



# LADY BANKES PRIMARY SCHOOL

## Newsletter No.2

October 2024

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ambition, togetherness, opportunity, respect, curiosity, happiness



Dear Lady Bankes families,

It is hard to believe that our nursery and reception pupils have only been at school for half a term- they have settled in so well and are making such good progress. Their love of learning and school is really shining through.

It was lovely to see so many families attend our parents' evenings this week. This is always a good opportunity for you to formally meet your child's class teacher/s and for them to share with you how well they are doing. We hope that you enjoyed looking at all the great learning in their books. When you attend the next parents' evening in February you will really be able to see the progress they are making too.

We have had many trips and workshops taking place this half term which you will see in the year group sections. These really do enhance our offer to the children here. The children in Year 2, for example, had great fun learning all about the Great Fire of London from Samuel Pepys himself!

Thank you to FOLBA for organising the Coin Challenge and the excellent disco last week which the children thoroughly enjoyed! Thank you to all the parent volunteers across the school who supported the event. FOLBA are busy planning the school Christmas Fair on Friday 29th November so do put that date in your diary.

We send our congratulations to Miss Stone who is getting married at the start of half term. We hope you have a wonderful day.

For our families celebrating Diwali over half term we hope that you have a wonderful time with your families.

Have a restful half term and we look forward to seeing the children safely back to school on Monday 4th November.

Mrs K Needs

Dear Lady Bankes families,

Polite reminder, if your child has a school trip, please make sure you complete the online Google permission form for each trip by the date specified on the letter.

If we do not receive this permission your child might not be able to attend the trip.



### Diary Dates

Friday 25<sup>th</sup> October  
Training Day School Closed

Monday 28<sup>th</sup> Oct - Friday 1<sup>st</sup> Nov  
HALF TERM

**Monday 4<sup>th</sup> November 2024**  
**All children return to school**  
**Start time 8.30am**

Monday 4<sup>th</sup> November  
7pm FOLBA AGM

Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> November  
4MB Class Assembly @ 9.00am

Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> November  
World Diabetes Day - Wear Blue,  
donations to Diabetes

Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> November  
Ruislip Manor Funday

Monday 18<sup>th</sup> November  
Year 5 Swimming Starts for 2 Weeks  
Year 6 Bikeability

Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> November  
4KS Class Assembly @ 9.00am

Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> November  
Reception to Year 6 flu immunisation

Friday 29<sup>th</sup> November  
FOLBA Christmas Fair - details to follow

### FOLBA



A big thank you to the FOLBA team for hosting the Superheroes & Villains school disco, all the children had a fabulous time.



The Safety Squad attended assemblies for KS1 & KS2 to remind children about being safe on Bonfire Night.

- Only buy fireworks that have a CE mark, from licenced retailers.
- Don't drink alcohol if setting off fireworks. Keep fireworks in a closed box and use them one at a time.
- Read and follow the instructions on each firework, using a torch if necessary.
- Light the firework at arm's length with a taper and stand well back.
- Always supervise children around fireworks.
- Never return to a firework once it has been lit.
- Light sparklers one at a time and wear gloves.
- Keep a bucket of water close by.
- Never give sparklers to a child under five years old.
- Don't put fireworks in pockets and never throw them.
- Don't let off fireworks after 11pm.
- Always keep pets indoors.
- Fireworks can be fun but take extra care - plan ahead and always follow the firework code.
- REMEMBER: Wherever possible, attend an organised firework display.

### Blue Peter Badge

Fantastic news, Harper in 4KS has received a Blue Peter Badge designed by Quentin Blake for her picture drawing and a book report on her favourite

David Walliams book.

Congratulations and well done!

## Lady Bankes Primary School's Green Team Plant Trees In Bessingby Park

The Charity Trees for Cities recently contacted Lady Bankes Primary School and other schools in the area to ascertain if they would be interested in being part of their project for improving the environment by planting trees in Bessingby Park.

The school has a *Green Team* managed by teacher Mrs Aiman Raffiq. All the pupils involved are known as *Eco Ambassadors* and are proud to wear their badge announcing their membership. They were excited to accept the charity's invitation and the tree planting event was arranged for Wednesday, October 16th. The charity organised the whole event as well as providing all the equipment the pupils would need, including gloves and spades. Mrs Raffiq accompanied by Ms Harrison took sixteen pupils from Year 3 to Year 6.

### Eco Ambassadors with one of their trees



### Pupils with John from Trees for Cities

The morning began with representatives from Trees for Cities talking about the importance of trees for our environment. This was followed by the pupils' introduction to Tree Yoga so they could warm themselves up before the hard graft of digging began. The Eco Ambassadors planted two trees, a birch called **Billy Bankes** and an alder tree called **Lady Eco**. The charity will be maintaining these trees along

with others they planted at an earlier public event.

The pupils thoroughly enjoyed the experience and according to their teacher: "*Had a wonderful time!*"

It is very heart-warming to hear about young people helping to improve the environment for future generations and also helping their local community. All concerned deserve to be congratulated and it is hoped that the Eco Ambassadors continue to be involved in further such projects.

### Safeguarding update from Mrs Needs

Part of my role as Headteacher is to be the Designated Safeguarding Lead. I am supported in this role by Ms Taylor and Mrs Barcessat as Deputy Designated Safeguarding Leads. We are responsible for ensuring that the school's Safeguarding and Child Protection policy is followed and that we are following 'Keeping children safe in Education'. Staff will come to us if they have any concerns or a child makes a disclosure.

If this happens schools have to refer that information to Hillingdon Stronger Families Hub. Schools never investigate but have to pass on information. You can see the school's policy in the 'school policies' section of the website and there is also a safeguarding section all in 'key information'.

If you are worried about the welfare of a child please contact the safeguarding team at school on 01895 634318. For urgent safeguarding matters any members of the public can contact Hillingdon Stronger Families Hub on 01895 556006 or email [strongerfamilieshub@hillingdon.gov.uk](mailto:strongerfamilieshub@hillingdon.gov.uk).



Every student. Every day.

## Attendance October 2024

*Every child is entitled to access full time education every day, attendance matters, let's help our children reach their full potential'*

Lots of people think that missing the odd day at school here and there can't do much harm. But even taking a short amount of time off can mean that your child misses out on aspects of the curriculum that might not be revisited until the next school year. Children who miss school are missing out on the social side of things which might affect their ability to make and keep friends, affect their confidence to attempt new work and work alongside others.

Please see the table below to explain how this effects your child's attendance.

### Attendance and Punctuality Matters!

%	Days Absent	%	Days Absent
85	29 days off	93	13 days off
86	27 days off	94	11 days off
87	25 days off	95	9 days off
88	23 days off	96	7 days off
89	21 days off	97	5 days off
90	19 days off	98	4 days off
91	17 days off	99	2 days off
92	15 days off	100	0 days off

As we are coming to that time of year for cold and coughs, please still follow the 'should my child go to school' guidelines.

Year group		Current %
Nursery	EYFS	87.6%
Reception	EYFS	92.3%
Year 1	KS1	96%
Year 2	KS1	96.5%
Year 3	KS2	95.9%
Year 4	KS2	96%
Year 5	KS2	95.9%
Year 6	KS2	95.6%



Our whole school attendance is  
**95%**  
Mrs Sue Smith, Attendance Officer

**Attend Today  
Achieve Tomorrow**

## Sport Update

The boys football teams have made an excellent start to the season. The A team beat Warrender 8-0 and are through to the next round of the cup and the B team beat Coteford 5-0 in their first match of the season.

The girls football team competed in and won the Ruislip and Northwood competition. They worked so hard throughout the tournament and were worthy winners. Special mention to Holly in Y5 who was voted as the player of the tournament!

The netball team have attended one cluster event so far where they competed in matches against a number of schools. The team played really well, winning some matches along the way.

Well done to everyone who has competed so far this year, we look forward to supporting you in the upcoming tournaments and matches.

We are thrilled to announce that we have been awarded The Equal Access School Award by England Football in recognition for providing equal access and opportunities to girls in the

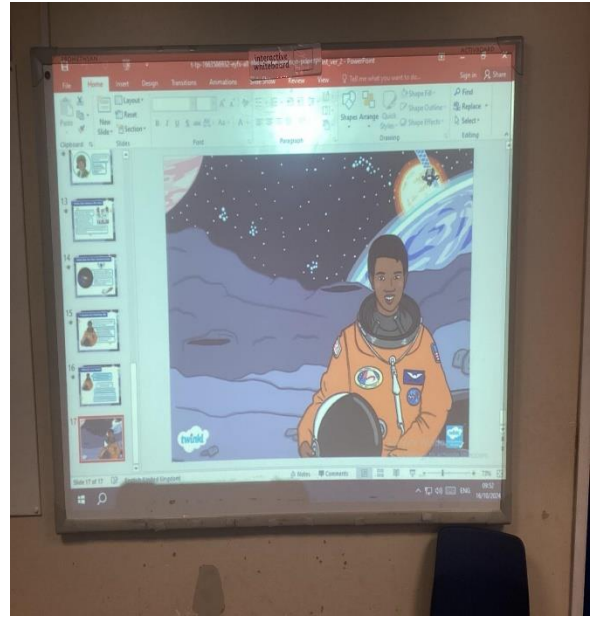
curriculum and through extra-curricular provision.





## Nursery

The nursery children have had a wonderful first half-term. The children have learnt about who they are, the first black lady astronaut in space, Diwali and meeting Pantosaurus!



## Reception

And just like that the end of our first half term has come to an end. The children have had a fantastic 8 weeks at school and we are so proud of all their achievements so far. We have been busy learning in both our outdoor and inside environment. Here is a selection of activities that we have been doing this half term. Have a lovely half term holiday and we look forward to seeing you next half term.





## Year 1

The first half term has flown by and the children have been working really hard. We have had a visit from Lady Bankes very own 'Toy Expert' and we have some exciting things planned for after our break including an online sculpture workshop led by National Gallery and practising our Christmas show. Have a lovely half term break and keep safe!



## Year 2

We have had a busy few weeks in Year 2 and the children have been enjoying learning all about the Great Fire of London. The children thoroughly enjoyed their workshop last Thursday, and had a wonderful time meeting Samuel Pepys, creating cityscapes and practising their quill-writing skills! They also had lots of fun taking part in a historic dance competition and exploring techniques that were used to put out fires in 1666.



### Year 3

We have had a fabulous time in Year 3. It has been full throttle! We have been on a trip to Chiltern Open Air Museum (COAM) to learn more about the Stone Age. We took part in a workshops covering: Stone Age artefacts, tool making, fire lighting, spear throwing, Stone Age artwork and shelter building! It was full on, the children had a lovely (and muddy) time!



## Year 4

It is hard to believe that we are already half a term into Year 4! We have had such a wonderful time so far with so many wonderful opportunities and learning that has taken place.

We had a fantastic time on our recent trip to St Albans Roman Verulamium where we discovered more about how the Romans lived. This trip has helped us begin to answer our key question:

### How have the Romans influenced our lives today?



In Science we have been investigating the effects different liquids have on our teeth. We explored what would happen to our teeth if we were to drink lots of vinegar, fizzy drinks, orange juice, water and milk. The results surprised us and we learnt lots from this. Here are the results:



Thank you to everyone who came to Parents Meeting this week, if you were unable to make these meetings please speak to your child's class teacher to arrange an appointment after school.

### Upcoming dates

4MB Class Assembly: 13<sup>th</sup> November 2024 at 9am

4CF Class Assembly: 20<sup>th</sup> November 2024 at 9am

4KS Class Assembly: 27<sup>th</sup> November 2024 at 9am

Have a lovely half term!

Year 5



Year 5 have been studying life cycles in Science. We have some 'budding' scientists among us!

*Disecting flowers and recognising the parts* 🌸🌺🌻



Year 5 have enjoyed planning and writing their own Greek myths. We hope that you have enjoyed reading them when you have looked through their books.



## Year 6

We have had a busy time in Year 6 recently with trips, DT week and lots of learning. Here are some photos of the things we have been doing.

