

10th February 2023



The spring half term is complete. Today we celebrate the end of this wonderful half term with a Fabulous Friday dress up day to mark Valentine's Day. Sincere thanks for your support with this event, the delicious Bake Sale on Thursday after school and throughout the half term. It has been a super way to mark the start of the holiday and I would like to thank the PTA for organising these lovely events.



Cases at BWA

Over the last few weeks we have had a number of staff test positive for COVID19 every week. The impact of this absence can be significant. We all want our dedicated staff to be well and be in school supporting every child, every day. I appreciate our staff testing when they have symptoms as this is helping us reduce the spread of the virus. Please can I ask that you continue

to adhere to the [advice](#) set out for parents that I have shared with you every week in this newsletter?

The advice, aimed at parents, is to remind you that if your child is unwell and has a fever, they should stay home from school or nursery until they feel better and the fever has resolved. We really appreciate your support by following this advice.

Here are some of our highlights of our week together.



Pupils in our Nursery have been thinking about transport. They have enjoyed creating their own cars and have even practised their number skills by writing their favourite number on their car.

In RB, pupils have been working in pairs, showing how effectively they can co-operate with a partner. During maths pupils were taking turns to break numbers into two parts using part whole models. They found there was more than one way to break up the number ten. Some pupils noticed a pattern and excitedly explained, using their mathematical language, that as one side 'gets more' the other side 'gets fewer'.

After learning about Dinosaurs this half term, RW went to The Natural History Museum to enrich their understanding of the Dinosaur species. They walked sensibly through the Dinosaur gallery, looking closely at the Dinosaur bones and fossils and even met a giant, robotic T-Rex. It was a great educational visit to bring learning to life. Thank you Miss Ward for organising the trip and for parents support to make it happen.



Year 1 learnt about two amazing women: Dr Imogen Napper and Carolyn Newton. They both work on protecting and cleaning up our planet. Pupils thought about what they'd like to ask and took turns in the hot seat pretending they were them.

I also had a wonderful morning on Thursday when I was invited to hear the letters the pupils wrote to Wandsworth Council about their request to have more recycling in the borough. I was super impressed with the content of their letters, how well they read them out and how confident they were to stand up and read it.



Pupils in Year 2 has a fantastic time creating some Revolting Recipes after being inspired by Roald Dahl' s book. They mixed all sorts of interesting ingredients (slimy slugs and crunchy bugs to name a few) and wrote a set of clear instructions using commands and adverbs. Bon appétit!

In 3B, pupils have been learning about the life cycle of plants. They learnt how flowers are pollinated and can now identify the various ways seeds are dispersed. Great science learning, 3B!

Our year 3 pupils have been busy writing instructions about how to mummify a body. In order to make their instructions authentic, pupils did some research about this Ancient Egyptian practice and tried it out themselves with various props. They now consider themselves mummification experts.



We love Science at BWA and pupils in 4B have been learning about the function of the stomach. Using biscuits to simulate food, orange juice to simulate stomach acid and plastic sandwich bags to simulate a stomach they have a clear understanding of what the stomach does. Crumpling the biscuits demonstrated the role of the teeth. Adding juice to the biscuits in a plastic bag before gently massage and squeezing the bag help everyone learn about the stomach's role in digestion.



Year 4 went on a very exciting trip to the Science Museum as a grand finale of their unit on electricity. They visited the exhibition called 'Secret Life of the Home' where they explored how technology had advanced in modern times. Pupils were able to see how numerous everyday items have evolved and how big a difference electricity makes to our life today.

Pupils also got the chance to see other exhibitions on medicine and the human body, ready to begin their Spring 2 topic about Microbes. A great day of fun was had by all. Thank you Miss Wadsworth and Mr Abraham for organising the trip and for parents support to make it happen.



In their French lessons this half term, Year 5 have been learning all about the weather. This week, they put all of their new knowledge to the test by presenting their own weather shows. Pupils used the key weather phrases they had learnt to provide weather forecasts for various cities across France. They paid careful attention to their pronunciation and didn't forget to make reference to the map behind them in true weather presenter style.

6B have been learning about Greta Thunberg in their English lessons this week. They have been inspired by her activism and how much she has achieved at such a young age. To celebrate what she has done so far in her life, pupils wrote biographies about her, ensuring that they used key biographical features, such as time adverbials, the passive voice and varying the tenses of their writing in line with the chronological events in her life.



Year 5 and 6's had a great time learning with our fabulous resident artists this week, which was based on St Paul's Cathedral. First, pupils learnt about the architect of the famous London monument, Sir Christopher Wren. They then experimented with a variety of artistic techniques to capture their own interpretation of the cathedral. Using oil pastels, shading, printing and erasing, the children created brilliant multi-media art pieces. Just look at this wonderful example.

We have had another week of highly engaging PE lessons.

Key Stage 2 pupils had their last lesson on invasion games and hockey (sadly). They used all of their skills to play highly skilful and competitive mini matches. We had a big focus this week on sportsmanship and made sure we shook hands with opponents at the end of the matches.

Pupils now have tennis in their sights for next half term as we begin our net & wall games unit.

Key Stage 1 pupils started to use patterns in their underarm throwing and combined them with movement skills. This is a great building block for future invasion games where we need to get the ball to people in a space with precision and quick decision making. This was their last week on attacking and defending and will move on to net games (tennis building blocks) next half term.



To finish of the week our Early Years pupils continued to develop their ball skills as they threw, rolled and bounced their own ball before versing a partner in a game of roll a goal. Pupils showed great progress in underarm throwing and some even started to combine their skills with movement.



Parent Governor - Election

Voting for our new Parent Governor has closed. Sincere thanks to everyone who has voted.



English Stream Parent Teacher Meetings

It was wonderful to see so many parents this week in school. Thank you so much for taking the time to come in to school to speak with the class teacher about your child. We do hope these meetings were helpful.



Role Models – Free Parent Workshop

If you haven't signed up for this webinar – I'd recommend you do. This company always run excellent sessions.

Topic: **'How to develop confidence in children'**

When: **28th February, 2023 07:30 PM** [London]

A 45 minute online talk, followed by Q&A, exploring how to develop a child's confidence, nurture their curiosity and encourage a healthy responses to challenges. Throughout their childhood, children are building their internal picture of how they view themselves; their self-esteem, self-efficacy and mindset are being shaped. What can we do to positively impact these important life skills?

What you'll learn:

- why confidence is such an important skill to develop in childhood;
- what it means to be confident; and
- 10 practical strategies for developing confidence in children.

Register using this

link: https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/2116734542976/WN_sH5PwupeSeChzFQb01eF5g

Congratulations to all our Excellent Learners this week.

Excellent Learners Learn with others			
Leith	RW	Owen	3S
Adessa and Cillian	RB	Scarlet	4A
Freya	Y1	Bella	4W
Ada	Y2	Victoire	4B
Gabriel	3B	Maeson	Y5
Izzie	3M	Jess	Y6
		Adam	6B



Dates to Remember

Bilingual Stream Reports go out today - Friday 10th February

Last day of the Spring Term – Friday 31st March.

English Stream classes will finish at 1:45pm.

Bilingual Stream will finish at 3:15pm.

Wishing you all a wonderful weekend and half term holiday with family and friends.

Miss Henry

Help for Households

The Money and Pensions Service (MaPS) which is an arm's-length body sponsored by the Department for Work and Pensions offers free and impartial guidance to help people to make the best with their money and pensions. Please use this link to access the information. [Help with the cost of living | MoneyHelper](#)



LA Support Offer

During the cost of living crisis Wandsworth Council are committed to supporting the children and families in the borough through one of the harshest winters we may ever experience, by offering a Warmer Welcome – an enhanced children's centre offer from six of our children's centres. The LA Warmer Welcome sites are local places around the borough, where families and their children can come for free. These children's centres offer a warm, safe, welcoming place where hot drinks and food are being served alongside a range of activities to support families.

Please see the three attached leaflets highlighting the locations of the 'Warmer Welcome' sites and their core opening hours and the wider cost of living support. You can access a broader range of information related to cost of living concerns via their website www.wandsworth.gov.uk/cost-of-living-hub/



The Government has launched the '[Help for Households](#)' scheme. The homepage brings together over 40 support schemes that the public can access, depending on eligibility, including help with:

Household costs

- Energy Bills
- Childcare costs
- Income support
- Transport costs

Additionally, a range of online tools will help citizens quickly and efficiently check the support they might be eligible for and how to access it.