not be able to join them.

Moving into what is their last full summer term at Edgbarrow (again - scary!) we will be prepping Year 10 for their mocks, re-adjusting access arrangements and looking into what we can do to prepare them for Year 11 and life after Edgbarrow. We would be grateful if you could support them at home with building good revision habits and looking at post-16 options. But most importantly, we will continue to offer some exciting opportunities for students to develop and grow.

Y Kadodia



Year 10 Careers Assembly from Farnborough College of Technology

Year 11: Mrs McClatchie

It seems hard to believe that I am now writing about the last full term Year 11 has done at Edgbarrow, before returning after Easter to external exams starting in May. This will be the culmination of 11 years of hard work, across all key stages from starting at Reception in primary school. How time flies!

Well done to all students for the positive way they are dealing with the final few weeks of mock exams and the efforts they are making. It may appear hard when students are revising at home on their own but all the effort that is put in now will be reflected in the exam results in the summer. Keep up the good work and remember that your tutors, teachers and friends are all here to help you. There are lots of top tips for revision on students' Google classroom pages and the school website. The best bit of advice I can give at this stage is, hard work really pays off with your GCSEs and the more effort you put in, the better you will do in the summer.

We are delighted to see students involved in other activities in school. Year 11 are playing their part as senior leaders on the School Council, involved in sporting fixtures and being part of the school production. I can't wait to see so many Year 11s taking on leading roles in this year's production of *Grease* (see pics opposite).

The prom and yearbook committees have been busy meeting over the last few months and progress is being made with these two important parts of being in Year 11. Tickets for the prom will go on sale after Easter and the deadline for ordering yearbooks and hoodies is 26th April, so don't miss out!

The year group has also been advised about the post-16 options available to them and students have completed applications and interviews to Edgbarrow Sixth Form or other colleges or apprenticeships. Offers of places on courses are now being made and students should know the entry requirements that they are aiming for to be able to take up these places in the autumn.

Whilst we are very near the end of our time in Year 11, it is important to remember our standards right to the end. Please remember to wear your uniform correctly, blazers and ties are to be worn, grey or black socks please (not white) and no jewellery or trainers (unless you have a parent note).

We need to thank two groups of people for all their help and support with the students over their time here. Firstly, the tutors; Miss Khazmi, Miss Mullane, Mr Ashby, Miss Carr, Miss Knowles, Mr Fayers, Mrs Noss, Mr Singleton and Mr Jackson. We have been so lucky to have a great team of tutors. We have also had the pleasure of Mr Burges's company this year, guiding us through Year 11 and so we thank him for his efforts too. The other group to thank is you, the parents and carers, working with the students is a team effort, between school and home. It is

so much easier with your support and we thank you for all you have done and continue to do to help your sons and daughters as they move towards the end of their Key Stage 4 education. Thank you.

The Easter holiday is historically a crucial time for Year 11 students to prepare for assessments. It is essential that the students discuss with their teachers what they should be studying and I would be grateful for your support in encouraging revision. It is of course very important that they also have a break and enjoy some rest and relaxation, to ensure that they are fit and healthy when they return after the Easter holiday and the final push to the exams.

I wish you and your families a very happy Easter.

E McClatchie



Danny: Freddie Whitaker & Kenickie: Levi Mansfield



Jan: Sofia Duraes, Marty: Anwyn Howley,
Patty: Jemima Kennedy

EXAM INFORMATION

All students sitting examinations this summer should have received their exam timetable. If you have any questions, please contact examsoffice@edgbarrowschool.co.uk.

We wish you all lots of luck with your upcoming examinations, believe in yourself and all your hard work will be worth it in the end. Our team are here to support you.

Important exam information and the exam timetable is available on the [exams area](#) of the school website.

Sixth Form News

Head of Sixth Form: Mrs Hume

We are approaching the time of year when we think about the changing season and the approach of summer! This is a busy time when we look forward to warmer and sunnier days but also start to seriously prepare for the summer exam series. The Year 13 Student Leadership Team will shortly be moving on to focus on their exams and the exciting destinations that they have lined up. Also, the Year 12s will be stepping up to take on the challenges of leading in the Sixth Form as well as being role models for the rest of the school. In the next few weeks, we will begin the process of selecting the next team of student leaders. Letters of application have been submitted, and the creativity and enthusiasm shine through - all of them have some amazing ideas on how to progress our Sixth Form.

I am very proud of the immense effort being made by the Year 13s, attending priority revision sessions, sitting timed essays and mocks and preparing diligently for the exams to make sure they get the best possible outcome. I feel very proud of Year 13 and how hard they've worked and I'm sure that they will appreciate any positive support that families can provide this term. I am also delighted by the large number of students who have secured offers for excellent destinations including apprenticeships and university places.

There are still many events to plan and look forward to, including the highlight of the prom. The student leaders have done a great job organising this, booking a fantastic space at Easthampstead Park Hotel. It will be a wonderful evening to enjoy and mark an important transition (fingers crossed for some sunny warm weather). The student leaders have done an excellent job this year and should be proud of their achievements. They have run successful events including the tuck shop at sports day, the sponsored walk, and various fundraisers and they were also amazing in their confident presentations at the Sixth Form Open Evening. They are now working hard to make sure that their leavers' day is a success with an upcoming quiz night.

We have more to look forward to in the summer term including welcoming in current Year 11s for their induction days and the Year 12 enrichment days - all of which promise to build aspiration and our positive community.

Wishing all of you a peaceful Easter break.

R Hume and the Sixth Form Team



A-Level Economics trip to The Festival Of Economics



Year 12 Pink Ladies in Grease
Sandy: Isabelle Rance, Rizzo: Mia Taylor,
Frenchie: Abbie Ratcliffe



A-Level Maths students

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News Around School

'Grease' School Production



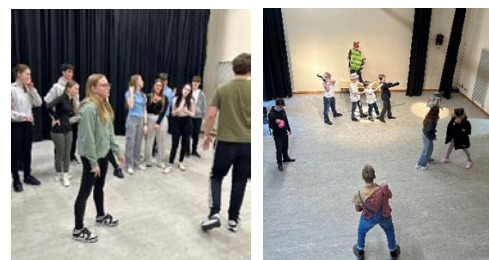
Continued from page 1... A huge well done to the fantastic cast and crew of Grease on this year's production! It has been wonderful to see the dedication and enthusiasm of the whole team and of course, hearing those iconic Grease hits playing down the Performing Arts corridors. A massive thank you goes to all the staff supporting this production including Mr Franklin, Mrs Dix, Mr Meyer, Mrs McAdam, Mr Marshall, Miss Carr, Mr Portnow, Mrs Mahmood, Mr Heaslewood, Mrs Owens, Mr Fayer, Luke Truscott and Henry Whiddett. And finally, all parents/carers who made this production possible!

We hope you have a very Happy Easter from the cast of Grease!

S McAdam, Head of Music & R Carr, Head of Drama

Drama

National Youth Theatre Auditions. On 26th February we were very excited to host a National Youth Theatre audition day. The day itself, saw students from Edgbarrow and Sandhurst School take part in a group workshop and then perform their monologue to professional actor, Si Lennon. A massive well done to those who auditioned, we were so unbelievably proud of your professionalism and dedication!



Les Misérables. We were very excited to be invited to see Wellington College's production of Les Misérables in February. Our Year 10 GCSE Drama class had a brilliant experience watching this epic musical!

Choir Performance. In January, our choir performed 'A Million Dreams' from The Greatest Showman alongside students from the rest of the Trust. It was a fantastic performance and we were so proud to have been part of the Corvus inset day finale. Well done to the choir!

Thank you! A massive thank you to the Crowthorne Amateur Theatrical Society for their kind donation to the Drama Department this term!



Return of Drama Club. The summer term will see the return of Key Stage 3 Drama Club. This will run after school on Thursdays in the drama studio with Mr Franklin and is open to Years 7 and 8. Please come along if you enjoy drama games, improvisation and creating theatre.



Drama Stars. We are very proud to recognise and celebrate several drama stars since the start of this year. Congratulations to the following students:

Harry Riley, Nathaniel Mansell, Katie Thomas, Tilly Gillings, Lottie Osborn, Sophie Davies, Sullivan Doran, Ben Dally, Ben McGill, Matthew Wright, Izzy Blackman, Jessica Robins, Abi Griffin, Jonathan Williams, Tom Forrester, Alex Pike, Anikith Kapoor, Vanessa Csaki.

My huge thanks to all the students, staff, parents and carers who have helped support the department over the past term. I hope you all have a lovely Easter!

R Carr, Head of Drama

PE Department

Football

U12 Boys

The Year 7s have made an amazing start to their first football season at Edgbarrow. They won their first game against Charters 10-0 with Sonny Gooch winning Man of the Match after some great goals. The second game saw them beating Blue Coat on penalties after Harry Croxford kept us in it at 5-5! The boys then beat Sandhurst convincingly away, following this up with a 5-0 win at LVS with some quality football, Hugh Chard won Man of the Match with his consistent efforts. Unfortunately, this week the boys lost 2-1 to Bohunt, knocking them out of the cup. We still have the league to win and the league finals, so fingers crossed for some success with our very strong team. The B teams have also had success this term with both teams winning their tournament leagues to face each other in the final at Sandhurst. Both teams were fantastic with Edgbarrow winning in the end.

U16 Boys

The U16s are currently in the Berkshire Schools Cup semi-final. So far this year they have not conceded a goal and are extremely talented and optimistic to progress further and look to win their league. On another note, they were fantastic at their GCSE moderation day and represented the school with tremendous pride and a solid work ethic.

T Fisher

U12 Girls

Football season really has hit Edgbarrow with over 50 girls regularly attending club after school. The Year 7s only had four teams in their league this year with one school dropping out. We started with a fantastic win against Kings, winning 3-0. Maisie Harris getting a brace and Eva Rose Riddell scoring to make the third. We were held to a balanced 1-1 draw with Easthampstead Park, with Eva Rose again ensuring we came away with a point. Our last game was a very physical game against a strong Sandhurst squad. We lost 2-0, but definitely played the more technical football, even the girls came off the pitch saying that was the best they'd played and I had to agree. Our squad of about 25 girls is just fantastic, we have a range of physicality, Messi-like finesse and excellent team cohesion. I am so excited about where this squad can grow over the next few years.

J Madz

GoPerform Trip

We took 20 Sport and Exercise Science students to Reading's GoPerform Fitness and Rehab Facility (see photos above). Our students were fortunate enough to take part in some power, speed and strength testing. They also had first-hand experience using the Zero Gravity Pod, which is used as part of the rehabilitation process for serious joint injuries. This was a great day to support the learning of our excellent Sport and Exercise Science Level 3 Course. Thank you to GoPerform for hosting us.

J Madz

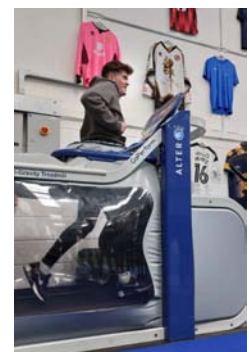
U14 Girls

The U14 girls have had a strong start to the season in both the league and cup. They have had two impressive wins of 4-0 and 5-3 and a close 2-2 draw. At the time of writing this, they are due to play in the next round of the cup next week. Special mentions must go to the top goal scorers Hannah Hadley and Emmy Kay who have been formidable in the midfield and up front. With 7 goals and an assist between them, they have been at the forefront of the team's success. In defence, Gracie Mooney, Sophie Cook and Sophie Snow have been dominant, playing with no fear and always working hard to avoid the ball getting to Lily Plumtree in goal. Lily has continued to shine in goal and has saved some phenomenal shots from entering the net this season. There are too many names to list them all but we want to say a huge well done to all the U14 girls (25 in total) who have attended training this week and represented the school in our fixtures!

U15 Girls

The U15s have had another strong start to the season with three wins in the league against Easthampstead Park (3-0), Garth (3-0) and Kings (5-1). Unfortunately, a loss against Piggott means that their cup run came to an early end. A consistent squad of 14 has meant the girls have developed as a group and can play to each other's strengths. Goal scorers this season have included Maia Hennessey, Emily Davies, Isobel Fowler, Grace Blood and Alice Kay. The defence have all worked incredibly hard with few players ever getting passed them. Special mentions to Lily Crossland, Robyn Stillingfleet and Beth Wester who have been stand out. Emily Pottie has also had another fantastic start to the season in goal with some miraculous saves and week in and week out is developing some fantastic kicks to set the team up well. You are a fabulous team that we love taking to games. Keep bringing the energy and fun as we near the end of the season!

C Mills



#LetGirlsPlay Biggest Football Session



Edgbarrow's Biggest Football Session branded #LetGirlsPlay took place at Edgbarrow on 5th March and we were delighted that over 160 students turned up in a variety of different football shirts to play football. Even some staff got involved. We're grateful to ex-Edgbarrow student Harvey Collins from Reading FC, and Brooke Hendrix and Jackie Burns from Reading Women's FC who came along to help run the session and take a Q&A from students. England Football has been working with the Girls' Football School Partnership to launch this campaign and we are proud to be supporting the development of girls' football by having a huge turnout for this event at Edgbarrow.

Three years ago we struggled to field one girls' football team to represent Edgbarrow. We now have three teams filled with 80 plus girls representing the school, and thanks to the kind generosity of our local community we have fantastic new football kits matching the excellent level of football developing here in school. Thank you to everyone who supported this event. It really was Edgbarrow and the community at its best!

J Madz



Indoor Athletics

The sports hall athletics was a fantastic event that saw 16 students represent the school against other schools in our county. They were a credit to themselves and the school came fourth overall. They have a brilliant attitude and were a delight throughout the day. They all enjoyed the day and took great experience in the teamwork and the work rate that the day demanded.

J Ashby

Sports Ambassadors

The Sports Ambassadors have been amazing this term helping to run county badminton events. The first event was the 'Smash Badminton' competition for Key Stage 2 pupils from Bracknell Forest primary schools, involving multiple badminton-based games in a competitive format. The ambassadors turned up looking very smart in their new tops and did a fantastic job explaining the rules to the groups and umpiring the games. The second event was the Year 5 badminton tournament at Bracknell Leisure Centre, where the ambassadors had to learn the rules and how to umpire, and then using this knowledge to officiate the games. They were very professional and confident in their decisions, allowing the teachers from the schools to focus on organising their teams.

Everyone who has been in contact with the group has been so impressed with their attitudes and motivation, and they have been a real asset to the PE department and school. We have a couple more events to help with during the summer, so keep up the good work!

T Fisher



Pickleball



We have been trialling out the fastest-growing American sport this term. The teachers are hooked and the students are beginning to see what the fuss is all about. Pickleball can only be described as a combination of badminton, tennis and table tennis. Pickleball4all have come in and delivered sessions to half of our Key Stage 3 students and plan on completing the rest in the coming weeks. Taster sessions led by the PE department have been optional for Key Stage 4 and the uptake has been really positive. Details have gone out via social media and letters to parents/carers for our after-school clubs next term. Please visit the [co-curricular page](#) on our website for further details.

O Johnson

Philosophy, Ethics & Religion

We are delighted that the Philosophy, Ethics and Religion course is moving to become a core GCSE subject at Edgbarrow from September 2024. This means our current Year 7 and 8, as well as future students will have the opportunity to take GCSE in Philosophy, Ethics and Religion. Students will start studying towards their GCSE at the start of Year 9 and will take their exam in May of Year 10. This means students will get the benefit of revising for a single exam and honing their revision skills in preparation for further exams in Year 11. Philosophy, Ethics and Religion is a highly academic subject, which will allow students to practice their skills of analysis, evaluation and problem-solving as well as provide a brilliant opportunity to engage with key cultural, social, ethical and spiritual issues. We look forward to welcoming and supporting current Year 8 students onto their GCSE course next academic year.

On Monday 19th February, the Philosophy, Ethics and Religion department was delighted to receive a visitor from the 'Society of Friends', otherwise known as 'Quakers'. Naomi Illif, from the Reading Quaker community, presented to 40 Year 10 students on what religion means to her; most notably mentioning the differences between Quaker worship and that of other traditional Christian denominations. Topics varied widely from the 'Nature of God' to 'the appropriateness of forgiveness'. Students behaved brilliantly, listened attentively and asked some fantastic questions, balancing at times on the tightrope of critical questioning while still behaving respectfully at all times.



On Friday 15th March, our Year 7 HAT (Highest Ability and Talented) students got the opportunity to take part in a mindfulness experience, led by Mr Marshall. Students were able to engage in critical reflection on what it means to 'be present in the here and now.' The Tea Ceremony is a Zen Buddhist meditation technique that is practised in order to think deeply about the meaning of life and how best to live it. It is usually a shared experience between people discussing the Buddha's teachings and drinking tea. A part of the ceremony involves the host consciously reflecting on the art of making tea, of living in and focusing on the present moment. The shared experience of drinking tea and discussing is valued in Buddhism as a way to practice mindfulness. The Tea Ceremony is a reminder that even the most mundane activities can become useful ways of meditating, reflecting and living life in the present moment without worrying about the past or future.

The Philosophy, Ethics and Religion department would like to thank Mr Marshall and Mr Birch, the HAT co-ordinator, for allowing our students to experience and participate in the session and hope the Year 7 students enjoyed themselves. Please take a minute to reflect on the Buddhist teaching (see image above).

C Hinz, Head of Philosophy, Ethics & Religion

Business & Economics

Why it's not just about the numbers!

On Wednesday 24th January, Andy Penfold, Business Development Manager for PKB Accountants Limited hosted a talk and Q&A about the realities of decision making in finance to a group of our Year 12 and 13 Business students. He looked at the tensions between short-term and long-term decision-making, revenue vs costs and the extent to which firms have to look beyond the numbers alone. Using some real-world case studies, he helped the student's development of critical thinking about financial tools. He was an engaging and charismatic speaker.



Andy is a former Edgbarrow student, he has been working with PKB Accountants since leaving school (about 40 years ago) and was their first ever Junior Accounts Clerk. Andy works with SME clients who have been known to refer to him as "the fifth emergency service" due to his experience in helping and advising this client group. His role is varied from accounting and auditing to teaching bookkeeping. Andy is particularly customer-focused and enjoys helping his clients succeed. Away from the office, Andy enjoys a

spot of running, coaching youth football, playing football, golf, gym, military history and drumming (he is an ageing rocker!)

Essay Writing Workshop. Two of our Year 12 Economists, Henry Pollard and Ben Howard, secured a place on the Essay Writing Workshops with the Institute for Economic Affairs over February Half Term! They attended two workshops at the Institute of Economic Affairs in Westminster, led by Dr. Stephen Davies (Head of Education at the IEA) and Peter Brookes, to develop Oxbridge-style essay writing skills.

Festival of Economics. Last term, our Year 12 and Year 13 Economists attended The Festival of Economics in Bristol which involved a series of lectures from key-note speakers from the University of Cambridge, London School of Economics as well as one of the Senior Economists from the Bank of England Monetary Policy Committee. These series of lectures and panel discussions are applying theoretical models to life in their application to our most recent economic challenges with high inflation and the cost-of-living crisis, rising interest rates, food poverty and the future of food security in the UK. [See pic on page 8.](#)

R Heffernan, Head of Business

English

Edgbarrow School Reads!



All students in Years 7, 8 and 9 continue to use the Accelerated Reader programme to help boost their reading. Students have engaged well with the programme and since October nearly 450 students have taken over 1000 quizzes on books they have read - this is a total of over 57 million words read so far.

There are over 120 members of the 100% Club for students who have achieved 100% in a quiz since October. These students have been awarded a 100% Club bookmark. Members of the 100% Club can find their names on the Accelerated Reader noticeboard in the English corridor.

Special mention must go to our Millionaire Word readers:

Eloise Hornsby 7P, Bella Falconi 7Q, Alexia Petri 7R, Maisie Harris 7U, Adam Mackie 8P and Tobi Kilvington 9R.

We strongly encourage students to read for pleasure every day and students should choose a book within their ZPD band and complete a quiz as soon as they have finished reading it. Books can be chosen during their fortnightly library lesson and the library is also open every day at break and lunch.

The link for Accelerated Reader is on the English department Google classrooms or is also available [here](#).

C Grey, English Department

English Literature

Our English Literature students from Years 11-13 attended a West End Theatre to see 'The Motive and the Cue'. It was a wonderful experience for all!



Library

Happy Easter! It has seemed a fairly short but busy term. World Book Day always keeps us busy and this year was no different. We provided form tutors with a book quiz for all Key Stage 3 and Key Stage 4 students - I think we will need to make that a bit harder next year as they were all really good at it! Both librarians dressed up for World Book Day, (see opposite) we were Abraxos from the Throne of Glass series and a Survey Guard from Attack on Titan - we were thrilled that some students actually knew who we were!



We asked teachers to tell us their favourite books and made mini versions for them to wear on their lanyards on World Book Day. This hopefully facilitated lots of chances to talk about books with students. We also held our annual secondhand 10p book sale in the library at lunchtime which is always very busy. At the same time, we ran a couple of competitions - to guess the book in the jar and to guess how many words are in Roald Dahl's Matilda (it is 40,009). Well done to our winners and well done to those clever students who figured out the series of the book in the jar and hunted through the books on the shelves to narrow down their guesses!

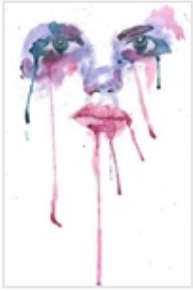


Also, this term we had the author Seth Burkett return to run a Writers' Workshop with some of our keen writers. This was an excellent session with Seth telling the students about his writing journey and giving them prompts to get them thinking about how they write and construct their own stories. We are hoping to offer this to more students soon.

Overall, a busy but fun spring term. Here's to a sun-filled summer - hopefully!!

N Mansfield, Library

Art & Photography



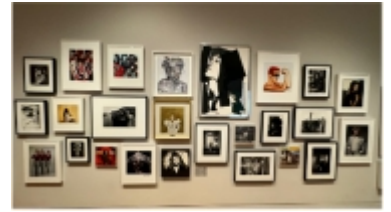
Our department is very busy with practical lessons this spring term. Year 7 has been concentrating on ceramics, making ocean-themed pots. Year 8 students, looking at pop art, are producing poly tile prints of food items. The Year 9 students are looking at portraiture inspired by various different artists.

Year 10 GCSE artists have finished their first project on Flora and Fauna, whilst Year 10 GCSE photographers have submitted their Shape and Form project. Both Year 11 artists and photographers have started their exam project and are producing some lovely initial work.

In February, Sixth Form artists, photographers and language students enjoyed a very successful visit to Barcelona. This was relevant to their coursework and exam development.



Our A-Level artists have just visited the National Gallery and National Portrait Gallery in London to see artwork up close and personal. This is a requirement from the exam board and really helps inspire them.



Our Art Club students have been looking at birds and have produced some very lovely ceramic wall art and illustrations.



A Jackson, Art & Photography

Languages



In March, we took 27 Year 10 Spanish students to Malaga, Spain. The students enjoyed visiting the Alcazaba Fortress and the Castle, whilst learning about the intricate architecture of the Islamic Empire in Spain. They put their language skills to the test by asking questions at the tourist office, conversing with market sellers and interviewing locals. These activities gave them the confidence to use their transactional language in the shops and in the hostel where we stayed, from asking the cost of items to reporting a problem with the room!

Malaga is a beautiful small city in the south of Spain that boasts sunshine all year round... apart from during our trip! Our students were not deterred by the rain, however, and made the most of their time in Spain trying the food and enjoying the culture. A highlight of the trip was a flamenco show, which was incredible to watch and showed our students the cultural heritage of Andalucía. ¡Fue un fin de semana fantástico!

A Petri, Modern Foreign Languages



Maths

Maths Feast



On Wednesday 6th March, Edgbarrow hosted the Year 10 Maths Feast on behalf of the AMSP (Advanced Maths Support Programme). This is a maths competition made up of four different rounds of challenges. This year 15 teams from eight different schools took part. We had

two teams representing Edgbarrow made up of the following Year 10 students: Louis Wright, Scarlett Futhee, Jess Lewis, Christy Yeung, Alice Dyer, Martha Reaney, Freyja Walker and Lily Carter.

Round 1 was based on TV games such as Only Connect, House of Games and The 1% Club. Round 2 was the classic Cross Number, albeit with some challenging questions! Round 3, 'The Maths-Hatters' was getting the students to think about arrangements and combinations of hats where they had to apply various rules. Round 4 was called Cubes and Rhombic Dodecahedra. This involved origami-style building of a cube and a rhombic dodecahedron and then answering questions about them.

First place was won by a team from Kendrick School with a very impressive score of 96, second place was the team from St Mary's with a score of 90 and third place was a team from Ranelagh with a score of 89. Whilst our teams were not in the top three overall, we did manage to come second and third in some of the rounds of the challenge. It was lovely to see the students discussing maths and enjoying solving problems and working together as a team.

D Holloway, Head of Maths



Intermediate Maths Challenge

On Wednesday 31st January, over 200 students sat the UKMT Intermediate Maths Challenge paper. The challenging problems required students to be flexible with their strategies. The students did an amazing job once again with lots of certificates were awarded. **M Meyer, Maths**

	YEAR 9	YEAR 10	YEAR 11
GOLD	David Colpos	Logie Barr Bethan Carter Joe Finucane Jessica Lewis	Bryan Kan Kelvin Brown Luke Cumming Keziah Trainer Nearchos Kompis Luis Celis
SILVER	Isabel Dixon David Ellington Thomas Bridges George Maynard Tomer Merzer Nathan Park-Hodge	Alexander Rynhoud Christy Yeung Cameron Mietle Alice Dyer Scarlett Futhee Emily Davies Max Gillings Freyja Walker	Charles Delwiche Timothy Brennan Oliver Brownhill Yugandhar Dandekar Freddie Whitaker Harriet Smith Priyanka Raj Finley Adams Erin Taylor Emre Yusuf Alfie Hadley-Tippett Benjamin Walker Lewis Beasley Beatrice Roberts Lucas Curry Kristian Mietle
BRONZE	Ella Aspinall Harry Johnson Tristan Pert Harriet Blake Joshua Nunn Sofia Samara Finnian Walsh Logan Muttitt Tyler Beasley Georgina Kontopanos Keren Trainer	Adam Kim Lilia Fripp Samika Joshi Sophia Sebire Charley Blaser Lilia Mott Finlay Muggridge Yariv Gelbolingo Martha Reaney Anthony Nawala Lily Crossland Charlotte Harris Thomas Jennings Alice Kay Emily Pottie Miles Miller Michaela Appleby Alfred Ash Theodore Mbogo Diya Sharma	Rosie Chapman Roy Jarvis Daniel Joyce Isabel Flower James Ray Harriet Townend Toby Wolfenden Oscar Remedios Matilda Stafford Isabelle Hennessey Katherine Nance Chloe Mollett Kamran Euesden Daniel Snow Nicolas Wheeler-Silva Isobel Hardman Anton Sutton

Year 13 Maths students were recently given the opportunity to see if their maths works in real life! They had a practical session where they could apply their mechanics knowledge to different experiments to see if the theory matched the reality. See photos opposite.

R Knowles, Maths

Careers & Work-Related Learning

National Apprenticeship Week 5th - 9th February. This term we have had a range of activities taking place for students during National Apprenticeship Week. Students and parents/carers can visit the following website <https://naw.appawards.co.uk/> to search for information on apprenticeships.

National Careers Week 4th - 8th March. We were lucky to have a range of external speakers in school including BP, British Airways, TRL and Farnborough College of Technology. Links to the presentations can be found in the [careers area](#) on the school website.



Our annual Careers Convention took place on 7th March and we welcomed over 50 exhibitors on the night (see pics above). Despite the roadworks, we were delighted to have a great turnout again and welcomed a number of new exhibitors. We are always looking to increase the range of sectors covered and managed to secure some new companies via advertisements on social media. We also trialled signing in for students, parents and carers via a QR code which meant no one having to queue for entry. Thank you to all of you who attended, we know that the students will have found it a worthwhile experience and will have supported them with their careers exploration and option choices going forward. Please see below for some comments from the exhibitors on the night:

"I just wanted to thank you for inviting me to your Careers Fair. It was an excellent event and your students were brilliantly engaged and discerning about their future pathways."

University of Hertfordshire

"It was a great success with lots of engagement from the students."

Dr Michael Pim DC, Health and Wellness Centre, Crowthorne

Careers Guidance Appointments. We have almost finished offering all Year 11s a careers guidance appointment. After the Easter break, we will start to offer Year 10 students an appointment, these will be offered to those who we feel need more guidance when choosing their options post-16, they will then also receive a further appointment during Year 11.

Year 10 Mock Interviews - 19th 20th and 21st March. All Year 10s will have been offered the opportunity to participate in a mock interview with a member of the local business community. Students will have prepared a CV in advance and will be interviewed for either a sixth form or college place or an apprenticeship. They will also receive a feedback sheet with some key pointers on what went well, what they can do to improve for next time as well as comments on how to improve their CVs going forward. All this will put them in good stead for any future interviews.

Year 10 Work Shadowing - 17th & 18th July. Can we remind students and parents/carers of Year 10s not on the Trenches Trip that the deadline for completing the paperwork for work shadowing is Monday 25th March. To remind you there are two forms to be completed electronically, by the employer and a parent/carer. Can we also remind you that a lot of the insurance policies expire around this time so please provide up-to-date insurance information when available. If anyone needs additional information or support, please contact us via the dedicated email address Yr10WorkExperience@edgbarrowschool.co.uk. Thank you to those who have already completed the paperwork.

Investor in Careers Quality Standard - please complete our survey. As part of our reassessment for this award we are inviting feedback from parents/carers on our careers programme offered in school. Please use the QR code opposite or [click here](#) to complete the survey. The award lasts for three years and during that time the school has to provide evidence of continued development, and then every third year we have a full reassessment. Please visit the [careers area](#) on our website for further information on our careers programme.



K Robinson, Careers Manager

Attendance & Absence

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



Don't forget to check ClassCharts for 100% Attendance 'Badges' and Edgpoints!

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

Reminders

From First Aid

The Importance of Eating at School

It sounds obvious to make sure you eat during the school day but here are a few reminders as to why it is so important:



- Gives you energy
- Helps with your concentration
- Supports your growth and development
- Helps keep your complexion clear if you are eating a sensible and balanced diet

So please remember to:

- Eat five fruit and vegetables a day
- Eat your breakfast
- Drink water

Please see the link below for more advice:

[Health For Teens | Everything you need to know about health](#)



K Benn, Lead First Aider

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.

Discount for Edgbarrow families: Adults can purchase Child tickets.

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.



Term Dates

2023/24

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	<i>Monday 22nd & Tuesday 23rd July</i>
May Bank Holiday	Monday 6 th May

2024/25

Autumn Term 2024	
Staff Inset Days	<i>Monday 2nd, Tuesday 3rd September and Friday 29th November</i>
Start of Term	Wednesday 4 th September
Half Term	Monday 28 th October to Friday 1 st November
Last Day of Term	Friday 20 th December (school closes at 12:05pm)
Spring Term 2025	
Start of Term	Monday 6 th January
Half Term	Monday 17 th February to Friday 21 st February
Last Day of Term	Friday 4 th April (school closes at 12.05pm)
Bank Holiday	Wednesday 1 st January, Friday 18 th April & Monday 21 st April
Summer Term 2025	
Start of Term	Monday 22 nd April
Half Term	Monday 26 th May to Friday 30 th May
Last Day of Term	Friday 18 th July (school closes at 12.05pm)
Staff Inset Day	<i>Monday 21st & Tuesday 22nd July</i>
May Bank Holiday	Monday 5 th May

Term dates can 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/

Noticeboard

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**.