

[Newsletter for week ending 8th December 2023](#)



I hope that our wonderful Christmas Winter Fair last Friday was a great start to your weekend. We have an awesome PTA who organised this super event for us and we couldn't have put it on without all of your support. I hope you enjoyed all there was on offer, including seeing the beautiful ponies and visiting Father Christmas. Congratulations to Samay, in 1B, who won the enormous jar of sweets from our School Council- run Christmas Fair competition - 'Guess the number of sweets.' Samay estimated there were 364 sweets which was the closest guess as there were 366 sweets in the jar. Well done and thank you again to our School Councillors who were able to come and help run the Games stalls.

On Thursday we enjoyed a delicious Christmas lunch and Christmas Jumper Day together. Today pupils looked fabulous for our Fabulous Festive Friday in return for donations for a local food bank. Thank you for all your help and support with these events.

L



LEARNERS who are:

- inquisitive, resilient and have high expectations of themselves
- critical and creative thinkers who can solve problems and evaluate effectively
- confident, collaborative and articulate
- excellent learners



Pupils in our Nursery have been learning all about Christmas as part of their celebrations topic. Their classroom is looking very festive and Santa is going to be lucky to have some help count all the presents this year as they have been practising their counting skills. This week, they focused on carefully lining objects up to help them count more accurately.

This week in RW, pupils have continued exploring space. Pupils used split pins to create their own astronauts. In their maths lesson, they made a caterpillar from fruit – looks like fun learning!

Pupils in RB have also been learning about space as part of their termly topic of 'Light and Dark'. They have been inspired by the different astronauts they have learnt about and one of our pupils would love to be an astronaut when they are grown up. After designing and making their own rockets using 2D shapes, pupils zoomed around the room in narrative role play, just like their story of the week, 'Whatever Next'. In the story, baby bear builds a rocket to get to the moon. Luckily, RB also have moon dust in their classroom for pupils to visit with their rockets.





Year 1 and Year 2 enjoyed getting together to rehearse their Christmas concert with Mr Edwards this week and they were brilliant at remembering the words and actions to the songs they will perform.

Our Year 1 pupils have been learning to add numbers up to a total of 20. They began by looking at counting on from the greatest part. Pupils then challenged themselves to add by first making 10, an important skill for understanding this key concept. They showed their understanding both

through circling 10 in their picture question and then representing this using counters and tens frames. Well done to all of Year 1 for articulating their understanding so well to their partners.

In 2B, pupils have been working hard to master division in their maths this week. Pupils have taken the challenge on and really tried to get to grips with it, showing excellent learning behaviours. I certainly enjoyed seeing them writing fact files about foxes, which showcased how much they knew about these animals we see so much of in our local area. Their work was beautifully presented and it was a joy to see the pride they took in this piece of work.

We Maths

This week in Year 3, pupils were busy learning how to do long division. It was the first time pupils have looked at the concept but they were able to apply all the skills learnt during their multiplication and division topic from the start of the year. They showed great resilience and determination to answer as many questions as possible, modelling our excellent learner behaviours.

Pupils in 3B have been learning how to divide by three. They explored how 15 shared into 3 equal groups means that there will be 5 in each group and that 15 shared into groups of 3 means that there will be 5 groups altogether.



In Year 4, our pupils have been investigating how water can change into different states of matter during the water cycle. They drew the water cycles on whiteboards before copying it onto these bags, putting some coloured water into them and then placing them on the class window. Pupils are eagerly looking forward to studying them over the coming weeks to see what happens to the water in the bag.

This week 5M have been learning about the inspirational education activist Malala Yousafzai in their English lessons. Having collected research about her early life, experience living in Pakistan and heroic achievements, pupils are now working on writing their own biographies about Malala.

5LT's highlight this week is their fantastic Ancient Greek myth performances in History. Everyone worked so hard over the past week to create props and costumes to incorporate into their re-enactments. Many pupils in the class remembered all of their lines. It was fantastic to watch the creativity and flair they showed whilst performing as characters like Perseus, Medusa or the Minotaur.



This week pupils in 6B had the opportunity to visit Lavender Hill Magistrates' Court in order to develop their understanding of the criminal system, how law is enforced and the importance of rules. Pupils thoroughly enjoyed playing out a scripted mock trial with roles including Defence Solicitors, Prosecutors, Witnesses and Chair. They were then able to ask questions and consider the impact of crime and importance of laws in society. Before they left, they were given a special tour of the now unused cells.



Year 6 finished the fictional novel, 'The Longest Night of Charlie Noon' by Christopher Edge, this week. They were shocked and enthralled by the ending, where everything from within the story became clear. Pupils thoroughly enjoyed reading this book, showing outstanding inference skills throughout. One pupil commented, "I was astonished by the plot twists and I would highly recommend this book for eager readers interested in time-travelling mysteries."



During a recent Chess Tournament, five BWA pupils who attend our morning Chess Club represented BWA in an online tournament. Everyone contributed to the team total score and got to play non-stop against other schools for 2 hours.

Aymeric was able to show off his technique by executing a 'Lawnmower' Checkmate. Well done!

Excellent Learners

Congratulations to all our Excellent Learners this week.

Excellent Learners			
Learn with others			
Otilie	RW	Louis W	3B
Sophia	RB	Leo	Y4
James	Y1	Harry	5LT
Tom	Y2	Fynn	5M
Ines	2B	Adam	Y6
Harrison	Y3	Lucas	6B



Birthday Treats

When it is a child's birthday during the school term, parents and carers can choose to celebrate this special occasion by bringing in food to share with the class if they wish. This food is given out at the end of the school day so that parents and carers can decide if their child consumes it. If you do choose to bring in food for the class, we would really appreciate it if, in addition to nut-free, consideration could be given to other allergies, religious and dietary preferences, so that all children can share in the class celebration.

The Big Ambition

The Children's Commissioner for England has asked that we share this survey with you and encourage you to complete these with your children. The Big Ambition provides a much-needed opportunity for the children of England to tell political decision makers what is important to them. Children or parents can complete the survey here: www.childrenscommissioner.gov.uk/thebigambition . Further resources are available on their [website](#).



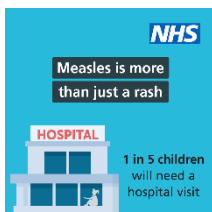
Communication

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

Last day of the Autumn term

- **English Stream** - Thursday 21st December at 1:45pm
- **Bilingual Stream** - Thursday 21st December at 3:15pm

Wishing you all a wonderful weekend.

Miss Henry