

The Barney

Friday, 25th November 2016

Bulletin





A Weekly Word from the Heads of School

This week has been one full of singing and dancing. The musical, *The Addams Family*, has performed to hundreds of students and parents. We would like to say a huge thank you to all those who were involved in the production and execution of the play, not to mention the tireless work of Mr Edwards in his role as Uncle Fester, who, even with a back injury, continued to perform to the

crowds!

Adding to the festivities, the Sixth Form are going to enjoy a Masquerade Ball Formal. Set up by the Sixth Form Social Committee, it should be a night to remember as we eat and dance together as a Sixth Form.

Yet this week has not all been about festivities, on Thursday we, as a school, recognised our new School Peer Support members. These people work tirelessly to make sure that, confidentially, people can share their problems to a listening ear. Barney is a calm place and we believe that we have created a truly happy environment for people to grow and develop into adults and in the stress of everyday life it's nice for us to have a person to talk to. This week we have been calm and relaxed as the excitement of the musical has swept through the school, but even through our excitement we have not forgotten those that need our help and the people at Barney who work to help them.

Alex Booth and Salma Ali

The Addams Family



The Addams Family, this year's musical, has played to a full house every night this week and has brought the house down with its polish, musicality and humour. With star performances from Rohan Kelsall playing Gomez Addams, Genevieve Myhan playing Morticia Addams and Rachel Elphick playing Wednesday. First class performances also came from Esia Forsyth, Salma Ali, Ben Edwards, Mr Edwards, Sam Farquhar, James McGauley and Lexy Dalton. Many other members of the school were in the chorus playing Ancestors. The musical was under the excellent direction of Mr Edwards who moulded a characteristic and hilarious performance in a very short period of time. Thank you to the tech crew for their assistance in the production, to the kitchen staff for providing refreshments in the interval and to the band for providing the very high quality accompaniment for the excellent singing.

Nicholas Mackay and Nathan Barker





Fell Running

Last Thursday night, we braved the wintry conditions and headed up above the snow line to the moorland beyond Egglestone. Will Carter, Mr Forsyth and I headed up the steep ascent to Nemour Hill, and then made our way through the deep, snow-covered heather to see if we could find the trig point. Luckily, just before the light completely faded, Will spotted the point, despite it being covered in snow! After a quick customary trig point photo, we made our way across the moor and cautiously headed down the steep and slippy track. We returned to the car with bones intact, and made our way home to warm up and look forward to our next outing!

Tom Matthews

Music Exams

A whole series of LCM examinations took place today in the music school, beginning early in the morning at 9. Musicians from a wide range of ages and instruments performed their pieces and played their scales to achieve various grades, ranging from 1-8. Not only did students from Barnard Castle take the exams, but other candidates came from the surrounding area too. Despite initial anxieties from most candidates, everyone came out smiling, and happy with their work in the exam hall. There is no doubt that each of the hard working musicians will achieve their target marks!

Michael Liu



Congratulations
to Lauren Wilson,
Year 10, who has
won the Bowes Christmas
Bauble Competition with
her wonderful silver swan!

[Picture to follow when it is displayed on the tree]

Rugby/Hockey Tour Fundraising

We are collecting old clothing, bedding, curtains etc. to fund raise for the Rugby and Hockey tour and the Sri Lanka trip next summer.

If you are having a pre-Christmas sort-out, we would be most grateful if you could bring your unwanted items into school. Please deliver in dustbins bags, or you can pick up 'Bags 2 School' bags from General Office.

Year 9 have been studying Ray Bradbury's Fahrenheit 451 this term, and have produced their own dystopian short stories. In the novel, firefighters carry kerosene instead of water, and their job is to START fires with books, which have been banned. Having looked at censorship as well as other dystopian novels, they were set the task of creating their own nightmare world. To add to the task, they also included elements of horror writing, which resulted in some exceedingly gory, creepy and frightening reading for Mrs Beaty!



The Economics Department and iNews explain what BREXIT might be like



"Thanks for asking, I'd like a Brussels Sling please...you know, the cocktail that has a complex and heady mix of ingredients, takes over two years to shake and stir up and then leaves everyone in the club with a hangover...because the sling part involves the UK slinging its hook"

Pro-Brexit demonstrators are calling on the British government to invoke article 50 immediately. Five years ago, there was no such word as Brexit. Now it comes in hundreds of varieties. Will Brexit be dirty or will it be clean? Will it be bumpy or stupid or green? It's not clear yet – but it hasn't stopped a plethora of adjectives being speculatively attached to Brexit, a word which is definitely here to stay.

Avoid finding your foot in your mouth when exchanging banter with Nigel Farage who drops references to "dirty, automatic Brexit" down at his local pub. Use this handy guide to the options (and pipe dreams) in play so far.

Automatic Brexit

You may have voted Brexit, but the result of a non-binding referendum doesn't necessarily mean Britain will leave. However, once Article 50 is triggered, things get serious. The process is set in motion. Two years after March 2017, if Theresa May keeps to her word, Britain will out. That's the neutral view of automatic Brexit.

The forehead and neck throbbing high blood pressure version, on the other hand, underlines the fact that Brexit will happen in March 2019 even without a deal. No single market, no future plans, no Swiss, Norwegian or Canadian model. Just exit. The automatic doors of the EU open and – whoosh – close and we're out. Pass the statins please or any of the drugs that Rio forgot to test for.

Madame Guillotine and a Bloody Brexit.

This is most often used in reference to the dastardly French, who want Britain to face "consequences" for leaving the euro party just when it was getting going. Among the necks under the guillotine for the French are the City of London's right to do business easily in euros and investment in major projects like Hinkley Point. But above all, the French President, Francois Hollande, wants to make sure no one else in the EU gets any ideas. Brexit can't look like a template for other nations. So we should be punished. Zut Alors!

Clean Brexit

A process where everyone knows what's going to happen and when, advocated for by former Chancellor Norman Lamont. This would allow both sides to make plans for after March 2019. However given the lack of clarity on the British side and the tough talk on the EU side, not especially likely. But stranger things have happened, simply ask any American.

Dirty Brexit

Not as much fun as it sounds, sadly. European officials have been instructed to prepare for a "dirty Brexit" according to Politico – a situation where, after two years of negotiations triggered by Article 50, there's still no clear divorce agreement. This is "automatic Brexit", but with the added implication that relations are tense, hardline and complicated. Despite negotiations, talks and back and forth, it's all a bit of a mess. Lots of scrapping, so roll your sleeves up and re-enact a recent disagreement between UKIP member to see how this feels.

Fair Brexit (Let's keep the fair flag flying here...!) Like Brexit but with rose tints of added socialism, this is John McDonnell's dream for the future. It's not clear where the socialism is going to come from given that a right-wing Conservative government is going to be negotiating with a 27-nation headed bureaucratic monster. But Labour's shadow Chancellor nonetheless wants jobs protected, the TTIP trade deal scrapped and EU-based workers' rights (also known as red tape) kept in place. We'll see, well we'll see if hell freezes over!

Flexible Brexit

This is the Scotland one, where Nicola Sturgeon gets some kind of special deal to stay in the EU or to leave the UK or to keep the UK in the EU or something else that's favourable to Scotland. North of the border, it's a strategy. South of it, it's wishful thinking at best.

Goldilocks Brexit

Not too hot for us to handle and not too left out in the cold to give us a chill. William Hague thinks his "Goldilocks" plan will stop us all fighting and just focus on the economy. With automatic work permits for EU citizens who aren't already considered terrorists and "similar standards" for stuff like cheese, it all sounds quite sensible from a British perspective. A sort of tolerant Brexit and so doomed to failure as it will have 5,000 holes poked in it by Czech, Maltese and Portuguese diplomats on day one of negotiations.

Green Brexit (Green leaf keen, so roll a spliff and don't be mean)

How will Britain make up for the economic shortfall, either short or long term, caused by Brexit? Sit back and relax while considering that, according to people who enjoy smoking weed, the solution is, unsurprisingly, legalising weed. Green Brexit has been advanced by the Teesside Cannabis Club along familiar lines – make it legal, tax it, everyone gets to smoke weed and the government gets extra money. It's about as likely as Theresa May sacking Boris and asking Nigel Farage to Join the Conservatives as Home Secretary in order to bring a little more tolerance.

Happy Brexit

Brexit where everyone is nice to the UK. In this scenario, the UK gets a great deal, feels no regret and everybody is happy. No chance, according to political analyst Peter Kellner. This is the sort of Brexit you have when Green Brexit has happened. In your dreams!

Hard Brexit (This view of hard depends on where you are when you think you see it)

But, and it's a big but, if you're on the Leave side, Hard Brexit means riding a white charger to the top of a hill holding a Union flag, swatting continentals and Islington champagne socialists aside and leading the nation in a rendition of Land of Hope and Glory as China and India air drop money into the country for some reason. Remainers' think "hard Brexit" will look like Children of Men. A bleak Dystopian future with little hope and filled with cynical, fascist older generations who can and should just die off. Here the fascist dictatorship is full of internment camps and locked up Brexiteers riding white chargers up hills holding Union flags. On a policy level, it means very limited single market access and an end to free movement,. Basically, "Let's build a wall." Oh hang on, that's someone else's line.

Long Brexit

A Brexit that takes a long time – in order to make sure everything is ironed out and Britain gets a good deal, according to Labour MP Frank Field. The problem is, the 27 other EU countries (excluding British trade-reliant Ireland, which is terrified, and maybe some others) want it over and done with quickly so they can get on with their lives. Some think Frank needs to realise that negotiation (Poker) is a game not played with everyone looking at everyone else's cards. When everyone is looking at the same cards and guessing the meaning that's a Tarot reading which is, as we know, about as reliable as a politician saying and actually meaning the same thing.

More Intelligent Brexit

According to Jonathan Hill, a former European commissioner who is one of the most qualified people in Britain when it comes to dealing with the EU, the division is between "stupid" and "more intelligent". The smart Brexit involves reversing years of giving the Eurocrats the cold shoulder and trying to make some friends – or at least contacts – to help Britain cut a deal without simply making demands until they're rejected. Escalate to diplomacy, as Mr Bishop says.

Stupid Brexit

The former Commissioner for Financial Services (Lord Hill's) opposite to "more intelligent Brexit" and refers to a stark situation where Britain's negotiating team goes in with lots of red-line demands and assumes Europeans will act in their own economic self-interest. They won't, says Lord Hill. The EU isn't just an economy, it's a "romantic" project in a formerly war-torn continent, and it won't take kindly to sabre-rattling. The bad news is we have been out of trade negotiating for such a long time that the New Zealanders have had to offer to lend us some of theirs. I suppose we could always wait to see how MP's react to the recent High Court decision for MP's to debate Brexit in order to decide which MP's might help the trade negotiations. Oh crumbs, we're sunk.

Nuclear Brexit

According to the Bulletin of Atomic Scientists, Brexit puts Britain on a track to nuclear disarmament. Oh how Jeremy will be pleased. This seems to involve having nowhere to put the submarines once Scotland decides it's off. Perhaps we could park them off Teesside and see how long it takes someone in Stockton or Middlesbrough to work out the scrap value and row a welding crew out.

Open Brexit

This appealing form of Brexit, thought up by former David Cameron adviser Steve Hilton and supported by The Times, is one where foreigners don't get blamed for everything. It's about sending an outward facing message whilst continuing to Brexit – and rolling out the red carpet for students, entrepreneurs, scientists and engineers. In this version, the country rediscovers its creativity and proves "those who would want to do Britain down" wrong. It does not involve points lists for foreign workers and asking schoolchildren their age.

Soft Brexit (The Marshmallow moment...)

If you're a Remainer, soft Brexit involves basically staying in the EU while conjuring up enough special political effects from the Derren Brown Smoke and Mirrors Department to permit telling all the Leave voters that we've left. If you're a Brexiteer, it's (potentially literally) treason. In reality, it can mean keeping any EU rules or making concessions on freedom of movement to keep market access...Sshhh...now you see it now you don't.

Smooth Brexit

Means minimising the economic impact of the shift. This is the sort of thing that everyone can easily say they support – as long as they aren't asked any tricky Paxman like questions such as "how do you propose to make it a smooth Brexit?" It's the sort of Brexit you say you are getting, tell everyone else you've got and in general make believe any undesirable outcome is simply the start of a happy ending. Smooth Brexit It's not hard or soft that's important, says Beth Rigby, Sky's political correspondent, but smooth...see what I mean?

As for me, I want a soft, smooth, open sort of intelligently happy Brexit which is a bit, well, clean and scrupulously hygienic. What I'm afraid of is our government telling me we have clear plans in which they have every confidence. That's about as damming as a board backing a premiership football manager with their full support and as likely as Nicola Sturgeon not calling her next dog "Referendum", just so she can shout it down the street.

Thought for the Week

Emptiness

Some people may ask you how you feel and you might reply with 'empty'. Emptiness can mean a lot of things: you might be alone; you may be unaffected by what you have witnessed; or you may just feel like there's nothing else you can do. It can be interpreted in many different ways but are those ways necessarily good? Not being affected by anything can be a good thing as you will never get hurt but being alone isn't.

As well as it being connected by feelings you can also have empty days. You may just let the week fly by and not make an effort to make anything happen therefore having An 'empty week'. For me, having a week full of emotions, both good and bad, makes me feel emptiness. I feel like all the good things cancel out the bad things and vice versa. By the end of the week I never know what to think because both good things and bad things have happened and I never know what to make of it. Although I have had a very confusing week I guess it is better than having a week of nothing.

So after me writing about my week, I would like to conclude with telling you something about your week. Make sure you don't have a week of nothing and make every day have some sort of emotion, whether it is good or bad, because by the end of it you will feel like you have accomplished something.

Stephanie Schnurr

BARNARD CASTLE SCHOOL
SCHOOL CHAPEL

**A Festival of Nine Lessons
&
Carols**

Wednesday 14th December 7.30pm
Friday 16th December 5.30pm

Michaelmas Market

SUNDAY, November 27

BARNARD CASTLE SCHOOL

10.30am - 3pm

★ Unique, bespoke arts and crafts ★ Fine food & drink ★ Gorgeous gifts for you and the home

★ Stunning jewellery and fashion accessories

★ Luxury beauty & spa treats

★ Christmas raffle

★ Seasonal refreshments

★ FREE ENTRY and

★ Plenty of good cheer!

Organ

CHRISTMAS SHOEBOX APPEAL

This year we will be gathering Christmas Shoeboxes for needy families across the North East of England.

They will be distributed through the wonderful charity 'Home-Start Seaham', a predominantly volunteer group of 'surrogate aunts' who provide vital support to struggling families with young children.

The idea is to fill a shoebox with gifts and supplies, decorate your box and affix a label marking what age the box is suitable for.

This is of course entirely optional but we hope that we will receive a good number of shoeboxes in order to help struggling families have a merrier Christmas.

Shoeboxes should be brought into school before: -

Wednesday 23rd November 2016

Further details will be sent after half-term.

Thank you in advance for your support.





Barney Friends would love you to join them for

Christmas Lunch

December 16

12.00 p.m.

The Morritt Arms Hotel

Greta Bridge

Please R.S.V.P. by November 4
to

Joanne Howarth at

johowarth@gmail.com