

## Newsletter for the week ending 3<sup>rd</sup> May 2024

In our LEARN Statement, E stands for Engagement. We want our pupils to love learning and to be keen to learn even more. Throughout the week, pupils have been on educational trips, taught by specialist teachers and enjoyed engaging lessons. Here are some of the highlights of our week together.

# E



### ENGAGEMENT

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



Our 3B class had a magnificent day learning with our Resident Artists. They explored the work of Alberto Giacometti to help them produce their own stick-thin 'bronze' figures.

Pupils began by sketching people in a variety of poses. Next, they created the frame of a person for their sculpture out of pipe cleaners. They then used tinfoil to pad the sculpture and finally, wrapped the sculpture in masking tape for stability. Lastly, they painted their sculptures in black and added dabs of bronze paint to create the bronze effect.



What comes up, must come down - especially when gravity is involved. As part of their space topic, pupils in our Nursery have been learning all about this powerful force that keeps us on the ground and stops us from floating away like things often do in space. They also learned that some things come down faster than others depending on how heavy they are. Here's one astronaut putting a feather and a wooden cupcake to the test

Pupils in RW and RB had the most amazing learning experience during their trip to the Golden Hinde. They had a fascinating tour of the boat and pretended to be pirates. It was very interesting finding out how things worked in the past. Pupils particularly enjoyed preparing the cannon to fire. Thank you very much to the parents who so kindly gave up time to join us for the trip and to the teachers who have worked so hard to organise this excellent opportunity.





This week, pupils in Year 1 have been exploring acrostic poems and using 'The Lost Words' text to think about how poets bring natural images to life in their writing. The pupil's acrostic poems about Spring were spectacular and they all worked hard using their senses to conjure up the most beautiful Spring imagery. Well done for some thoughtful and creative writing.

As part of their English topic about Charlie and the Chocolate Factory, pupils in 2B took part in a chocolate workshop. They learned where chocolate comes from, tasted a variety of chocolate with different flavours and then made their own chocolate truffles to take home. I hear some pupils modelled how to taste the chocolate to their families at home whilst sharing the delicious.



Pupils in Year 2 have really been enjoying their new History topic, 'Amazing Activists,' and have been showing their excellent learner traits by asking lots of thought provoking questions in class discussions. This week they learnt about the Civil Rights Movement in the USA, discussed segregation and the Montgomery bus boycotts. Pupils learnt lots of new facts about significant activists, such as Rosa Parks, Martin Luther King, Ruby Bridges and Audrey Faye Hendricks and the difference they have made.

In Year 3, pupils have really enjoyed delving into Prehistoric History and learning about what life was like during the Stone Age. They have been able to identify similarities and differences about childhood today compared with prehistoric times. It's safe to say a few shocked faces appeared around when the classroom when they learnt computers didn't exist during the Stone Age.

Pupils in Year 4 explored whether having bigger ears resulted in better hearing. They discovered that animals have a wide variety of ear sizes and discussed why. To test their predictions, pupils created two different sized paper cones 'ears,' they held these up to their ears before making a noise on a musical instrument to test whether the size of cone affected what they heard.



This week in maths, 5S have been learning about quadrilaterals, solving problems involving angles in rectangles and have been investigating the difference between regular and irregular polygons.

5LT's weekly highlight continues to be observing the complete metamorphosis of their class caterpillars. Pupils have carefully examined the caterpillars, taking detailed observations along the way and even naming them. 5LT are now eagerly awaiting their transformation into butterflies, as the insects are currently in their chrysalides stage.

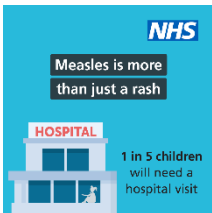
Pupils in Year 6 finished their class text - Holes by Louis Sachar - and wrote persuasive letters to the Attorney General for Camp Green Lake to be closed down. They used a range of techniques, like repetition, rhetorical questions, modal verbs and emotive language to convince their reader that the camp is not rehabilitative and is unsafe for many of its detainees. Pupils produced fantastic formal letters and performed their work with confidence and clarity.

After an exciting week away on their residential last week, pupils in 6B have come back refreshed and been revising diligently ahead of their SATS tests. The class have discussed exam strategies alongside practising the important skills needed to share their knowledge on paper.

## Excellent Learners

Excellent Learners			
Yoojoon	RW	Louis B	3B
Violette	RB	Elijah	Y4
Eylo	Y1	Scarlet	5LT
Justin	Y2	Marco	5M
Zara	2B	Milo	Y6
Felix	Y3	Augustin	6B

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.



### 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/>

## 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 27<sup>th</sup> May 2024

### **End of Summer term**

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

### **Sports Days – more details to follow**

- **Reception & Year 1** – 3<sup>rd</sup> July am
- **Year 2 & Year 3** – 3<sup>rd</sup> July pm
- **Year 4, 5 & 6** – 2<sup>nd</sup> July am

## International Day of Families



On **Friday 17th May**, BWA will celebrate International Families Day. Information has been sent out to all families and we do hope you will be able to participate in some, if not all, of the events planned.

- 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 wonderful Bank Holiday weekend.

**Miss Henry**