



7 November 2025

Dear Parents and Carers.

It has been wonderful to welcome all our pupils back to school after the half-term break. They have returned with great enthusiasm, ready for another great half term of learning opportunities and experiences.

On Monday, staff from across our Trust came together for a day of professional development focused on maths, writing, technology and spelling. It was a valuable opportunity to share ideas and strengthen our teaching practice to benefit all our pupils.

This half term, we are looking forward to meeting families in our bilingual stream during the upcoming Parent Teacher meetings. Next week we will host our first Open Morning, which will focus on our English stream, with a second Open Morning for our bilingual stream taking place on 26th November. We would really appreciate your support in spreading the word to friends and local families and, for those who can, in helping us on the day by speaking with prospective families and leading school tours.

On Wednesday, we held our first Parent Gym session. Please do sign up for this by emailing us if you haven't already. It is a phenomenal parenting course worth over £1000 per parent that we have secured for our families.

Finally, we will be saying goodbye to Mrs Mountford at the start of next week as she moves on to her dream role of working in an office. We are very grateful for all her hard work and commitment during her time at BWA and we wish her every success in her new adventure.

Wishing you all wonderful weekend,

### Séana Henry

Headteacher

### Important dates:

Last day of Autumn Term 2 - Both Streams - Friday 19 December

Full term dates for both streams are <u>available on our website</u>.

# Important information:

- Please ensure your child has suitable clothing in school. We have PE and play outside in all weathers.
- Please remember that we are a **Nut Free School**.
- Our <u>communication table</u> should help with any queries you have.

### **Excellent Learners**

Congratulations to this week's Excellent Learners.

Class	Pupil
RM	Colm
RB	French Week
Y1	Finnegan
1B	Barthelemy
Y2	Beatrice
2B	Cassie
Y3	Leila
3B	Adessa
Y4	Alan
4B	French Week
Y5	Aurelie
5B	French Week
Y6	Veronica
6B	Sebastien L

#### **Care Values**

Congratulations to this week's CARE Value Stars.

Class	Pupil
RM	Leo
RB	French Week
Y1	Florence
1B	Josephine
Y2	Edward
2B	Alma
Y3	Oliver
3B	Catherine
Y4	Azariah
4B	French Week
Y5	Freya
5B	French Week
Y6	Leo
6B	Leandro

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# Our Week – Early Years and Key Stage 1

This week **Nursery** have been learning all about Bonfire Night and Halloween. They have engaged in lots of intentional mark making to draw their own fireworks, using the mathematical language they have been learning about to describe the patterns they are making. They have also had a lot of fun learning outdoors,





noticing the changes in the season and playing in the autumn leaves.

This week in **Reception**, the pupils have been excited to be back in school. They enjoyed recapping Fred's sounds and counting all the way to 10. They are very excited to have started practicing their Nativity performance so it is perfect by December.











This week in Science, **Year 1** have been learning all about the seasons and what they should wear during each one. Pupils had fun drawing pictures to show what to wear in each month, then cutting out and sticking on key items of clothing to match their drawings. They now have a great understanding of how their clothing changes with the weather and what is suitable to wear at different times of the year.

Pupils in **1B** began their first week back at school by reading their new focus text, *The Tiger Who Came To Tea* by Judith Kerr, and thinking about what they would do if a tiger came to visit us. The pupils were shocked to discover that after lunch, a cheeky tiger ransacked their classroom. They recorded all the destruction the tiger caused by writing verbs and adding the -ed suffix to create words like knocked, pushed, ripped and jumped. Our pupils then used their recount skills to write a comprehensive report to give to the Headteacher to help catch that pesky tiger. What an exciting start to the term.

This week in **Year 2**, our pupils have discussing the importance of rules, why we have them, and how they help us work and play together. They began creating their own games based on this topic, thinking carefully about what rules their games would need to make them fair and fun for everyone.

Pupils in **2B** have started their new topic 'The Great Fire of London'. They have been looking at different sources in history to help them learn about the past, including Samuel Pepys diary, a leather bucket and a fire hat. They also watched a model of the Great Fire burning today, to show how enormous and destructive the fire was. This truly is bringing learning to life and always a highlight for our Year 2 pupils. Pupils went back in time and wrote a diary as Samuel thinking about how they would have felt to be alive during the Great Fire.



# Our Week - Key Stage 2

**Year 3** have had a fabulous first week back. They loved discovering more about their new curriculum topics. They have particularly enjoyed exploring a range of artefacts from the Roman period.

**Year 4** have enjoyed their first week back at school. Pupils have been captivated by the new units they have begun – the Anglo





Saxons for History and States of Matter for Science. Pupils will continue to go swimming this half term and it is great to see their weekly progress. It promises to be a term full of exploration, experiments and fantastic trips.

In their first week back, **Year 5** have begun an exciting range of new topics. In History, they are exploring the civilisation of Ancient Greece and discovering how many Greek ideas and inventions have influenced the world they live in today. In English, the pupils have read the biography *For the Right to Learn*, which tells the inspiring story of Malala Yousafzai. They discussed the importance of the right to education and identified the key features of a biography in preparation for writing their own.

**Year 6** have settled back into school very well this week. The pupils became reporters, investigating and writing about the circumstances of the bomb which hit Balham High Street during the Blitz of 1940.

Pupils in **6B** are learning about biographies in English and will be writing their own about a famous person of their choice. They enjoyed exploring some different biographies in their launch lesson.









## **Sports Captains and House Cups**

Each class in Key Stage Two now has Sports Captains assigned to their houses. Two boys and two girls from each class have the honour of serving as Sports Captains. They have been chosen for their leadership qualities, demonstrating kindness, organisation, and a positive attitude.

All Sports Captains have been awarded badges and will be called upon throughout the year to help organise and prepare their teams for house competitions across a variety of sports.

Each classroom now also has a House Trophy, and when a house wins a competition, the trophy will proudly display a ribbon in the winning house's colour. May the games begin!





## **Black History Month**

We really enjoyed our Black History Month celebrations last month. During assembly, our pupils learnt about why we have Black History Month, how it started, and significant Black people in history. They finished the assembly by thinking of all the different ways they could celebrate Black History Month, including reading books about important Black people and making posters.

Earlier in October, Bigfoot Arts Education came in to do a fantastic workshop called 'Hidden Figures' about the Black British individuals who have shaped our nation. During the workshop, the pupils learnt about the Ivory Bangle Lady, Ignatius Sancho, Len Garrison, Dame









Elizabeth Anionwu, and Olive Morris. They also really enjoyed and learnt a lot from reading and discussing the books we have had on display around the school.

#### **Art News**

We are delighted to announce that three pupils from Key Stage 2 have been selected as winners from our summer art competition! The charity, Ace of Clubs, invited pupils to design a paper plate which will be turned into a display for their kitchens. Many pupils entered the competition from across South London and we would like to congratulate the following pupils: Michal (Y4), Mila (Y4B) and Daphne (Y4B).

All competition winners will be invited to visit the Ace of Clubs kitchen to do some cooking with their chef, as well as meeting the Mayor of Lambeth, Councillor Adrian Garden. What a fabulous start to the year. Very well done to all the pupils who entered the competition, you are all super artists.

## Wellbeing and SEND Resources

The SWLSTG Education Wellbeing Service offers free lunchtime and evening parent Webinars across the year to help support your child's wellbeing and mental health. Their next webinars are <a href="Promoting">Promoting</a>
<a href="Promoting">Positive Behaviours</a> for children in Nursery and Reception on 18 and 20 November, and <a href="Building">Building</a>
<a href="Resilience">Resilience in Primary School Children</a> on 17 and 19 November. You can sign up to any of their free webinars here. <a href="Early Years">Early Years</a>, <a href="Primary Years">Primary Years</a>

There are also free workshops for South Asian parents and carers in Wandsworth, especially those who speak Urdu, Gujarati, Bengali, Pashto or Somali, who have children with Special Educational Needs. The workshops are hosted at 222 Upper Tooting Road, London, SW17 7EW on the first Friday of every month until June. To find out more or sign up, please visit this website.

Wandsworth Family Information Service has many resources available to help **support families with children and young people with SEND.** To find out more about the Local Offer for 0 – 25 year olds with special educational needs or disabilities, please <u>visit their website</u>.