



BARNES WALLIS  
ACADEMY

*Broadening Horizons*

## NEWSLETTER SPRING 2016

# WELCOME FROM THE PRINCIPAL

As my second term at Barnes Wallis draws to a close, I continue to be impressed by everything that our students achieve.

Academically, our results look very promising for the up and coming exams. In recent sporting tournaments we have been securing impressive results against much bigger schools and academies.

Furthermore, we are beginning to excel in music and what the academy can offer in terms of the arts is strengthening.

Volunteering and links to the community continue, and will always be, one of our academy's key strengths.

This is, I believe, what a good education is all about. It is about creating an environment where young people can explore interests, develop passions and set their ambitions. In short, it is about creating young people who achieve their personal best, people our community can be proud of.

I look around during our assemblies, and see so many young people who do just that. I hope that the following stories give just a snapshot of why I believe that our students are a source of such pride.

Warm regards,

David Lancaster,  
Executive Principal

## STUDENTS ARE SET TO APPEAR IN STEPHEN HAWKING DOCUMENTARY

**Students from Barnes Wallis Academy are set to take part in a science documentary hosted by Professor Stephen Hawking, after filming a life size science experiment at Tattershall Castle.**

Posed with the question 'Why Are We Here?' 150 students took part in the experiment, which was set in the grounds of the castle. The students were tasked with acting out the movements of the universe just by stepping right or left, in order to represent Hugh Everett III's Many Worlds Theory.

The documentary, called *Genius*, will air on National Geographic and PBS later this year.

Emma Day, Assistant Principal and Head of Science, commented: "This was a fantastic experience for our students, they thoroughly enjoyed taking part in the experiment. It was incredible to see them acting out quantum physics in real life."

To watch a trailer of the programme visit:  
<http://biggerbang.tv/what-we-do/>



# ELECTRONICS CLUB INSPIRES

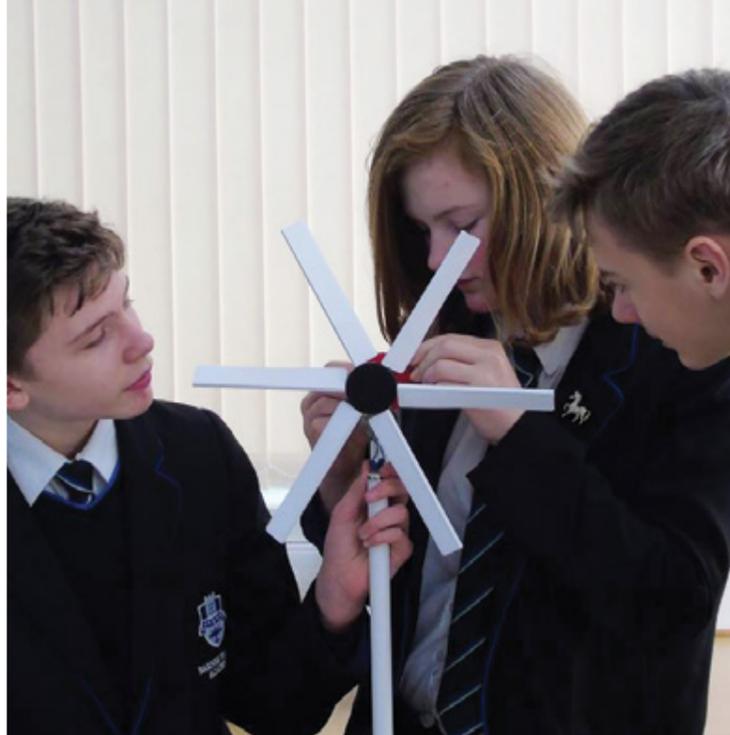
Barnes Wallis students have been developing their electronics skills, with several engaging workshops delivered by the University of Nottingham's Electronics Club.

As part of the workshops, students in Years 7, 8 and 9 assembled wind turbines, learning about the mechanics behind constructing them.

In the follow-up session, students built sumo robots

and even programmed them to move within a confined space in preparation for an electronics challenge at the University of Nottingham next term.

Robert Freeman, Teacher of Science, said: "The workshops really were fantastic. The students were thrilled to take part in the interactive science challenges and there is a huge buzz about the upcoming events at the University of Nottingham."



# MUSICIANS STAR IN DRET MUSIC CUP

A group of our aspiring musicians recently took part in the David Ross Education Trust (DRET) Music Cup at Kelham Hall.

Lance Wells and Abigail Vale both performed piano solos, while Charlotte Clark sang a beautiful vocal solo. Max Alderman also produced a spectacular on the drums that really grabbed the attention of every spectator!

Simon Toyne, Executive Director of Music for the David Ross Education Trust, commented: "It was a truly magnificent event and one the students really committed to with such passion and rigour."

"Students across the academies have shown time and time again that they possess such talent and we have seen it once more during this fantastic celebration of music."



# BARNES WALLIS STUDENTS RECEIVE DIANA AWARD

Six students from our Interact Club have been honoured with the Diana Award for Champion Fundraising.

Tia Ferguson, Lauren Houldershaw, Mason Warren, Abbie Williams, Lily-Mai Stanton and Amy Maclean-Brian have

all received the award after organising lots of fundraising activities in the local community.

From packing bags in a local supermarket to holding a cake sale, the students have raised hundreds of pounds for Great Ormond Street Hospital.

David Lancaster, Executive Principal, said: "We are extremely proud of this group of students. The Diana Award will encourage them to continue their fantastic fundraising work and will hopefully inspire others."

# BARNES WALLIS WELCOMES PRIMARY SCHOOL PUPILS

As part of a CSI Day, Year 5 pupils from local primary schools visited Barnes Wallis for a day of forensic investigations.

From DNA analysis to securing evidence, pupils found out more about the forensics process, including acids and alkalis, chromatography and the analysis of fingerprints.

Emma Day, Head of Science and Assistant Principal, commented: "Practical activities like this are such an important way for pupils to develop their scientific knowledge."

"By taking part in fun workshops the pupils develop a love of science that inspires them when they return to the classroom."



# WE DAY UK 2016

Twenty-one Barnes Wallis students were recently invited to attend 'We Day UK', a special one-day event for 12,000 young people at Wembley Arena.

The event aims to bring together young people from across the country to celebrate the actions they are taking in their local communities, in order to turn the event's inspiration into sustained action.

With inspirational speeches from Professor Brian Cox, Marlee Matlin, Princess Beatrice and Clive Owen to name a few, our students were thrilled to be part of such a significant national event.



# STUDENTS 'WRITE AN ARIA' WITH NEVILL HOLT OPERA

Barnes Wallis students have been learning more about the classical art of opera during a range of workshops from Nevill Holt Opera.

The critically acclaimed opera group visited the academy as part of a week-long programme of events. Students had the chance to devise their own opera scene and write their own alternative versions of arias, which they would later go on to perform.

One student, who took part in the workshop, said: "It was an amazing experience and the workshops have broadened my knowledge of opera. We are not exposed to classical music every day, so experiences like this really do take some beating."

# YOUNG CARERS AWARENESS DAY

As part of Young Carers Awareness Day, students have been raising awareness of the important role of carers in and around the academy.

Barnes Wallis' Young Carers group wore their specially designed hoodies for the day, and provided each faculty with facts and information about famous people who support the work of carers, or have been young carers themselves.

One young carer said: "It was a great day and I'm glad we got to spread the word about what life is like for people who care for others."

David Lancaster, Executive Principal, added: "Young Carers Awareness Day was a great success and students across the academy now have a greater understanding of the caring role that some of our students carry out."

# DRET SPRING CUP TEAMS EXCEED EXPECTATIONS

**Rugby legends Lawrence Dallaglio and Rob Vickerman joined students from across DRET for the first annual Spring Cup at the University of Nottingham.**

Competing in Rugby and Hockey, our students showed off their skills in tournaments against other secondary academies.

Hockey stars Charlotte Hartley and Harry Martin offered encouragement and advice as both the girls hockey

teams reached the Plate Final, with the U13s team emerging victorious and the U15s taking silver. While the boys rugby teams took 2nd and 3rd place in their Plate competitions.

Alice Page, Sports Enrichment Officer, said: "Our students were really inspired by the international rugby and hockey stars.

"Every single student gave their all and thoroughly enjoyed competing against the other academies."



# ALL STAR ROWERS SHINE AT NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

**We are delighted to announce that a number of our students competed at the National Junior Indoor Rowing Championships this term.**

Joe Hazelwood, Amelia North and Lance Wells were all part of the DRET All Stars Rowing Squad that competed at the national event.

Joe, a Year 8 student rowed a distance of 788m, achieving his personal best, while Amelia rowed 1,190m in the Year 10 girls

age group. Lance then went on to take 8th place out of 154 competitors in the Year 10 boys category with 1,412m rowed in total.

David Lancaster, Executive Principal, commented: "I am immensely proud of our students' achievements, they are all extremely talented and we will be cheering them on in future competitions."

# SILVER MEDALS FOR DRET ALL STARS NETBALL SQUAD

**Barnes Wallis students have been representing the DRET All Stars teams at various competitions this term.**

Danielle Cregan, Year 7, and Shannon Webster, Year 8 were specially selected to join for the Trust-wide netball team which has had a number of successes this season.

Competing in an Invitational Tournament, against seven competitor schools from across the East Midlands, the team won a Silver Medal overall.

Cheered on by two Loughborough Lightning players, the girls then went on to take part in an All Stars Tour to Swindon, winning Bronze in another close competition.

Alice Page, Sports Enrichment Officer, commented: "Danielle and Shannon have shown an impressive amount of improvement since joining the All Stars Programme this year. A huge well done to both girls!"

## KEEP IN TOUCH

Don't forget to check out our website at [www.barneswallisacademy.co.uk](http://www.barneswallisacademy.co.uk)  
Follow us on twitter [@Barnes\\_Wallis\\_](https://twitter.com/Barnes_Wallis_)



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