

24th February 2023

I hope you all had a wonderful half term. It has been lovely to hear about the great adventures so many of the pupils have been on over the break. After any break it can be hard to get back into routine but I have been impressed with how well everyone has adapted to being back at school.

We have had a wonderful week of learning together.



Every year group started a new topic in PE this week and we have had fantastic engagement once again. Net and Wall games are our focus. In Early Years this all starts with hand-eye coordination. Pupils started with dropping balls to themselves and creating bowls once the ball had hit the ground to try and 'scoop it up.' They then moved on to sending a stationary object towards a target, as they hit tennis balls with small racquets to a friend who was waiting in the ready or 'HA' position.

Pupils in Key Stage 1 started by sending stationary objects to a partner with both open palms and then small racquets, before quickly graduating to sending moving objects that were rolling towards them.

In Key Stage 2, pupils started their net and wall experience by playing a variation of a much loved classic in the form of 2 square. This teaches pupils how to move their feet, track the ball and hit up with an open palm as these are the building blocks to holding real tennis racquets in their hands.

Mr Butler is super excited about this half terms learning.



This week Nursery have been thinking about the story 'Little Red Riding Hood'. They have painted some beautiful pictures of Little Red Riding Hood and the Big Bad Wolf by looking carefully at the illustrations in the text.

This week the pupils in RW have been reading and retelling the story of 'The Gingerbread Man'. They then made their own Gingerbread man; they mixed ingredients to form a dough, rolled it out and used cutters to make the right shape. Thankfully they didn't run out of the oven so the

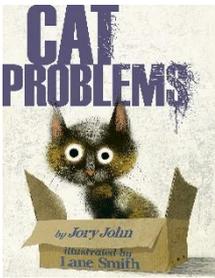
pupils were able to decorate them with icing and smarties.



Year 1 have had a great start to the new half term working hard with their partners to solve addition and subtraction word problems. They have been developing the skill of coaching their partner and solving problems together.

Pupils in 1B have been exploring where food comes from in their Geography lessons. They looked at food that is grown locally and food that is exported from other countries.

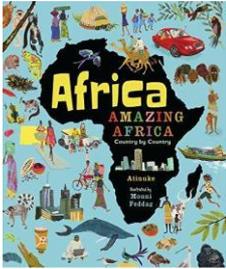
In 2B pupils have been exploring how to make the same amount of money in a variety of ways, using different coins. For example, they found out that £2.10 could be made of £2 + 5p + 5p or £1 + £1 + 10p. Money can be a little tricky but they are doing so well.



In Year 2, pupils engaged in role play during an English lesson. It looks like they had a lot of fun doing this in the photograph. Their new unit of work is based on two entertaining books, Penguin Problems and Cat Problems, by Jory John and Lane Smith. Pupils explored how to use adverbs in their speeches, written from a squirrel to a cat who likes to complain a lot, to remind them of how lucky they are to be looked after by humans.



Pupils in 3S launched their new geography topic by exploring different fruits and the continents they are imported from. To do this pupils used their map skills to identify the continents and countries on an atlas before discussing just how far some of our fruit has to travel.



In their English lessons this week, 3M have enjoyed learning about a broad range of African countries through their reading of 'Africa, Amazing, Africa'. Inspired by the book, pupils carried out their own research on Nigeria and then wrote their own information text in keeping with the style of the book. This topic has also revealed that many members of the class have heritage, family members and friends hailing from all over Africa which prompted lots of interesting discussions.

Our year 4 pupils have been going to swimming lessons every week since September. This week they attended their last lesson of the year. Pupils in 4A showcased the skills they have mastered this year to their swimming teachers. All of Year 4 have worked incredibly hard and shown huge progress since September and should be incredibly proud of themselves.

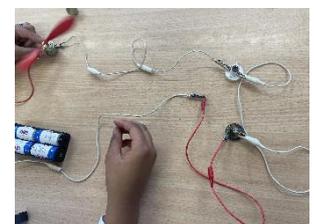


Pupils in Year 4W have loved the start of their new history topic for this term. This week, they have been exploring Viking raids. Pupils studied different artefacts from Anglo-Saxon monasteries to uncover the violence that occurred when the Vikings invaded Britain. They then used their excellent scientific enquiry skills to uncover why the Vikings were feared by so many.



In Year 5, pupils were given various historical sources to launch their new topic. They were challenged to work out where and when the topic is based. Everyone worked brilliantly together in groups to deduce that lots of the sources appeared to be religious in nature and drew links from their previous RE unit on Islam to discover their new topic is 'Early Islamic Civilisation'. With the help of atlases, pupils then estimated when this civilisation existed to place it on the timeline of humanity.

Pupils in Year 6 started their new science topic – Electricity. They built circuits, finding new ways to construct and deconstruct them. They had to recall their prior knowledge about what a circuit needs to function and how to add elements, such as a buzzer and motor.



Our 5B class had a fantastic time learning with our resident artists to create a mixed media image of St Paul's cathedral. You can see the concentration and effort that the pupils put into mastering their new skills and knowledge. I am sure you agree that their artwork is brilliant.





Cases at BWA

Unfortunately quite a few staff had COVID19 over half term. The impact of staff absence can be significant. We all want our dedicated staff to be well and be in school supporting every child, every day just as we want all pupils to be well and in school

learning every day.

I kindly ask that you continue to adhere to the [advice](#) set out for parents. The advice, aimed at parents, states 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. Please know that your vigilance and care is much appreciated.



Strike Action

Next Thursday, 2nd March, there is a planned strike by the NEU. Everyone should have received a letter from me earlier today regarding the position at BWA.



Parent Governor - Election

We are delighted to announce that our new Parent Governor is Anna Harper-Hayes.

Excellent Learners

Congratulations to all our Excellent Learners this week.

<u>Excellent Learners</u> Want to learn more			
Francis	RW	Henry	3S
Camille	1B	Karson	4A
Betty	Y1	Leanora	4W
Anya	Y2	Camellia	5B
Louis W	2B	Milo	Y5
Emilie	3M	Hellora	Y6



Role Models – Free Parent Workshop

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



Dates to Remember

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 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.