

13th October 2023 Newsletter

It has been such an exciting and busy week at BWA yet again. Many classes have been out on trips, our resident artists have been teaching our wonderful pupils new skills and we have had parents in for a number of workshops.



Parent Teacher Meetings

We are holding Parent Teacher meetings for parents of pupils in our English stream next week. I look forward to seeing you for these important meetings.



This week we held a parent workshop for year 1 parents and carers on Phonics. Thank you to the parents who came to this valuable session. If there are workshops or support you would welcome, please do not hesitate to let us know.

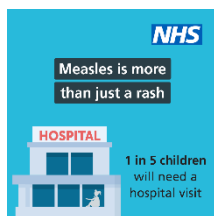
- Maths workshop ...coming soon!

This week we were thrilled to have so many parents come into school for the taster session of Parent Gym. Parent Gym is a well-established, six-week programme that shares and explores practical tips and strategies to make family life easier and help your children thrive. We invite you to come along to meet other BWA parents, hear their stories and pick up new ideas. All parents of pupils registered to BWA are welcome to sign up. To sign up for the six week programme, please use this [link](#). If you have any questions before then, please do not hesitate to ask us.



Each weekly session lasts two hours, starting at 8:45am in the school canteen and follows the schedule below:

- Week 1: Chat – 1st November 2023
- Week 2: Love – 8th November 2023
- Week 3: Behave – 15th November 2023
- Week 4: Care – 22nd November 2023
- Week 5: Discover – 29th November 2023
- Week 6: Together – 6th December 2023



Information on Measles / MMR vaccination – message from the NHS

Measles cases are rising across the country, with over 102,000 children starting primary school in England being at risk of catching the disease. We are asking education settings to share key messages from the NHS about MMR / measles and how to get vaccinated.

The [Back to school MMR Guidance](#) from the NHS includes information to share, as well as example social media posts which can be found here: [NHS Vaccine Poster](#) and [NHS MMR Poster](#).

Measles is highly infectious and if left unvaccinated nine out of ten children in a classroom can catch the disease if just one child is infectious.

As another week draws to a close, we reflect on the wonderful week of learning we have had together at BWA. Here are some of our highlights.

R



RELEVANCE

- recognition of the richness in diversity and inclusion
- tailored to reflect local, national and global perspectives
- clear progression in knowledge, skills, content, language, processes and concepts



Sport

At the end of last week we took eight Year 3 and 4 girls to a football festival hosted by AFC Wimbledon, at Southfields Academy.

The team have been working hard to improve their skills during Football Club on Tuesday evenings and this showed in the great performances during the festival.

Our team participated in four different skill games that involved shooting, passing and dribbling before we finished with some small sided matches against another school. The results were 1 win and 1 draw. A huge well done to our pupils who represented BWA so well at the event and for the parents who kindly accompanied and supported us.

Next week we are looking forward to our Year 5 and 6 Girls and Boys Football Festival.

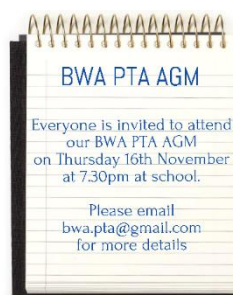
Our new outside reading area in KS1



Pupils have been enjoying our new reading corner in the KS1 playground, where they can choose a book and relax in the quiet area. This welcome addition of a reading shed was voted by School Council last year and made possible thanks to the kind donations from the PTA. Thank you.

PTA AGM – All invited

We hope every parent and carer will come to the PTA AGM.

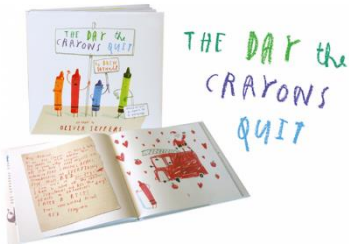
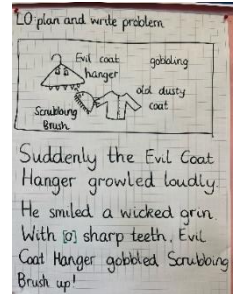


In Nursery, pupils have been impressing me with their counting and how well they are learning together.



Pupils in RW have been learning about homes and the place where they live. Using lolly sticks they made models of their houses and have then worked together, using mixed media, to build a big town.

Year 1 have been creative learners this week. They have been so inspired by all the adventures and missions of Traction Man that they have written their own stories, set in their bedrooms. Pupils constructed exciting narratives and characters with stories featuring villains such as the Evil Hoover and the Wicked Coat Hanger. The stories were brilliant.



Pupils in Year 2 have been very creative with their English learning this week as well. They read 'The Day the Crayons Quit' by Oliver Jeffers and discussed what each crayon was complaining to Duncan about. Pupils planned and wrote fabulous letters as a crayon, using different sentence types, to try and persuade Duncan to change his colouring habits. They had a lot of fun writing and reading our letters together.

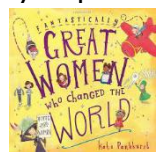
In Science this week, Year 3 explored the question, "Does the length of a person's legs affect how far they can jump?" The pupils made very scientific predictions before testing it out for themselves, as you can see from this photograph here.



This week, pupils in our Year 4 class investigated the journey that food takes through each organ, exploring each stage in detail before finding out what the body does with its waste. This has been such an exciting science unit and the effort of teachers have put into making the learning so real is brilliant.



Pupils in 4B have been excited to research some influential women after they explored *Fantastically Great Women Who Changed the World*. They are busy turning their research into short biographies to share with the class. I am certainly looking forward to reading them.



In 5LT, pupils were introduced to their new 'brew-tali-tea' writing unit, which is based off a short stop-frame animation. They were asked to put themselves in the 'shoes' of a teabag on its way to becoming a cup of tea, and have eagerly started to plan their own short narratives from the perspective of a petrified teabag. I love tea so hearing the pupils describe how the teabag felt has been very entertaining.

Pupils in 5B have been discussing how the feeling of fear can affect our body and minds and how we can overcome them. They discussed rational and irrational fears and thought of what advice we could give to younger peers.

In their science lessons this week, pupils in 5M made parachutes to investigate the air resistance and gravity. They designed two parachutes, each with a different surface area, to find out whether this affected how long it took them to reach the ground. They were very excited to test them out and were impressed with how well they worked. We were very pleased with the accuracy of their timing and how they could draw conclusions from the data they collected. It was a fair and successful science experiment.





This week, Year 6 took part in a local area walk, led by a very kind parent who has researched the impact of WW2 on the local area. We were so fortunate to have an expert guide us on this local area study trip – thank you so much.

Pupils discovered how Clapham was affected during World War 2. They explored bomb-sites and air-raid shelters, using maps and old aerial photographs. Year 6 enjoyed their trip and have shown great understanding of the Battle of Britain and The Blitz. Bringing learning to life is so important to us at BWA.



Specialist Art – learning with our Resident Artists

In Year 6's immersive day with our resident artists, they dived into Black History Month by exploring the renowned artist **Aaron Douglas**. Their project centred on the reimagining of his iconic masterpiece: '**Song of The Towers**'. They explored the art movement called **The Harlem Renaissance**, which was a frenzy of art and cultural expression that happened in Harlem, New York, producing new art, music and literature

after World War 1.



Year 6 looked at the art of silhouettes and the layering of tissue paper. Through these mediums, they collectively wove a narrative, paying tribute to the music genres that influence them the most.



Communication

Our [communication table](#) should signpost you to the right person to deal with any queries you have, no matter how small or trivial you think they may be.



Nut Free School

Please remember that we are a Nut Free site.



Prepared for the Day

Please ensure your child has suitable clothing in school. Getting outside remains very important at BWA and we plan to have both PE and play outside in all weathers.

Excellent Learners

Congratulations to all our Excellent Learners this week.

<u>Excellent Learners</u> Are Creative			
Leo	RW	Elanora	4B
Olympe	Y1	Alexander	5LT
Douglas	1B	Mila	5M
Megan	Y2	Kristina	5B
Freya	Y3	Maeson	Y6
Dylan	Y4		



Dates to Remember

- **Half term** – week beginning Monday 23rd October.
- **INSET Day for all BWA staff** - 30th October. This means there is no school for pupils in the English stream. Pupils in the bilingual stream will be expected to be in school as the French teacher will be teaching on this day.
- **Open days** – we are holding Open Days on **Thursday 16th November – English Stream** and **Tuesday 21st November - Bilingual Stream**

Wishing you all a wonderful weekend.

Miss Henry