

Newsletter for the week ending 26th April 2024

On Monday, pupils in 6B headed off to the Isle of Wight for their residential trip. We have heard that they were having a wonderful time learning more about the island and the key connections it has with their study of WW2. We look forward to seeing them return later this evening and hearing about their trip.



Attendance Matters

Attendance – we continue to need your help!

I ask that families note the half term and end of term dates at the end of this newsletter so that every pupil is in school until the last day of each half term. Every student. Every day. Holidays should not be taken in term time. Our attendance continues to be affected by families taking extended holidays out of term time.

If your child is sick and you are unsure if they should attend school, this [NHS link](#) may be helpful.



Mental Health Awareness Week 13th - 19th May

This year's Mental Health Awareness Week takes place from 13 to 19 May 2024. The week is run by the [Mental Health Foundation](#) and the theme for this year is **Movement: moving for our mental health.**

Good Thinking is a free NHS-approved digital service that has helped over 730,000 Londoners look after their mental health and wellbeing in a way that works for them, which is suitable for young people and parents. Good Thinking is available 24/7 on any device, completely anonymous and provides personalised advice, support and resources to help people struggling with:

- Stress
- Anxiety
- Low mood
- Sleep
- Other mental health concerns such as trauma, bereavement and eating disorders.

Find out more:

<https://www.good-thinking.uk/>

<https://www.mentalhealth.org.uk/>

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

In our LEARN Statement, L stands for Learners. We want our pupils to have the very best experiences. Here are some of the highlights of our week together.



School Councillors were delighted to be invited to a Salad Workshop organised by Harrisons Catering, where they had the chance to make their own salads with lots of different fresh ingredients. They had to think about what flavours would go well together and which dressing to use. At the end of the workshop, they voted for the tastiest salad, which will feature on the school menu as the 'salad of the month'. Congratulations to Rose in 5B who received the most votes for her creative salad. Thank you to Harrisons Catering for such a fun and hands-on workshop, which was enjoyed by all.



In their PE Games lessons, pupils have started their Striking and Fielding unit. This unit focuses on enhancing hand-eye coordination skills essential for batting, catching, and throwing when playing Cricket, Rounders and Softball.

Pupils in the EYFS are mastering underarm throwing using the 'Swing, Step, Throw' method whilst pupils in Key Stage 1 and 2 are focusing on overarm throwing, using the 'Soldier, Aeroplane, Muscle Man, Step, Throw' technique. Everyone has enjoyed playing a game called Run the Gauntlet and have been demonstrating really good overarm throwing skills. Mr. Sanfilippo encourages you to ask your child to demonstrate their throwing skills at home using these techniques.



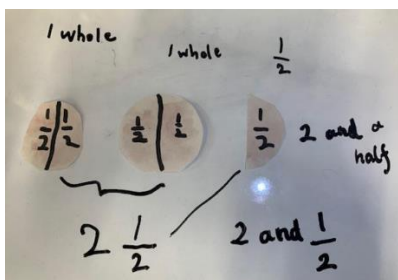
In our Nursery, not so far, far away, a spaceship crash landed this week! Our budding space cadets were straight on the case, investigating clues to determine whether it was a human or alien ship. After examining the evidence, they concluded it must be an alien ship after finding slimy blue food and strange writing that looks nothing like any alphabet they have ever seen. The hunt is now on to find our little friends and hopefully convince them to stay and play in Nursery for a while as the pupils are pretty sure these are friendly, shy aliens who have just lost their way.



In RW, pupils have had an exciting time learning about mermaids this week. They used mixed media to make mermaid tails, wrote stories about mermaids and imagined what it would be like to be a mermaid themselves. Pupils are looking forward to their trip to The Golden Hinde next week.

Pupils in Year 1 have written some amazing stories inspired by John Burningham's *Cloudland*. To enrich their setting descriptions they took a moment to observe the clouds in the sky. This helped pupils to generate some brilliant, creative adjectives to start their stories about Albert's adventure in

Cloudland.



Year 2 have become experts at fractions in Maths over the last couple of weeks. After identifying and naming fractions, they can now count in halves and quarters. Pupils used cake to master counting in halves, before moving on to the pictorial and then the abstract representation of fractions.

Year 3 have been exploring Bar Graphs over the last couple of weeks, learning how they help us understand and interpret different pieces of evidence. They have also come to the end of their class novel 'Krinklekrax'. It has been fantastic seeing the pupils improve their character description writing and increase their knowledge of conjunctions when completing written work based on this novel.



This week, Year 4 have spent time virtually touring the vast coastline of the UK, visiting Cornwall, Blackpool and even Portrush in Northern Ireland. This experience enabled them to discuss how, and why, coastlines look very different.

Pupils in 4B enjoyed working with our Resident Artists this week to create clay art in the style of William Morris, a Pre-Raphaelite artist, who has connections to the River Wandle. Pupils learnt that he took his inspiration from nature and created many works of art that can still be found in the V&A. To create their 3D clay models, pupils used different grades of pencils and other drawing implements to achieve variation in tone and mark. They transferred their ideas into clay and were able to identify changes they might make or how their work could be developed even further.



During their geography lesson, pupils in 5S and 5LT were immersed in the environment of a rainforest. Taking part in their first 'Now Press Play' audio experience, they were taken on a night-time excursion into the Amazon. Along their journey, they encountered various animals of the Amazon, explored the different layers of the rainforest and learnt about issues with deforestation and creating a sustainable environment. Thank you to the PTA for funding this wonderful learning tool. It was a phenomenal learning experience.



Year 6 reflected on the documentary, 'Life on our Planet', by David Attenborough and the changes that we can make to support biodiversity during Science this week. The class agreed that whilst some of the documentary is sad, we can be hopeful about the positive changes that are

now happening for humans to live alongside wildlife in harmony. On reflection, pupils would encourage everyone to watch the programme in order to make small changes for a healthier planet.

Excellent Learners

<u>Excellent Learners</u>			
Veronica	RW	Sebastian V	4B
Skylar	Y1	David	5LT
Oliver	1B	Dexter	5S
Leo	Y2	Aria	5B
Martina	Y3	Shiheim	Y6
Natu	Y4		

Congratulations to all our Excellent Learners this week.



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.

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.



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.



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 27th May 2024

End of Summer term

- **English Stream** – Wednesday 24th July at 1:45pm
- **Bilingual Stream** – Thursday 18th July at 3:15pm



On **Friday 17th May**, BWA will celebrate International Families Day. Look out for more information about this community event which will include:

- Pupils to wear traditional outfits or colours of flag;
- Homework project around family /heritage
- Parent volunteers to come and share stories about their cultural heritage;
- International buffet after school.

Wishing you all a very happy weekend.

Miss Henry