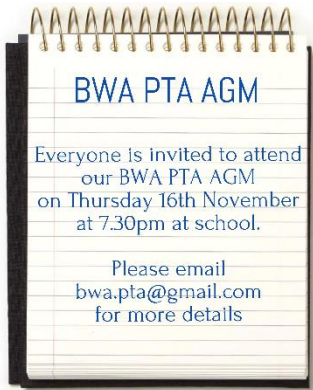


20th October 2023 Newsletter



Today we break up for the half term break. It is a great time to reflect on all we have achieved since starting this school year at the beginning of September. Pupils have had much fun learning at school and have truly been excellent learners every day. Our teachers have worked incredibly hard to ensure every pupils is safe, ready to learn and are engaged in their learning.

I hope you can all come to our PTA AGM. Every parent and carer is a member of the PTA and it is such an amazing part of our school community. This week our awesome PTA have organised so many events for us all - we have had much valued Uniform Sales, a Bake Sale yesterday and a dress up Friday for Halloween today.



Parent Teacher Meetings

It was wonderful to see you all this week at our meetings. I know the pupils have loved opening their letters from you this morning and reading your messages to them. Thank you for giving us your precious time and your commitment to working with us to ensure your child has every opportunity to be the best learner they can.



Please sign up for our Maths Workshops on Tuesday 31st October.

N



NURTURE

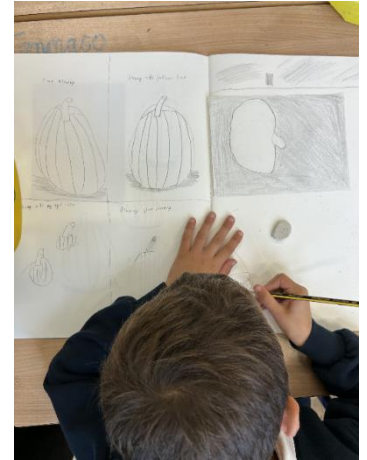
- of personal development fostering a sense of responsibility to self and others
- a sense of citizenship, community, empathy and service

What a busy week we have had celebrating BHM and having our resident artists in ...to name but a few experiences planned for our pupils. Sometimes it is very hard to choose a highlight of the week. Here are some of the highlights from our week together.



Art with our Resident Artists

This week, Year 3 had an immersive day with our local resident artists. Pupils learnt about the artist Yayoi Kusama and her use of polka dots on pumpkins. By the end of the day, they gained a brilliant understanding of drawing from life, tones and textures. I was so impressed with their outcomes – aren't you?



BHM

BWA invited the carnival to school this month to celebrate and learn more about Black History Month. Professional performers visited our school to deliver workshops for every class. Pupils just loved this experience as you can see from the photographs here.

Pupils were introduced to the Zulu concept of 'ubuntu', meaning showing humanity to others, and learnt about how we can all help others in their struggles by standing together. Some lucky pupils even got to visualise this by taking part in the story of the Hummingbird and the Panther, acting as friendly feathered birds helping a frustrated panther to see the light.

The brilliant Bigfoot performers spoke to pupils about important figures in black history, both past and present, such as Dora Milaje and Marcus Rashford.



Pupils also learnt about the Ghanaian word 'sankofa', meaning that to look forward we must first look back, and explored how this relates to the struggles and achievements in black history.

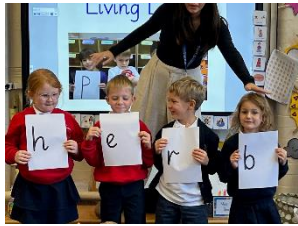
To finish their workshops, BWA pupils were given carnival gear and props and practised their best carnival moves before all celebrating together in one final carnival dance. This was an awesome experience.



What does special mean and what makes you special? This is what pupils have been discussing in Nursery this week. They have also been improving their fine motor and literacy skills, finding their names and faces and threading a special frame around them. These are important skills to have.

Pupils in RB have been learning that they are part of a community of people. They discussed the people who work in our school and also met Miss Ford from RW. They discovered that there are other reception classes in our school and beyond. Then we had a zoom call with another Reception class at Belleville. The pupils said hello in French and English and asked questions about their classrooms, the bear we use for phonics and if we line up the same way. We noticed that there were many things the same about our classes and learning, even though we had never met before.

This week in RW have also been learning about other schools around the world and enjoyed a Zoom meeting with a Reception class at Belleville as well. They spoke about our BWA classroom and asked questions about their classroom. Here is a picture of us introducing Tom to them.



Year 1 learnt about how the letter R changes the sounds that vowel digraphs make. The pupils demonstrated this using 'living letters' where a bossy R joined the word and changed the sound in the middle of the word. They then did a brilliant job of reading and sorting words which had different graphemes for the /er/ phoneme. Well done Year 1.

Year 2 and 2B were very excited this week as we brought history to life! They watched while Pudding Lane was set alight in the playground today and witnessed how quickly the fire spread, due to high wind as well as the houses being made of wood and straw. Pupils in Y2 were very articulate about their learning, and 2B were excited to be launching their History unit with the special event.



Last week, Year 2 had a fantastic trip to the Natural History Museum where they were able to consolidate this half-term's learning on Habitats. They attended a workshop on Oceans' habitats and pollution, before having a wander around the Creepy crawlies' gallery where they were able to talk about vertebrates and invertebrates very articulately.

Year 4 began their last outcome of the half term, creating beautiful m Kenning poetry based on animals from around the world.

Pupils in 5M began their multiplication and division topic in mathematics and have been learning about factors and multiples. They were introduced to factor bugs which they have found to be very helpful when identifying all the factors for a number!

5LT's highlight this week has also been their new maths topic. Pupils have begun their multiplication unit fantastically well and are really relishing the challenge of representing factors and multiples of various numbers. They have even been practising their drawing skills when creating factor bugs as part of their working.



In their specialist Music lessons, pupils in Year 5 have been learning about Folk music, resulting in some beautiful choral singing. Pupils have developed their historical and cultural understanding of the different communities which the music belong to - be that Irish, Geordie or 19th-Century Sailors. It really is lovely to hear.



This week, Year 6 participated in a poetry slam, reading aloud their poems about change inspired by Karl Nova. Pupils gave each other feedback on intonation, tone, volume and gestures. They then used the feedback to write an additional poem with the theme of peer pressure, using metaphors and personification for effect.

In PSHE, 6B discussed what is meant by Identity. They considered what plays a part of our identity, its importance and how identify is linked to our happiness.

Excellent Learners

Congratulations to all our Excellent Learners this week.

Excellent Learners Want to learn more			
Olivia	RW	Elise	3B
Olympe	RB	Emilie	Y4
Giorgio	Y1	Kit	5LT
Azariah	Y2	Ollie Ray	5M
Louis V	2B	Maya	Y6
Uma	Y3	Maxime	6B



Upcoming PTA Events

Tue, 7 Nov	BWA Parents' Free Cheese & Wine Evening	7pm-9pm	Join us to share a glass of wine and a cheese board, on the house! Mingle with fellow parents and PTA volunteers, and discover more about the school community
Thu, 16 Nov	PTA AGM	7.30pm-8.45pm	All are warmly invited to attend our official PTA Annual General Meeting. We encourage everyone to join!
Fri, 17 Nov	Y1/Y2/GS/CP Disco	5pm-6.15pm	Tickets will be available for purchase starting early November
Fri, 1 Dec & Sat, 2 Dec	Christmas Tree Sale	Pick up slots TBC	Orders for Christmas trees towards the end of November, with pickups scheduled for 1st and 2nd December
Fri, 1 Dec	Christmas Fair	3.30pm-5.30pm	Anticipate a festive after-school fair for the children! We will need your help to run the games and activities, and make sure this great event can go ahead
Fri, 1 Dec	Festive Friday's Donations	Drop off	Toys and games' collection to support disadvantaged children. Benefiting charity TBC soon
TBC Dec	Christmas Jumper Day	All day	All children are encouraged to wear their festive jumpers
Fri, 8 & 15 Dec	Festive Friday's Donations	Drop off	Collection of food essentials to support local food banks, at a time of year that is difficult for many
2024			
Fri, 19 Jan 2024	Y3/Y4/CE1/CE2 Disco	After 5pm - exact time TBC	Mark your calendars! Tickets will be on sale early January
Fri, 1 Mar 2024	Y5/Y6/CM1/CM2 Disco	After 5pm - exact time TBC	Fourth and final disco! Tickets will be available in February



<https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/bellevillewix/>

We're excited to share a hassle-free way for you to support BWA every time you shop online.

Simply visit <https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/bellevillewix/> and sign up. By doing so, a portion of your online purchases from thousands of retailers will be donated to our school at no extra cost to you. Think of it as a small contribution that makes a big difference every time you shop!

Need Help?

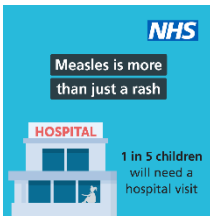
Communication

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. There are pupils onsite with allergies and we must all do our best to keep these pupils safe at all times when onsite.



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.



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.



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 fantastic half term holiday.

Miss Henry