

03 October 2025

Dear Parents / Carers,

We have had a very busy week at Barnwood Park, but one that has been most enjoyable. Student helpers have been fantastic in showcasing our school through tours for prospective parents. On Thursday, we had our Open Evening - please see the pictures below! Once again, our students were brilliant in explaining what school life is all about, and a big thanks to our staff for all their work in making our school feel so alive and full of energy - which they do each and every day.

Thanks to Mr Bevan for his update on P.E. last week. This week, it is the turn of our English department to be under the spotlight. Mrs Fitzgerald-Johnson summarises what the English department has been up to below:

I can't believe we're already halfway through this term, and what a brilliant start to the new academic year it's been. Students in both Key Stages 3 and 4 have completely immersed themselves in their English lessons and the entire English team have been thoroughly impressed by the quality of answers given in discussions, which have demonstrated really deep thinking about the topics being studied. We have also been really proud of the respect and thoughtfulness shown by students when dealing with some sensitive topics.

This term Year 7 have been learning all about Origin stories and making sense of our beginnings, Year 8 have thrown themselves into Gothic fiction, considering how we deal with our fears of losing the things we love whilst Year 9 are enjoying reading 'Journey's End' whilst exploring our conflicts with ourselves and one another. Meanwhile, Key Stage 4 students are well into their GCSE English Studies, either reading their set texts for the first time in Year 10 or revisiting and revising in Year 11 ahead of the upcoming pre-public exams.

On Thursday 2nd October, we also celebrated National Poetry Day. Mr Mountain ran a competition across the school, inviting poems to be submitted all about the theme of play. The quality of the entries was incredible and at Key Stage 4, just 1 vote separated the winning, runner-up and highly commended entries. All of our shortlisted entries have also been published in the 2025 Barnwood Poetry Competition Anthology. We'd like to thank everyone who took the time to enter a poem they'd written. And a huge congratulations to the winners:

<p>KS4 Winner: Alissa 11R KS4 Runner up: Betsy 11S</p> <p><u>KS4 Highly commended:</u> Isobel 11R</p> <p>KS3 Winner: Greatness 7A KS3 Runner up: Azale 7R KS3 Runner up: Lily 7A</p>	<p><u>KS3 Highly commended:</u> Adesuwa 9S Bella 7R Maria 7D Eleanor 7A Max 7D</p>
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Mr M Preston, Headteacher of Barnwood Park School

Barnwood Park School St Lawrence Road Barnwood Gloucester GL4 3QU
Tel: 01452 530389 | Email: admin@barnwoodpark.co.uk | Website: www.barnwoodpark.co.uk

Year 7

100% attendance prize: Jessica Afolabi

Star of the week: Isaac Mason

Name	Positive Points (previous week)
Chloe Jeffries	10
Frankie-Leigh Miles	8
Wyatt Paddy	7
Kammai Grant	7
Mina Connolly	7

Year 8

100% attendance prize: Kai Bugden

Star of the week: Gregory Johnson

Name	Positive Points (previous week)
Lamin Bah	7
Gregory Johnson	6
Maisie Ladbroke	5
Jaxon Turner	4
Denver Montgomery	4

Year 9

100% attendance prize: Rhys Thomas

Star of the week: Jaidon Ladbroke

Name	Positive Points (previous week)
Lilly Bee	8
Oscar Lewis	7
Kai Allen	6
Khian-James Summers	6
Brianna Burrows	5

Year 10

100% attendance prize: Connor Chandler

Star of the week: Elizabeth Florea

Name	Positive Points (previous week)
Joey Edwards	10
Kayan Ali	9
Jayden Ryan-Godwin	9
Aarav Thatikonda	8
Lily Smith	8

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Year 11

100% attendance prize: Mako Muchandibaya

Star of the week: Leo Birch

Name	Positive Points (previous week)
Charlie Davis	11
Leo Birch	10
Emilia Ellis	9
Evan Sheppard	9
Heidi James	9

Have a great weekend.

Yours sincerely

M. Preston

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