

31st January 2025



What a fantastic week of learning it has been at school! The pupils have been engaged in a wide range of exciting and enriching activities, developing new skills and deepening their understanding across subjects. It has been a joy to see their enthusiasm and curiosity shine through in their learning. On Wednesday we all enjoyed a very special lunch menu to celebrate Chinese New Year. It was delicious.

As always, if there is anything families need from us, we are here to help. Please do not hesitate to contact us.

We are also looking forward to welcoming parents in the English stream to Parent-Teacher Meetings during the last week of this half term. If you have not yet booked your appointment, please do so at your earliest convenience. Meanwhile, teachers in the bilingual stream are busy preparing reports, which will be sent out to families on the last day of this half term.

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AMBITION

- the highest expectations of what all children can achieve
- expanding horizons through research and sharing of best practice



This week, Nursery pupils have been learning all about the Police. It was perfect timing, as our phonics bear, Fred, mysteriously went missing! The pupils used their writing skills to create missing posters, experimented with ink fingerprinting to identify suspects, and put their investigative skills to the test to solve the mystery. What an exciting way to learn about the important role of the Police!

Reception learned about Chinese New Year this week. Everyone learned how their New Year's celebrations are different. The pupils made a variety of crafts linked with it - paper lanterns, snake paperchains for the year of the snake and writing numbers in Chinese. I was very impressed with their painting of Chinese numbers.



Pupils in 1B have been exploring Christianity and the significance of symbols in everyday life. They discussed symbols that are particularly important to Christians and the meanings they hold. This thought-provoking discussion helped them understand how symbols can communicate beliefs and values.





Year 1 had an unforgettable science lesson this week, thanks to a visit from Safari Pete!

As part of their science unit on animals, pupils had the chance to see and even hold some amazing creatures, including a bearded dragon lizard, a meerkat, a tarantula, a tree frog, a scorpion, a snake, a barn owl, a ferret, and more! It was an incredible opportunity to learn about these fascinating animals up close.



Year 2 have had a fantastic week, enjoying a visit from Florence Nightingale from the Drama Shed on Tuesday where they used drama techniques to learn about the story of Florence. Pupils got to bandage a wounded soldier and use their bodies to represent the different things Florence achieved. Pupils also learnt about Mary Seacole and her place in history.

Pupils in Year 3 had a great time during their study of Egyptian monuments. Working in groups, pupils researched different monuments and then presented their findings to the class. Well done to all for their teamwork and impressive presentations!



Pupils in 4B learned about the vital role of a Member of Parliament (MP) in the UK. They explored how MPs represent their communities in the House of Commons and how they assist with important issues such as education, housing, and government services. Through interactive activities, pupils gained a deeper understanding of democracy and how voting enables citizens to have their voices heard.



During their lessons with our Resident Artist, Mrs Hatcher, Year 4 explored icy landscapes through painting. They experimented with different shades of blue, white, and even bright colours to capture the magic of icebergs and the ocean. Using watercolours, they learned how to make their icebergs appear shiny and smooth. Their artistic creations are truly stunning!



Our Year 5 pupils investigated air resistance and its effect on the speed at which objects fall to Earth. As part of this experiment, they designed and created parachutes to test how air resistance works in real life. This hands-on activity was both fun and educational, allowing pupils to apply their learning in an exciting way.



Year 6 have been continuing their three-week-long practical experiment on heart rate and pulse. Pupils have been measuring their own pulses, learning how to locate them accurately, and recording their heartbeats before and after different types of exercise. Many were surprised to discover that some activities they expected to be easy actually made their hearts work much harder than anticipated.

In 6B, pupils were learning about the function of blood and the different components that make up our blood. They used sweets and water to highlight the percentage of white blood cells, red blood cells, platelets and plasma.



Year 4 Parent – Important Information

Our Director for Maths will hold two multiplication tables check (MTC) sessions for parents across the trust on Tuesday 4th February via zoom. These will run at 2-3pm and then again at 5.30-6.30pm. Please do attend, if you can.

Awards

Congratulations to all our Excellent Learners this week.

<u>Excellent Learners</u> Listen Well			
Kaye	RA	Rico	Y4
Isobel	Y1	Aziz	4B
Charles	1B	Charlotte	Y5
James	Y2	Ollie-Ray	Y6
Fayrouz	Y3	Aiden	6B

Congratulations to all our CARE Value Stars this week.

<u>Care Values</u> Responsible			
Alaia	RA	Martina	Y4
Leonora	Y1	Mila	4B
Annabelle	1B	Martha	Y5
Oliver	Y2	David	Y6
Theo	Y3	Nicolas	6B



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.

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 and sunscreen. Getting outside is very important at BWA and we plan to have both PE and play outside in all weathers.



Dates to Remember

Half term – week beginning 17th February

End of Spring term

- English Stream – 4th April at 1:45pm
- Bilingual Stream – 4th April at 3:15pm

Wishing you all a very peaceful weekend.

Miss Henry