

AUTUMN TERM

Senior Leadership Message

This edition: Ms Kichenside, Assistant Headteacher

As we move further into the new academic year, it has been wonderful to see our school community come together for a range of important events and opportunities. Thank you to all parents, carers and students for your continued support.

Information Evenings for Year 10 and Year 12

This week, we were delighted to welcome parents and carers to our **Year 10 and Year 12 Information Evenings**. These events provided an opportunity to share key information about the year ahead, outline expectations, and explain how we will work together to ensure every student achieves their full potential. We appreciate the excellent attendance and look forward to a successful year with both cohorts.

Year 7 Meet the Tutor Evening

A reminder that our **Year 7 Meet the Tutor Evening** will take place on **Wednesday 23rd September** when parents and carers of our newest students can meet their child's tutor and strengthen the vital partnership between home and school. We look forward to welcoming you.

Sixth Form Open Evening

Please save the date for our **Sixth Form Open Evening on Thursday 8th October**. This is a fantastic opportunity to showcase all that Barnhill has to offer and to celebrate the outstanding results that place our Sixth Form firmly within the **top quarter of sixth forms nationally**. We encourage prospective students and their families to come along and discover why so many young people choose Barnhill for the next stage of their educational journey.

A Super Start for Year 12

Our current **Year 12 students** have made an exceptional start to life in the Sixth Form. They have settled quickly into their studies, embraced the challenges of their new subjects and, perhaps most impressively, have volunteered their support on countless occasions. Their willingness to help others reflects the strong sense of community that exists at Barnhill.

We are immensely proud that our Year 12 students embody one of the qualities that makes Barnhill such a special place to learn and work: a genuine commitment to supporting one another. This community-minded spirit is regularly highlighted by the many visitors who come through our doors and is a defining characteristic of our school. Long may it continue.

Key Dates

Parent Information Evenings

- Y8 & Y9 – Next Tuesday 22nd September (please note this date changed from October)
- Y7 – Meet the Tutor – Wednesday 23rd September
- Y11 – Wednesday 30th September

A moment of reflection

Each Thursday morning during form time, we have a moment of reflection where a poem, extract or inspirational quote is shared throughout school on our tannoy system and students and staff stop to listen.

The 'Burgundy' Dot*

Look at this school.

To the world, it is one building, in one community, filled each day with ordinary moments.

But to the children who come through its doors, it can be something far greater.

Here, confidence can begin. A talent can be discovered. A future can change direction. A child can come to understand that their circumstances do not have to define their destination.

Every lesson taught, every standard upheld, every conversation in a corridor, every moment of patience, challenge or encouragement becomes part of the story a young person tells themselves about who they are — and who they might become.

That is the extraordinary responsibility of working in a school.

For a few precious years, their lives pass through our hands.

We cannot know which lesson they will remember, which kindness will stay with them, or which teacher will make them believe that something previously unimaginable is possible.

But we do know this:

What we do here matters.

A school may occupy only a tiny place in the world.

But, done well, it can open the whole world to a child.

**Title adapted from a book, 'Pale Blue Dot' written by Carl Sagan on humanity's small but precious place in the universe named after the photograph of Earth taken from 6 billion kilometres away depicting our planet as a tiny pixel in the wider cosmos)*