

Newsletter for the week ending 19th April 2024

I hope everyone had a marvellous holiday. It has been wonderful seeing the pupils skip back into school this week to start the summer term and speak with so many happy parents.

During our INSET Day on Monday, staff had training on a new resource you all kindly funded through the PTA events you attend. It is called [Now Press Play](#). Do click on the link to see how it works. We are looking forward to all the pupils benefitting from these immersive sessions.



BWA listed in [The Sunday Times](#) Top 500 Primary Schools in England

On Tuesday morning I was ecstatic after being informed by parents at the gate that we had made it into The Sunday Times Top 500 Primary Schools. This is an incredible achievement and we are so very happy. Thank you for sharing this with us and being so supportive of this amazing achievement.

The Sunday Times table uses the pure scores that pupils in a school achieve rather than the progress pupils have made from Year 2 to Year 6. If you have been on a tour with me, you will know that I value the progress pupils have made as an indicator of the strength of a provision as every pupil has a different starting point. Working in partnership with you is instrumental in ensuring every pupil makes great progress. Thank you for your continued support and I encourage you to get in contact with us if you want any guidance with things you can do at home to support your child even more this term.

The DfE Performance Tables for the Year 6 SATs in 2023 can be seen [here](#). We use this information to compare how our pupils have performed against with other schools locally, and nationally. Some of the key progress headlines are set out below.

- 1st for progress pupils made in Maths in Wandsworth. This means pupils at BWA made the most progress in Maths.
- 2nd for progress pupils made in Reading in Wandsworth.
- 4th for progress pupils made in Writing in Wandsworth.



Every student. Every day.

Attendance – we continue to need your help!

As we start this summer term, 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. Holidays should not be taken in term time. Our attendance continues to be affected by families taking extended holidays out of term time.

N



NURTURE

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

In our LEARN Statement, N stands for Nurture. Here are some of our highlights of the week together.



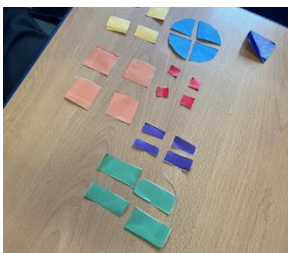
Pupils don't care what the weather man says in Nursery - they love all weather and especially when they get to explore it. This week, there was a huge hail storm and for some pupils, it was the first time they had ever seen hail so they collected bucket loads to investigate. Here they are getting a close up look (and feel); fun, fascinating but FREEZING! Brrrrrrr!

This week in their French lesson, pupils in our Nursery revised basic greetings and learnt how to say 'Je m'appelle...'. Our youngest pupils had fun with their new friend Camembear; the bear, and finished the session by using the vocabulary they'd learnt in

a game of hide and seek.

Pupils in RB have been measuring objects with standard and non-standard units. They have learnt that height and length can be measured with the same tools and a stand out moment was measuring themselves using their feet. They were so keen to see who was the tallest, they made a chart for the classroom door.

Pupils in RW are enjoying their 'Sea Adventures' topic. They have been drawing pictures of shells and enjoying spending time in their new 'Aquarium' role play area.



Year 1 have had a fantastic start to the summer term and jumped straight into their new Maths unit on Fractions. Building on their knowledge of shape, and making links to doubles as well as equal groups, the pupils have been able to find multiple ways to split shapes into halves and quarters. We encourage you to ask your child what a quarter is, or let them cut a cake or pizza into equal parts for you to share.

Year 2 had an exciting return to school, launching their new English topic, 'Charlie and the Chocolate Factory' by Roald Dahl. Trying to understand how Charlie might have felt when he tasted chocolate once a year on his birthday, pupils were given a square of chocolate which they had to patiently wait for, while discussing the writing outcome; they then were given 5 minutes on a time to make the piece of chocolate last and enjoy it. They then wrote descriptions of the experience, thinking about the five senses.... a delicious lesson!





Before the Easter holidays, pupils across different year groups were lucky to have a visit from Simon Crane, our volunteer parent gardener. In Year 2, pupils were given the chance to identify some of the different plants and herbs growing in the KS1 outside area, which they very much enjoyed. This was a fantastic way to introduce our 'Plants' topic in Science this half-term, which involved planting seeds during our first lesson this week, and thinking about what plants will need to grow and survive.



This week 2B have really enjoyed getting into the Olympic spirit. They took part in an art project using paint, pencil, pastels and collage techniques to create Olympic designs. Their masterpieces will be on show at the BWA Summer Art Exhibition so we can't give too much away!

3S have started reading their new class novel 'Krinklekrax'. There have been lots of interesting conversations around this story and everyone is excited to continue reading ahead.



Pupils in Year 3 have also been keen to learn more about the Stone Age, Bronze Age, and Iron Age. They learnt that

Stone and Bronze Age Britain occurred over a similar time period as the Ancient Egyptians. Pupils also noticed that the start of the Iron Age was when the Roman Empire started to expand, invading Britain in 43AD.

Pupils in Year 4 had a wonderful time learning more about abstract art, with a focus on the work of Henri Matisse, during their time with our Resident Artists. Pupils explored a range of different materials and worked on various different skills, such as sketching, painting and mixing colour palettes. Following this, pupils used the question of 'What is London to me?' to practice their skills of collage, in order to create their beautiful works of art.



Our Year 5 pupils were very pleased to welcome the arrival of five tiny caterpillars. They are learning about classifying living things and life cycles in science this term and will be observing very closely to see how the caterpillars change over the next few weeks, studying the process of metamorphosis.



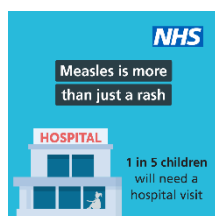
6B have been thrilled to continue their work on Holes by Louis Sachar. They reached a point of climax in the story and the class have enjoyed planning and writing their own narrative in response to this plot point. Pupils have included narrative techniques of personification and foreshadowing to bring an exciting quality to the action in their stories.

Pupils in Year 6 had a great time during the launch of their new geography topic - Earthquakes, Mountains and Volcanoes. This week they investigated how the Earth's continents have drifted through time. They began by exploring Pangaea (a supercontinent that existed during the late Paleozoic and early Mesozoic eras) and found links between its shape and how our world looks now. Year 6 cut up today's continents and tried to place them back together to recreate Pangaea.

Excellent Learners

Congratulations to all our Excellent Learners this week.

<u>Excellent Learners</u>			
Azan	RW	Jude	3B
Ivy	RB	Martha	Y4
Matis	Y1	Cashun	5LT
Noa	Y2	Benjamin	5S
Leopold	2B	Vinnie	Y6
Adam	Y3	Clarisse	6B



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

International Day of Families



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 peaceful weekend.

Miss Henry