



LADY BANKES PRIMARY SCHOOL

Newsletter No.5

Friday 31st January 2025

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ambition, togetherness, opportunity, respect, curiosity, happiness



Dear Lady Bankes families,

These first four weeks of the spring term have been very busy here. We have had trips, visitors and workshops as varied as a virtual workshop from the Polar Museum, Cambridge to trips to the Battle of Britain bunker in Uxbridge. We are always so proud of our children when they go out of school- their behaviour is always excellent and we often have comments from members of the public. This has particularly been the case when the School Council visited the Mayor's Chamber and also Cafe Connect at Ruislip Baptist Church. The children represented the school superbly and thoroughly enjoyed these experiences. Thank you to Miss Barr for organising.

We have had excellent class assemblies from 5CS and 5BR- really showcasing their learning and their acting skills. Well done to all the children and thank you to the teachers who write the assemblies and prepare the children so well. It is always lovely to see so many families supporting your children at these assemblies too.

Sporting fixtures have begun again and we have had success in football and netball. Our athletics squad are continuing their preparation for the West London finals of the Sportshall competition where we will be representing Hillingdon borough next week.

We have our parent consultation meetings coming up on 12th and 13th February. Appointments can still be booked so please do if you haven't already. These meetings are an opportunity for you to look through your child's learning and to hear how well they are doing. Nursery children will have their meetings after half term.

As always we have lots of events taking place over the next two weeks of this half term including 5JN's class assembly next week. We have a non-uniform day on Friday 7th February- this is for Home-Start Hillingdon, we are asking for cash donations for this charity which is a fantastic organisation supporting local families. We also have our FOLBA Friendship Discos. The children will have a great time, as always, and thank you to our amazing FOLBA and everyone who gives up their time to help at these events for our children.

Our choir are busy preparing for the Young Voices concert at Wembley Arena on Monday 10th February. The children, from Years 4-6, will be singing in a choir with thousands of other children and will have a fantastic time. The main artist singing with the children this year is Tommy Blaise- best known for being one of the singers in Strictly Come Dancing. Do follow the school on X to see how they get on!

I hope you have a lovely weekend and look forward to seeing the children safely back to school on Monday.

Mrs Needs

Parents Evening

Don't forget to book an appointment for parents evening is on either Wednesday 12th February 3.20 – 7.30pm or Thursday 13th February 3.20 – 5.30pm. We look forward to seeing you.



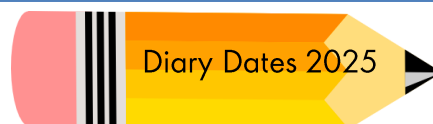
Thank you to everyone who made a donation to this amazing charity after our Christmas productions. The total raised was £256.30.

As a local centre they rely heavily on the generosity & support of the community, and continue to work very hard to improve their services and facilities for all patients and their families, through your generous donations.

Lost Property

The pile of lost property is mounting up again.

If your child has lost any items of uniform please come and have a look. All items left at the end of this term will be donated to FOLBA or the clothes bank in the EYE Nursery driveway.



Monday 3rd February

Children's Mental Health Week
Year 6 Mock SATs

Wednesday 5th February

5JN Class Assembly @ 9.00am
Sportshall Athletics West London Finals
Year 5 Road Safety Workshop
Netball Match at Hillside Primary

Thursday 6th February

Wear a scarf to school for Childrens' Mental Health Week

Friday 7th February

Non Uniform Day (donations to Home-Start Hillingdon)
Kurling Competition at Pield Heath School
FOLBA Disco
NO AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS

Monday 10th February

Choir attending Young Voices at Wembley Arena

Wednesday 12th February

Parents Evening 3.20pm – 7.30pm

Thursday 13th February

Parents Evening 3.20pm – 5.30pm

Monday 17th – Friday 21st February

HALF TERM

Monday 24th February

Term Begins @ 8.30am

Wednesday 26th February

Year 6 First Aid Training
Year 3 Africa Workshop in Hall
Netball Match at Glebe

Thursday 27th February

Author illustrator Loretta Schauer visiting Years 5 & 6

Car Engines Left Running

We would like to bring an issue to your attention that has been raised by a local resident regarding cars being left running while waiting outside school. Leaving cars running unnecessarily is illegal and contributes to increased air pollution in the immediate vicinity of the school, it also poses a safety hazard for our students. The emissions from idling vehicles can have detrimental effects on the environment and can be particularly harmful to young children who have developing respiratory systems. Can we also remind parents not to use the staff car park or the EYE Nursery driveway when dropping off and collecting your children from school.

Thank you.



We are thrilled to share the news that Lady Bankes Primary School is officially launching the Children's University scheme next week which is an opportunity to reward children for taking part in extra-curricular activities that can help to develop their love of learning. We are one of a growing number of primary schools recognising the positive benefit that joining the Children's University brings to our children.

Who is it for?

All children in Year 2 – Year 6 are eligible to become part of the Children's University scheme.

Please check your inbox for more information or our website:

<https://www.ladybankes.school/page/?title=Children%27s+University&pid=164>

If you have any further questions please contact us directly: moreable@ladybankes.school



Dear Lady Bankes pupils,

We would like you to wear your scarf to school on Thursday 6th February to support Mental Wellbeing as part of Children's Mental Health Week.

Thank you!

From Harold, Mrs Cowley and Mrs Neagle



Attendance and Lates January 2025

Some attendance reminders:

- We have had quite a few children arriving late at the start of this term so this is a polite reminder that school starts at **8.30am**.
- **No holidays during term time will be authorised and in certain circumstances a School Holiday Penalty Fine may be incurred from the Attendance Support Team at the Local Authority.**
- When reporting your child's absence, please include their name, class and **reason for absence** in any email or message.



Best Attendance - KS1 (Year 1 & Year 2)

Mrs Abbott's class 1DA

Least Lates - KS1 (Year 1 & Year 2)

Ms Barr's class 2KB



Best Attendance - KS2 (Years 3 to 6)

Mr Bonnefoy's class 4MB

Least Lates - KS2 (Years 3 to 6)

Miss Cronin's class 6KC

Year group		% to date	Number of lates for January 2025
Nursery	EYFS	88.8%	8
Reception	EYFS	91.7%	20
Year 1	KS1	94.4%	57
Year 2	KS1	94.8%	35
Year 3	KS2	95.1%	64
Year 4	KS2	94.9%	47
Year 5	KS2	95.1%	50
Year 6	KS2	93.6%	37

Attendance and Punctuality Matters!

Our current whole school attendance is **94.5%**.

We hope that this academic year every child will strive to attend school every day.

Mrs Sue Smith, Attendance Officer

Sporting News

The boys lost narrowly in the quarter final of the cup. It was a very close match and the final result was 3-2 to Glebe.



The Year 3 and 4 girls' football team took part in a tournament this week. It was the first time for these children to take part in matches for the school and we are very proud of them. They worked really hard as a team and they got better with each match they played.



Nursery

The children have enjoyed this half-term topic theme which is 'Our favourite story books'. Each week, the children have the delight of being introduced to 'The Ugly Duckling', 'Jack and the Beanstalk', 'The Enormous Turnip' and 'The Gingerbread Man'. They have been mark making using a variety of writing materials, painting, collaging, using their imagination in the small world and role-play areas.

The children are playing musical instruments and singing lovely action songs. They are enjoying their phonics work, blending and segmenting words, listening to environmental sounds, making sound patterns, clapping out syllables in words related to the rhyme of the week. The children enjoy playing the 'maths detective' counting objects and identifying shapes.

Just recently, they celebrated Chinese New Year. They have been extremely busy! It is clear they love learning and it is a joy to see!



Reception

What a busy and exciting January we've had! We were delighted to welcome some Year 6 students over the past three weeks. Both our Reception children and the Year 6 students had a fantastic time together, and everyone is eagerly looking forward to their next visit.

Meanwhile, we've jumped straight back into learning, and the children are absolutely loving our new topic: **"Who is your favourite character?"** We've been exploring traditional tales from different eras, focusing on well-loved stories such as *Goldilocks and the Three Bears*, *The Three Billy Goats Gruff*, and *The Three Little Pigs*.

It has been wonderful to see the children so engaged in storytelling, discussions, and creative activities inspired by these classic tales. We can't wait to see where their imaginations take them next!



Year 1

January has flown by; we have had a very busy month in Year 1! As part of our Humanities learning, we had a virtual Polar Museum workshop that was very interesting and we were able to learn lots about Captain Scott. In Art, we have been focusing on painting and printing. We have really enjoyed exploring these materials and making mess.

We celebrated Chinese New Year, where we have learnt about ordinal numbers, made traditional money wallets and explored the tradition of wishing trees. In English, we have explored different polar related texts and have been comparing the Polar Regions to Ruislip Manor.

Finally, as part of our Maths learning we have been continuing to explore place value.



Year 2

The children have settled back into school really well this term and have absolutely loved starting their new topic of Explorers! The children have been discovering the type of explorer Christopher Columbus was and using their map skills to track his voyages across the Atlantic ocean! The children have been learning a very catchy song about the continents of the world (which we are sure you have heard at home too!) to support them with their world map learning.

We have also been celebrating Chinese New Year this week and we had a fun filled afternoon packed full of activities such as Chinese Dragon dancing, Dragon Mask Making and the Year of the Snake crafting! The children learned lots about Chinese New Year and enjoyed learning what animal of the zodiac they were too!



Year 3

We have had a very eventful return to Year 3 after Christmas. We have been learning about plants. We conducted an experiment to investigate how water is transported through a plant, with food colouring we discovered that over time: water is transported through the roots and stem of a plant all the way to the petals of a flower!

Here is a picture of the start of the experiment and the end of the experiment.



Kung Hei Fat Choi (gōng xǐ fā cái) we enjoyed learning about the Lunar New Year and some of the traditions associated with the festival. As this year is the year of the Snake, we made some of our own snakes to commemorate this significant date.



Year 4

It has been a very busy start to the Spring Term where we have been introduced to our new Topic and are already beginning to build up our knowledge in order to answer our new Key Question: Who were the Anglo-Saxons and Vikings and why did they invade and settle in Britain?



We have enjoyed learning about where the Anglo-Saxons came from and where they settled in Britain. Do you know that the Anglo-Saxons settled in Angle-Land which we now call England and created 7 kingdoms!

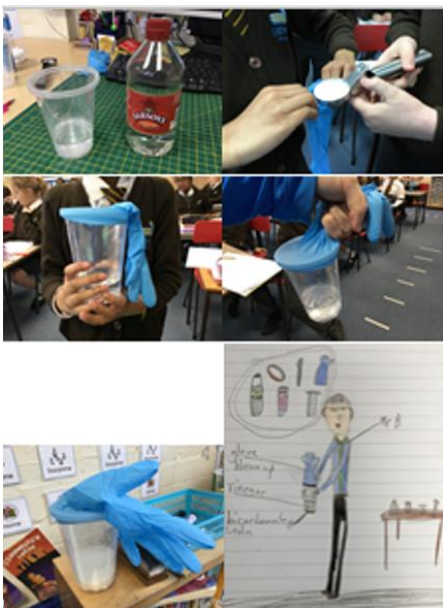


In English we are reading a new fantasy book called The Spiderwick Chronicles. We are enjoying reading this wonderful text and have wrote a letter from the perspective of one of the characters! You will be able to read these at Parents Evening!

In PE we have started Dance, where we are working in a group to choreograph our own Solids, Liquids and Gases Dance! Watch this this space, you could see us on Strictly Come Dancing in a few years!



Our Science topic is States of Matter where we are exploring the differences between a solid, liquid and gas. We thoroughly enjoyed our Ghost Hand investigation where we learnt what happen when you mix bicarbonate of soda with vinegar!



At the beginning of January, we joined thousands of other schools to find out which birds visit our school grounds. We looked in three different locations around the school and were surprised by how many different birds visit Lady Banks Primary School!



Year 5

Year 5 have made a great start in the term so far. The classes have been presenting their assemblies, and we thank all the parents, carers and friends who attend these events. The assemblies are a great way to show our learning in various subjects, and also for children to practise their spoken English and drama skills.

We also enjoyed our visit to the British Museum, a great way to round off our Ancient Greece topic.



Year 6

We have enjoyed a very busy few weeks in Year 6. The children have continued to work hard in lessons and have enjoyed their trip to the Battle of Britain Bunker. They behaved beautifully on the trips and we are very proud of them. We are coming to the end of our World War 2 topic so it was a great way to consolidate their learning.

The children have also enjoyed a visit to the Lady Bankes Museum, we will let them tell you all about the family they investigated!

They have loved visiting EYFS over the past few weeks; and have all asked to visit again in the future.

We look forward to seeing you all at the parent consultation meetings to discuss progress and targets moving forward.

