



LADY BANKES PRIMARY SCHOOL

Newsletter No.6

Friday 28th February 2025

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ambition, togetherness, opportunity, respect, curiosity, happiness



Dear Lady Bankes families,

I hope that you all had a restful half term.

It has been lovely to see all the children back to school and enjoying their learning. We have many trips and visits planned for this half term. We have already had an African workshop for our Year 3 pupils which they thoroughly enjoyed. They created some incredible art work, had a drumming session and dancing. Coming up over the next few weeks pupils in Reception will be going on their first school trip, we have workshops from community partners including Barclays Bank and SCS Railways and all children from Reception to Year 6 will have a science workshop during British Science Week. Our Year 3 class assemblies will take place over the next few weeks and the children are working hard preparing for them.

Thank you to all the families who came to our parent consultation meetings before half term. We hope that you found them informative and that you enjoyed seeing the children's learning. The children's books really showcase the brilliant learning they complete in class every day. If you were not able to attend please contact your child's teacher to make an appointment. Children in Nursery and RLH will have their meetings later on this half term.

Our choir had a fantastic time singing in the Young Voices concert at Wembley Arena on Monday 10th February. They sang in a choir of 4900 children who, as you can imagine, made an incredible sound. The children were a delight to take, had a great time as did their families who came to watch and were a credit to the school. We look forward to taking part again next year.

Next week is a very busy week. Year 2 have the Space Dome arriving to help them learn more about their key question. 3BH have their class assembly, Year 4 have an Anglo-Saxon workshop and Year 5 have Barclays Bank workshops.

We will also be marking World Book Day on Thursday next week (6th March) and the children who would like to, can come into school dressed as their favourite book character. FOLBA will be holding a coffee morning that day and it will be a final opportunity to purchase chocolate bars for the chance of winning a golden ticket. We hope as many families as possible will join us that day.

A huge thank you to the London Fire Brigade who visited us today. Nursery and Reception particularly had great fun with the hose!

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

Mrs Needs



Monday 3rd March

Year 5 First Aid Training

Tuesday 4th March

Year 2 Space Dome in School
Year 6 Brunel University for Junior Citizenship

Wednesday 5th March

3BH Class Assembly @ 9.00am
Nursery Parent Conferences
Year 4 Anglo Saxon Workshop
Barclays Bank Workshops

Thursday 6th March

Nursery Parent Conferences
World Book Day & FOLBA Coffee Morning & Chocolate Bar
Sale from 8.00am

Friday 7th March

Science Workshop

Monday 10th March

STEM Week

Tuesday 11th March

Science Workshop

Wednesday 12th March

3SB Class Assembly @ 9.00am
A Team Netball Tournament

Thursday 13th March

Science Workshop

Friday 14th March

Primary Arts Project Day for Year 6

Monday 17th March

Year 1 Trip to Ruislip Lido
School Council trip to Café Connect

Tuesday 18th March

Year 1 Trip to Ruislip Lido

Wednesday 19th March

3RG Class Assembly @ 9.00am

Thursday 20th March

Year 1 Trip to Ruislip Lido

Friday 21st March

Reception Dance Workshop
Year 2 Wizard Theatre- Road Safety Workshop

Monday 24th March

2ED & 2FM Scooter Training
Reception Train Trip to Uxbridge

Tuesday 25th March

2KB Scooter Training
Reception Train Trip to Uxbridge

Wednesday 26th March

Reception Train Trip to Uxbridge

Thursday 27th March

Year 5 & 6 Maths Challenge at Newnham

Tuesday 2nd April

Playground Prom

SCHOOL UNIFORM REMINDER

Sadly we have noticed a decline in the standards which we expect, therefore can we remind you of our Standard Uniform Requirements from Nursery to Year 6

- Grey skirt, pinafore, tailored trousers/shorts (yellow check dresses in the summer term)
- Brown v-necked jumper or cardigan with logo
- Black school shoes (trainers are not school uniform)
- Grey, white or black socks or tights
- White Shirts (nursery – Year 2 can wear polo shirts)
- Year 3 Upwards – school tie

PE Kit - children should wear their house colour t-shirt, black shorts, black zipped sports top with logo and black joggers/leggings for outside PE when colder weather. This should be kept in school all week and taken home at weekends for washing.

Jewellery – one pair of stud earrings and a sensible wristwatch (not a smartwatch) lost or damaged items will not be refunded by school.

Labelling – All pupils' clothing and footwear must be clearly labelled with their name.

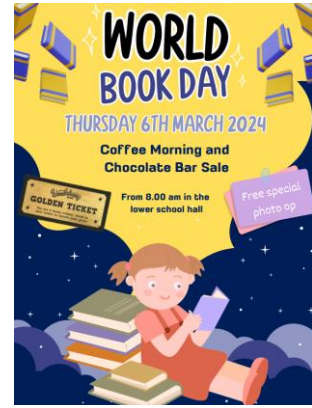
All lost property is retained for a term and is then recycled or donated to FOLBA to be resold

Long hair (longer than shoulder length) for boys and girls should also be tied back at all times.

Please see our School Uniform Policy on the school website if you have any queries.

World Book Day

On Thursday 6th March we will be celebrating World Book Day in school. Children can come to school dressed as their favourite book character. Please ensure that your child is wearing suitable footwear for school.



Congratulations

We send our congratulations to our wonderful Culinera team. Our fantastic Chef, Neil, won 'Manager of the Year' for a primary school and the whole team won 'Team of the Year' for a primary school at the company's prestigious awards evening. We are very lucky to work with Culinera as a school catering company and to have such a brilliant team preparing the children's lunches every day. They cook over 500 meals a day, with at least 550 on 'Roast Wednesdays' and 'Fish Fridays'!

We are going to need a bigger school trophy table!



Thank you for
being amazing!



Lady Bankes Primary School
You raised **£331.73** for
Home-Start Hillingdon!

Your donations will help us to be there for families when they need us most, because childhood can't wait.



Congratulations to Isla in 6KC who attends Hillingdon Swimming club. Isla took part in a swimming gala last weekend and participated in 9 races in total, she achieved PB's (personal bests) in all races. She went on to win a silver medal in the 200m Back Stroke.
Well done Isla.



Repair and Reuse Day

Saturday 8 March, 10am to 2pm
at The Great Barn, Manor Farm, Bury Street/Eastcote Road,
Ruislip, HA4 7SU

Learn how to fix your bike, textiles and electricals and meet our recycling team at this FREE community event.

Refreshments and children's activities available too.

You can drop off unwanted textiles, small electricals and bicycles that are beyond repair and we will recycle them.



To find out more, visit
discover.hillingdon.gov.uk/repair-day



HILLINGDON

www.hillingdon.gov.uk



SwimXcelerate

Swimming Lessons

Introduction

We provide high quality, affordable swimming lessons for children of all abilities from age 3+ in Middlesex, Buckinghamshire and Hertfordshire.

Our Programme



We continually assess and group participants into small classes (maximum of 6) with those closest to their ability, helping to get the most from every lesson with us.

Our Venue

Merchant Taylors School Pool, Sandy Lodge Lane, HA6 2HT

Lesson Times

Saturday: 14:00, 14:30, 15:00, 15:30 (all lessons are 30min)

| | Term Dates | Pricing |
|--------|------------------------------------|-----------------|
| Spring | January 11th - April 5th 2025 | 12 weeks @ £108 |
| Summer | April 26th - July 19th 2025 | 12 weeks @ £108 |
| Autumn | September 6th - December 14th 2025 | 14 weeks @ £135 |

Find Out More

Online: www.swimxcelerate.co.uk

Email: swimxcelerate@gmail.com

Book: [swimming lessons - new customer booking](#)

Science Week

On the week commencing 10th March, children across Lady Bankes Primary School will be celebrating Science Week. The theme for this year is, 'Change and Adapt'. Families will be receiving information about exciting home learning opportunities for you to support their learning. We are also really lucky, as we will be having Science workshops across Reception to Year 6 that will focus on the Science of bubbles. The children will be participating in several Science experiments across the week and will be learning about different diverse scientists. If your child is in Year 2 or above and completes a science week project, they will receive a stamp code for their Children's University account. A code will be given by their class teacher once a project has been submitted online or handed in.



Attendance and Lates February 2025

Attending school regularly

Attending school regularly and on time is also important and is a parent's legal responsibility. If a child misses five days each term over all the years they are at school, this is equivalent to missing one whole school year!

Good attendance leads to better grades in examinations and better chances of getting a job when leaving school.

Being away from school can mean social relationships are disrupted.

So....

Try and make sure your children have the best possible chance of achieving their potential by being in school as much as possible.

Minor illness

If your child is unwell on a school day, always contact the school in the morning to let the admin staff know before 9.30am.

Please remember that early morning aches often pass, so don't keep your child at home 'just in case' when they could be learning in class. If you are not sure, check the guidance we have sent out by email.

For further advice, you could talk to a member of the school staff, your GP surgery or NHS 111.

Your Contact Details

Please make sure that the school has these up to date and a minimum of 2 contacts per child.



It is important that school staff can contact you during the day if your child is not well enough to stay in school.



Best Attendance - KS1 (Year 1 & Year 2) – 2KB Miss Barr's class
Least Lates - KS1 (Year 1 & Year 2) – 2FM Miss Fraser & Mrs McCarthy's class



Best Attendance - KS2 (Years 3 to 6) – 4MB Mr Bonnefoy's class
Least Lates – KS2 (Years 3 to 6) – 4MB Mr Bonnefoy's class

| Year group | | % to date | Number of lates to date this month |
|------------|------|-----------|------------------------------------|
| Nursery | EYFS | 88% | 7 |
| Reception | EYFS | 91.5% | 28 |
| Year 1 | KS1 | 94.1% | 37 |
| Year 2 | KS1 | 94.7% | 35 |
| Year 3 | KS2 | 95.2% | 49 |
| Year 4 | KS2 | 94.7% | 35 |
| Year 5 | KS2 | 94.9% | 48 |
| Year 6 | KS2 | 94.9% | 26 |

**Attend Today
Achieve Tomorrow**

Our current whole school attendance is 94.6%.
Mrs Sue Smith, Attendance Officer



Sporting News

We have had an amazing month of sporting success at Lady Bankes with two teams qualifying for the London Youth Games finals which will take place in March. The Y4 New Age Kurling team competed in and won the Hillingdon competition winning a tense final. This version of the sport, much like the winter version, uses stones and targets but can be played in a school hall. The team will now travel to Redbridge in March to represent Hillingdon in the finals.

The Y5 and Y6 Sportshall Athletics team won the West London final defeating teams from Harrow, Brent, Haringey and Barnet. Competing in a range of events including relay races, triple jump, long jump and javelin, the team were victorious beating West Lodge in Harrow into second place by 10 points. The team will also travel to Redbridge in March for the London finals.

Well done as well to our netball teams who have played in a number of matches and cluster events over the past few weeks. We are so proud of everyone who has taken part for Team Lady Bankes; they show such great teamwork and really represent our school with pride and determination.

Thank you to all of the staff who give up their time to train the children and take them to competitions.



Nursery

The nursery children had an amazing time making bread rolls during the theme week of 'The Little Red Hen'. They enjoyed wearing their scarves on SCARF Day. The children were fascinated making bird cake with lard, grated cheese and using bird seeds. They loved putting the bird cakes out on the school grounds and then spotting the birds. Love was in the air, as we celebrated Valentine's Day with a variety of exciting activities. The children were delighted about taking their beanstalks home! I hope the beanstalks are growing. Our key question this half-term is 'What is happening in the world around me?'. This week, they have been learning about the home of the baby owls. It is lovely to see the children back. They had a lovely half-term break as they told their group leaders all their news with great enthusiasm.



Reception

Just like that, we've already reached the second half of Spring Term! It has been wonderful to see the children learning, growing, and deepening their understanding of the world over the past six months. Their phonics skills are not only enhancing their reading but also beginning to shine through in their writing—something we are incredibly proud of!

After six weeks of exploring traditional tales, we have wrapped up this exciting topic. The children thoroughly enjoyed discovering different stories and choosing their favourite characters. Our "People Who Help Us" theme has continued, with our role-play shed transformed into a police station. The children have loved stepping into the role of police officers, bringing their imaginations to life.

As we move forward, we are excited to introduce our next topic: *How can we help the world around us?* This will tie into our ongoing exploration of the people who help us, encouraging the children to think about their role in making a difference.

We look forward to another fantastic term of learning and discovery!



Year 1

This week we have been making healthy dishes as part of our DT unit 'Peter Rabbit's Masterchef'. We have loved exploring where food come from and trying different fruits and vegetables.



We have also been on a nature walk to look at plants around the school for our Science topic.

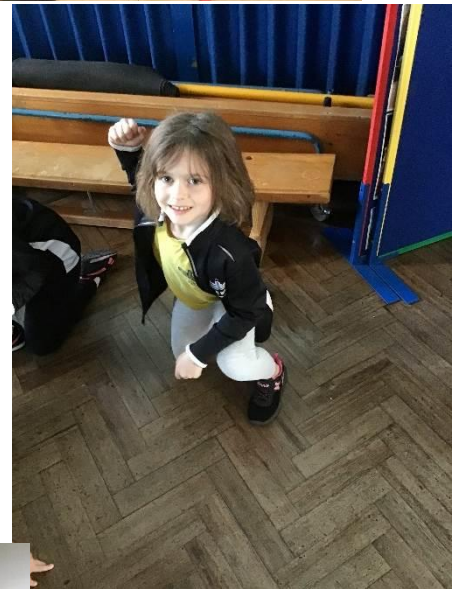
We are looking forward to going to Ruislip Lido, in the coming weeks where we will be exploring the history and location of Ruislip Lido. Fingers crossed; the weather is sunny!



Year 2

The children have settled back into school really well this week and have dived straight back into their new Art and Dance topics! They have been using pastels to recreate pictures of our solar system and individual planets. They have been practising their new skills on a skills grid and getting to grips with different techniques such as blending and smudging, layered sidestrokes and pointillism!

In PE, the children are starting their Dance topic, learning to combine a series of movements in small groups, before then performing them to the rest of the class - we have been impressed by their confidence and dance moves! Next week we are very excited to welcome the Space Dome back to Lady Bankes, pictures of this to follow ☺



Year 3

We are delighted to be back at school. This term we are continuing with our key question: Why is the Kingdom of Benin so significant?

On Wednesday we really enjoyed our Africa day with Kwame. We experienced African Art, Drumming, Dance and Storytelling. It was so much fun; we hope you received the African inspired masterpiece your child created.



Year 4

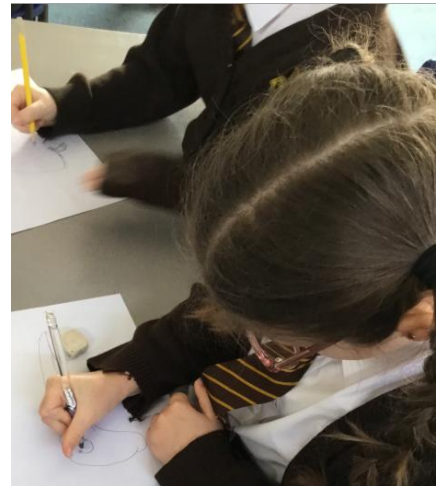
February has been another busy month in Year 4 with lots of wonderful learning taking place. We are continuing to learn more about the Anglo-Saxons, thinking about why they invaded and settled in Britain. We are excited to be discovering more about the Vikings next. Our upcoming Anglo-Saxon and Viking workshop will help us to answer our Key Question:

Who were the Anglo-Saxons and Vikings and why did they invade and settle in Britain?

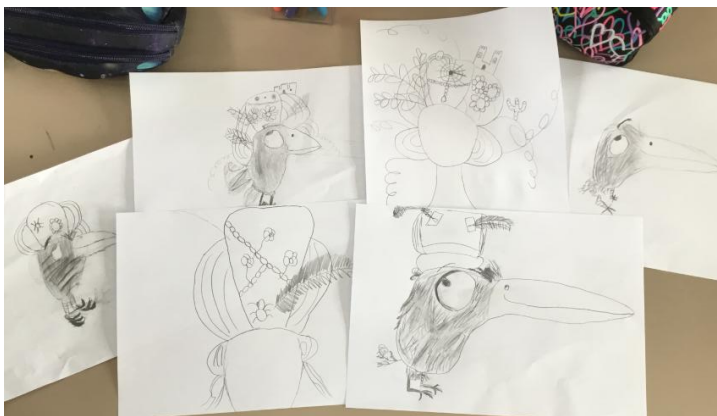


In English we have read an epic poem called Beowulf; an Anglo-Saxon warrior who defeated not 1 but 3 monsters! The original poem was written in Old English and was over 3,000 lines long! We are working hard to describe these characters and will be writing a diary entry from Beowulf's perspective.

We were lucky enough to take part in an online workshop with the famous author Loretta Schauer. She shared with us her inspiration for her characters and also taught us how to create our own characters using our imagination.



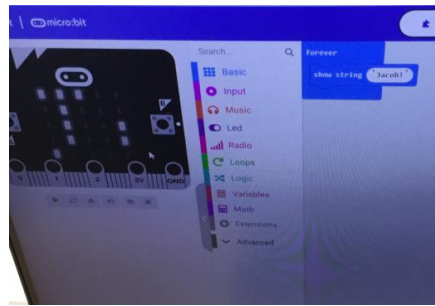
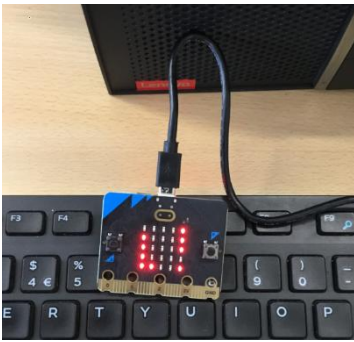
Here are some of our illustrations . . .



Here are some of Loretta's books which are available in our local libraries:



In Computing we have started a new unit where we are exploring and creating projects using a Micro:Bit. We created our own name badge as our first project and are looking forward to developing our coding skills further!



In Maths we have worked super hard developing our written methods for multiplication and division. We have used different methods and investigated which methods are the most efficient!



Year 6

This week Year 6 had a great time taking part in some First Aid Training. They learnt all about what to do in an emergency: how to give CPR, use an inhaler and EpiPen. They had fun using some of the paramedic's equipment: blood pressure, pulse/oxygen and bandages.

In our new Science topic (Animals including Humans) we have been measuring our pulse and how it changes when we do different types of exercise.



