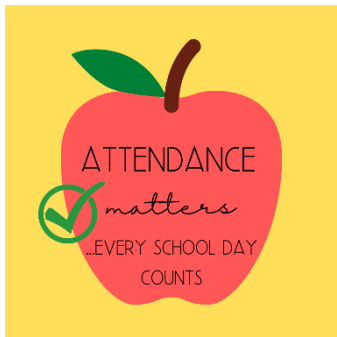


Newsletter for the week ending 19th January 2024

This evening we have our Year 3 and 4 disco and I have no doubt we will have a lot of fun together. Sincere thanks to our fantastic PTA who organise these lovely events for our school community.

We have had a lot of visitors in this week to see our very strong provision at BWA. It has been a pleasure to show prospective parents around our school and I would like to thank you for sharing how happy you are with our provision with friends. We have had leaders come from other schools and they have been very impressed with the excellent learning behaviours they saw as well as our engaging learning environment.



Attendance

Attending school every day is very important. Our attendance is not as good as it has been and I would value your support in ensuring more pupils attend school every day. The table at the end of the newsletter sets out the expected attendance and when attendance needs to improve.

We know that pupils get sick and will need to rest to recuperate. Please do use this [NHS guidance](#) to help you make decisions when your child is ill about whether they should attend school or stay at home.

Our attendance is also affected by families taking extended holidays in term time. Holidays should be taken out of term time only. Medical appointments should also be made out of school hours.

E


ENGAGEMENT

- exciting first hand experiences and enquiry approaches
- varied, structured learning opportunities that are purposeful and appropriate



We are so very fortunate to have a wide range of specialist teachers at BWA. Walking around our school it is always such a joy to see the magnificent artwork pupils have created. Our Resident Artists were teaching pupils in 2B this week.

Pupils learnt about folk art through exploring the art of the Gond tribe from India. They learned that Gond art is known for its bright colours and intricate patterns. Pupils in 2B practiced mixing their own secondary colours and then created some spectacular artwork of peacocks using acrylic paint and oil pastels.

Nursery have started learning phonics and have gone fishing this week. The catch of the day are the two new sounds we have learned: s and a. Not only are we practising hearing these sounds at the start of words, we have even started writing them. Fishing rods and pencils at the ready, here we go...!





This week, pupils in RW have continued to learn more about dinosaurs. Pupils used junk modelling to build their very own dinosaurs that they will paint next week. Pupils also created their own dinosaur skeletons, which you can see in this photograph, by drizzling PVA glue onto black card before setting out cotton buds to show the different bones that make up a skeleton.

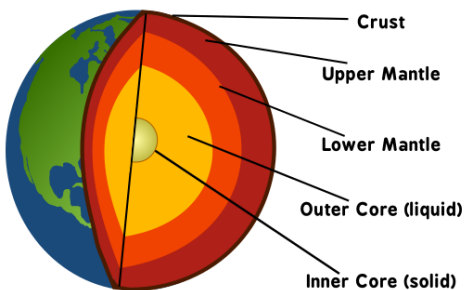
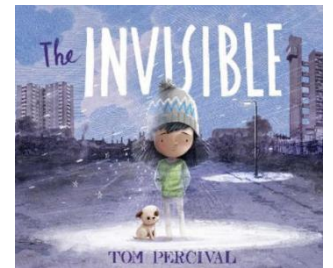
Pupils have also been learning about World Religion Day, which is on Sunday 21st January. They have had some lovely discussions about what the children know and what experiences they have of different religions. They also discussed how tolerance is part of our British values and how we respect each other's different beliefs across the world.

RB have been reading *The Gingerbread Man* and wondered if they could save him at the end of the story. They tested if he could swim by putting him into water and observing the changes. The pupils made impressive predictions such as; 'he will sink', 'the colour will change' and 'he will get soggy and go to pieces'. At the end of the day, they realised their predictions were correct. The pupils were excited to be 'scientists' and conduct this experiment, and thought of new ways they could save the Gingerbread Man. Afterwards they made boats and bridges to help him escape in other ways, so they have been engineers as well.



Year 1 have been making links between their Science and English this week when reading *Dinosaurs* and *All That Rubbish*. The story explores how rubbish and pollution can damage our planet and the importance of taking care of it. The pupils have been up-levelling their vocabulary through retelling the story, supported by a word bank to start to use the new words in context, like smoulder and paradise!














This week, Year 2 pupils explored the lovely picture book, *'The Invisible'* by Tom Percival which raised lots of different topics such as poverty and community. They talked about not taking anything for granted and wrote fabulous diary entries as Isabel, the main character, imagining how she felt both at the start and at the end of the story. Pupils used expanded noun phrases, commas in a list and even rhetorical questions, truly showing empathy in their writing.

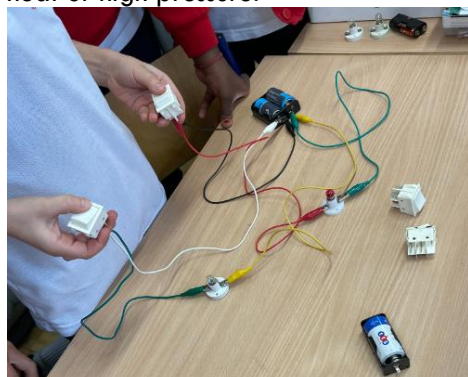


Pupils in Year 3, pupils explored the different layers of the Earth. They used chrome books to research the different types of rock that make up the layers and their temperatures. Pupils were very surprised at how hot the Core of the Earth is.

Pupils in 3B have been busy exploring the main types of rocks this week and ways to identify them. They learnt that igneous rocks are formed from the cooling and solidification of molten (melted) rock. Sedimentary rocks are formed from deposits of sediment compacted over time and that Metamorphic rocks are rocks that have been substantially changed over time, usually because of high heat or high pressure.

TYPES OF ROCKS

IGNEOUS		SEDIMENTARY		METAMORPHIC	
					
Granite	Scoria	Sandstone	Limestone	Marble	Slate
					
Pumice	Obsidian	Shale	Conglomerate	Gypsum	Quartzite
					Gneiss



Pupils in Year 4 have continued to investigate how electricity works. After building some simple circuits and using their knowledge to fix broken circuits they looked at how switches effect the flow of electric. Pupils experimented with switches before challenging themselves to see how many switches they could include in a working circuit.

In 5LT, pupils have been reading Nicola Davies' short story, *'The Day War Came'* about a refugee child looking for a place in a new school. The class were set a challenge of persuading the story's reluctant teacher to be more considerate and empathetic by allowing the child to join her class. We have been blown away by the power of 5LT's persuasive writing and particularly their maturity when discussing such topics.

In 5S, pupils have started reading the book, 'Oranges in No Man's Land' by Elizabeth Laird. This story is inspiring our descriptive narrative writing which they have been planning this week. In science, pupils have been exploring the question: what are thermal conductors and are they important? They made predictions and carried out an investigation to see which materials are the best thermal conductors.



Year 6 participated in a practical science lesson this week by dissecting lamb hearts, as part of their new topic: 'How does the circulatory system work?' In pairs, they identified the aorta and pulmonary veins and arteries, before opening the heart to discover atriums and ventricles. Year 6 were very brave in their investigation.

Pupils in 6B have written biographies about Environmental Activist Greta Thunberg this week. At the start of the week, they identified the key features of a biography so they could incorporate them in their own pieces and learned about the passive voice as a way to make their writing more formal and varied. 6B researched key information about Greta to have a better understanding of her early life and key milestones to share. Pupils enjoyed writing their biographies as a chance to show the significance of Greta's climate actions and bring awareness to the cause.

Excellent Learners

Congratulations to all our Excellent Learners this week.

<u>Excellent Learners</u> <u>Ask for Help</u>			
Isobel	RW	Lucien	3B
Alma	RB	Zaira	Y4
Olivia	Y1	David	5LT
Alice	Y2	Leanora	5M
Beatrice	2B	Chari	Y6
Jada	Y3	Camille	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.



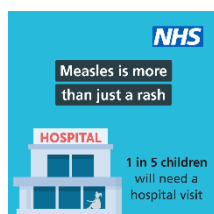
Communication

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

Spring Half Term – Monday 12th February

End of Spring Term

- **English Stream** - Thursday 28th March at 1:45pm
- **Bilingual Stream** - Thursday 28th March at 3:15pm

The proposed dates for the English Stream next year are set out below. Please note these may change.

Once the Bilingual Term dates are agreed these will be shared with all families.

Belleville Wix term dates 2024-25 – ENGLISH Stream only	
INSET days	Monday 2 & Tuesday 3 September 2024
Autumn 1	Wednesday 4 September 2024 to Friday 25 October 2024
Autumn half term	Monday 28 October to Friday 1 November 2024
INSET day	Monday 4 November 2024
Autumn 2	Tuesday 5 November to Friday 20 December 2024
Christmas holiday	Monday 23 December 2024 to Friday 3 January 2025 <i>(Bank Holidays - Wednesday 25 December, Thursday 26 December & Wednesday 1 January)</i>
INSET day	Monday 6 January 2025
Spring 1	Tuesday 7 January to Friday 14 February 2025
Spring half term	Monday 17 to Friday 21 February 2025
Spring 2	Monday 24 February to Friday 4 April 2025
Easter holiday	Monday 7 April to Monday 21 April 2025 <i>(bank holidays Friday 18 & Monday 21 April)</i>
INSET day	Tuesday 22 April 2025
Summer 1	Wednesday 23 April to Friday 23 May 2025 <i>(Bank Holiday Monday 5 May)</i>
Summer half term	Monday 26 to Friday 30 May 2025
Summer 2	Monday 2 June to Tuesday 22 July 2025

HAPPY NEW YEAR!!! The PTA team wishes you all a brilliant 2024!

We look forward to further growing our fantastic school community with you this year



Upcoming PTA Events

Fri, 19 Jan 2024	Y3/Y4/CE1/CE2 Disco	5pm-6.15pm	Tickets are now available for purchase on Bigcartel
Thu, 8 Feb 2024	Valentine's Day bake sale	At pick-up (from 3.15 to 4pm)	Let's share the love!! Bakers can drop off their masterpieces at the PTA stand at drop-off in the morning (between 8.15 and 9 am) and the lovely cakes and treats will be available for sale at pick up time
Fri, 1 Mar 2024	Y5/Y6/CM1/CM2 Disco	5pm-6.15pm	Fourth and final disco! Tickets will be available in February
W/c 4 March 2024	Mother's Day special sale	tbc	Special sale to celebrate all the amazing mums! Exact date that week and further details tbc shortly
Mon, 25 Mar 2024	Easter bake sale	At pick-up (from 3.15 to 4pm)	Let's celebrate the last week of Spring term with festive treats! Bakers can drop off their creations at the PTA stand in the morning (between 8.15 and 9 am) and those tasty treats will be available for sale at pick up time



<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!

Wishing you all a peaceful weekend.

Miss Henry

100%
attendance

190 school days in school

**Best
chance of
success**

95%
attendance

180 school days in school

90%
attendance

171 school days in school

**Poor
attendance
- less
chance of
success**

85%
attendance

161 school days in school

80%
attendance

152 school days in school

**Very poor
attendance
- serious
impact on
education**

75%
attendance

143 school days in school

Did you know there are 175 non-term dates in a school year?

