



BWA Newsletter

Wix's Lane, Clapham Common North Side, London SW4 0AJ

22nd December 2022



What a truly magnificent week we have had at BWA. I think everyone is ready for the weekend to recharge their batteries – if they get the chance during this busy period. Last Sunday my alarm went off just before 6:30am to ensure the ice rink could get set up. I am so very grateful for the parents who also got up this early on a dark Sunday morning to get the Fair set up for the start time of 10:30am. We finished tidying up by 6pm to ensure the school was ready for pupils to return on Monday morning. It was definitely worth the huge amount of effort that was put into organising this super event. I would like to thank our very generous PTA and APL volunteers who worked so hard before, during and after the event to make it such success. I would like to thank all of you for your phenomenal support in coming to the Winter Fair and being such appreciative guests. I hope you agree, that everyone who came had the most wonderful time. The opportunity to have an ice skating rink in our school playground was awesome and definitely something to plan again. My fingers are crossed.

Last night our lower hall was transformed into the most beautiful winter palace for the evening of our Christmas Ball. A huge thanks to the BWA PTA who have worked tirelessly to plan this amazing event for us in the run up to Christmas. It was a wonderful opportunity to make new friends with members of our school community. We had fantastic food and awesome music. I would like to thank Rob Van Helden, RVH, and his wonderful team for so generously donating the items that transformed the lower hall into the most stylish setting. We truly are so fortunate to have such supportive parents in Rob and Seb who go the extra mile to make a difference to our events. The BWA PTA are just the best and I am sure you will join me in thanking them sincerely for organising another fabulous evening for us to enjoy. They work so hard, giving up many, many hours of their time to think of great events that we might all enjoy and then make them happen so seamlessly. We don't underestimate how much work this takes and we really appreciate you all.

An event wouldn't be the same without the tremendous support of our parents. Thank you for supporting our event last night. You all looked very stylish and definitely adhered to the dress code of dress to impress! All of the money raised during these events goes towards enhancing the provision for every pupil at BWA – so a very worthwhile cause.

Today was the second of our four fabulous festive Fridays at BWA in the lead up to the Christmas period. A huge thanks to everyone who supported our toy drive today for the children with cancer at Great Ormond Street Hospital (GOSH). We know that the gifts you donated will make the families and children in hospital over this family time very happy. Thank you for your generosity and support.



The 15th of January is the deadline for applying for a Reception place for September 2023. If you know of any friends or family looking at schools, please do share the opportunity to visit BWA and see the phenomenal provision we offer every day here.





We may have had a very busy social calendar but that didn't interrupt the fantastic learning this week at BWA. Here are some of our highlights.

This week our pupils in Nursery have been extremely busy making shopping lists for Tom Bear's birthday. After choosing the food they would like for the party, pupils thought carefully about the initial sound they could hear for each item of food.

In RB, our pupils have been learning about light and dark. They really enjoyed turning all the lights off in the class and using torches to make shadows. Pupils were surprised to learn that you can make the shadow dance by moving the light source into different positions. They have enjoyed exploring the torches ever since by drawing around the shadows of animals in the class and making shadow puppets in our dark den.

In Maths this week, pupils in RW have been learning about positional language. To support this learning, they created their own obstacle courses both inside and outside and labelled each area of the course with the positional language to match. They then completed their courses with great precision. It was impressive to watch.



Pupils in our Year 1 class have been writing letters to persuade people to visit their cafes. They described the fantastic array of food and drink on offer as well as the different activities available. Everyone was very convincing and loved the chance to read their letter to others in the class.

Year 2 pupils had a relaxing and enriching yoga and mindfulness session this week as part of their learning in PSHE on how to manage our feelings. They learnt different yoga poses as well as breathing techniques, and ended the session with time for shavasana (meditation). Thank you to Laura's Yoga club, for such a fabulous session, it is safe to say all pupils felt very relaxed! Namaste.



Pupils in 3S became expert scientists this week. They carried out their own experiments to explore magnetic fields and the different materials magnets can attract through. After completing the experiment, they shared and discussed what they had found out before writing up their results.

In History this week, pupils in 3M enjoyed discovering who lived in Roman Britain. Pupils participated in an activity based on the popular game 'Guess Who?' which involved them asking specific questions to work out which Roman Briton their partner was. From tribesmen to merchants, they were surprised to find out that such a diverse and multicultural range of people inhabited Britain during this interesting period of history. It was a great exercise.

Pupils in Year 4 have been investigating the water cycle and exploring the changing states of the water from a liquid to gas to liquid. They had a go at making their own water cycle in a bag to check in on during the week. Sounds exciting!



Year 5 had a fantastic time in the visiting 'Wonderdome' this week. Pupils were shown a variety of videos and projections, which visualised scientific processes in space, such as the various stages of the Moon, the planets in orbit and the position of Earth in the Solar System. They were also treated to expert astronaut insight into how to function in the International Space Station, including tips for brushing your teeth and eating lunch in outer space. Amazing!



During the month of October, pupils across the whole school completed the TCS schools mini marathon. Pupils ran laps of our sports area for 10 minutes of their PE lessons each week in order to complete the distance of 2.6 miles. Well done to all pupils for their participation and enthusiasm. Their certificates and badges are something they can share with pride at this fantastic chance to show their resilience and perseverance during a challenging task.

Excellent Learners

It was a privilege to congratulate our Excellent Learners in celebration assemblies this week.

<u>Excellent Learners</u> Ask For Help			
Skylar	RW	Vivienne	3S
Maxime	RB	Scarlet	4A
Aleck	Y1	Lyla	4W
Adam	Y2	Luke	4B
Zoe	3B	Annie	Y5
Dylan	3M	Talha	Y6
		Mathilda	6B



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/



Help for Households

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.



Dates to Remember

- **8th December - Tinsel Thursday - Food collection for the Wandsworth Foodbank.** Pupils may wear some tinsel or festive clothing and make a donation for the local foodbank.
- **Friday 16th December - Festive Friday_-** Min of £1 donation towards school improvement projects - pupils can wear their Xmas jumper at school that day.

Last day of term – Friday 16th December

- **English Stream finish** at 1:45pm
- **Bilingual stream finish** at 3:15pm

Wishing you all wonderful weekend.

Miss Henry