



LADY BANKES PRIMARY SCHOOL

Newsletter No.9

Friday 6th June 2025

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ambition, togetherness, opportunity, respect, curiosity, happiness



Dear Lady Bankes families,

It has been lovely to see all the children back to school this week ready for their last half term of this academic year. As always we have a very full half term planned. There are lots of school trips taking place from Reception to Year 6, we have our sports day mornings and Year 6 show to name just a few of the things taking place. We are very busy! Please regularly check the school calendar on the website and we will remind you of the key things happening each week.

Mrs Abbott has now started her maternity leave and we look forward to meeting her baby soon. Mrs Hewett is thoroughly enjoying teaching 1DA and we welcome her to our staff team.

Thank you to FOLBA for organising the wonderful Circus and Fair on 16th May and raising an incredible £3000. It was a huge success and the weather was glorious. We have the last discos of the year coming up soon and we hope that the sun will be shining so that Year 1-6 discos can take place outside on 4th July. Don't forget to purchase your tickets for the discos and the 'Virtual Balloon Race' which has some fantastic prizes to win.

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

Mrs Needs



Please help us by keeping up to date with any payments for school trips/activities on ParentPay.

If the school receives insufficient funds to cover the cost of the trips, we will have to cancel these activities.

Thank you.



Tuesday 10th June

Year 6 SORTED Workshops

Wednesday 11th June

Football inclusion tournament @ Harlyn pm

Thursday 12th June

Year 2 Trip to Whipsnade Zoo
Second Group of Reception Clubs to start afterschool

Friday 13th June

Year 6 PGL Meeting @ 8.45

Monday 16th June

District Sports

Tuesday 17th June

West London Quadkids @ Brunel (10-12pm)

Wednesday 18th June

Year 3 Trip to Hobbledown Heath
Year 6 Lifebase
Reception Police visit
Girls & Boys Cricket match @ Harlyn afterschool

Thursday 19th June

Year 4 Trip to Pizza Express
Year 5 Activity Day

Friday 20th June

Year 5 Trip to Paultons Park
Year 1 Trip to Windsor Castle

Monday 23rd June

Reception trip to Urban Farm, Hounslow
School Council to Café Connect
Years 4, 5 & 6 Sports Day 9.00am

Tuesday 24th June

Year 5 Pedestrian Training
Year 1, 2 & 3 Sports Day 9.00am

Wednesday 25th June

Year 4 Pedestrian Training

Thursday 26th June

TT Rockstars Final
Nursery & Reception Sports Day 9.00am

Friday 27th June

Year 5 Pedestrian Training
Banji Alexander Workshops for Year 6
Reception & Nursery Disco 3.00 – 4.15pm

Sports Day

For your child's sports day please ensure that they have the correct uniform. Black shorts, leggings and their house colour t-shirt.

If the weather is expected to be nice please put sun cream on before school, ensure that your child has a full water bottle and also a hat.




Please do not park your car in the EYE Nursery driveway when you collect your child from an afterschool club. It is only for use of people collecting from the EYE Nursery. Also do not park in the staff car park without prior authorisation, we are monitoring this closely.

Sporting Achievement

Jack W in 6BM and his dodgeball team 'The Twickenham Thunderbolts' were invited to play dodgeball at St. George's Park (England's football training ground) in Burton upon Trent. The team did fantastically well and won the final which was a close call. Well done to Jack and his team!



The Book Fair will be in school Tuesday 10th – Tuesday 17th June
3.00 – 3.30 pm





COME TO THE
3 FOR 2
BOOK
FAIR

FILL YOUR SCHOOL WITH FREE BOOKS WHEN YOU BUY FROM THE BOOK FAIR*

READING GIVES YOU SUPERPOWERS!

GET 3 BOOKS FOR THE PRICE OF 2!

LAST YEAR, YOUR SUPPORT HELPED TO DONATE OVER £5.3M IN BOOKS TO SCHOOLS NATIONWIDE



Payment at our Book Fair

Please check with your school for the best way to pay for your books

- You can pay easily and securely for these books and many more when you attend the Fair by using our online payment link at www.travellingbooks.co.uk/pay and simply selecting your school from the drop down menu.
- If you're unable to visit the Book Fair, your child will be sent home with a Wish List and you can pay for their chosen books using our online payment system. Please make sure the Wish List is returned to your child's school.
- Pre-paid gift vouchers are available in £5, £10, £15, £20 and £25. Go to www.travellingbooks.co.uk/parents to buy vouchers for your child before the Fair.

Help earn free books for your school!

Books benefit everyone and to ensure that as many children as possible have access to the best books, Travelling Books donate over £5.3 million worth of free books annually to schools nationwide to support literacy and reading for pleasure. You can help make a difference by purchasing from your Book Fair – every purchase earns your school rewards which they can spend on free books to stock their library and classrooms.



*Free books are subject to terms and conditions. Please contact your Book Fair Organiser or Travelling Books for details.
Book prices are over £4.00 per book.



The exciting new theme for the Summer Reading Challenge 2025 is **Story Garden – Adventures in Nature and the Great Outdoors**. It's all about inspiring children to tap into a world of imagination through reading, exploring the magical connection between storytelling and nature. Award-winning illustrator Dapo Adeola brings the theme to life, creating an enchanting world where children can find magical creatures, plants and flowers to inspire their next reading adventure.

The Summer Reading Challenge encourages children to keep reading over the summer. Recent research shows that children's enjoyment and engagement in reading is in decline, despite research showing that *reading for pleasure is the single biggest indicator of a child's future success*.

Children aged 4 to 11yrs can join for **free** in all Hillingdon Libraries from **Saturday 5 July**. They will receive a Sticker Booklet and Stickers to track their reading journey. Children who complete four visits will receive a Medal* and Certificate and if they complete by the closing date of Saturday 13 September, they will be entered into a prize draw with the chance to win some fabulous prizes!

We've got some great free events running this Summer, visit your local library to find out more.

Don't miss our fun, free, drop-in family day out at **The Imagination Station** at the Great Barn in Ruislip on Thursday 14 August, 10.00am to 4.00pm, where you can:

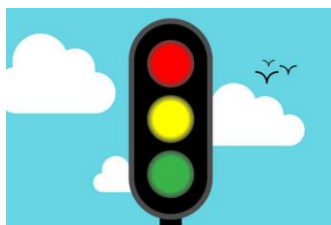
- Meet Mary Anning the Fossil Hunter and Crawley Kreeper - a storyteller exploring discovering creatures in nature
- Get creative with Ruislip Artists
- Go green with the Recycling Team
- Get fit with Better Leisure
- Get crafty with Barclays Bank, the Children's Centres and Heritage Teams
- Get free basic bike repairs and information about cycling from Dr Bike
- Relax at Storytime and enjoy a coffee or ice cream

[*While stocks last](#)

Attendance and Lates June 2025

Working Together

We will be working with you to keep you updated on your child's attendance by sending out letters at key points to inform you if your child's attendance should fall below 95% and to invite you in to find ways to work together to support your child's attendance.



- Green - Attendance above 95%.
- Amber - Attendance consistently below 95%.
- Red - Persistent Absentee below 90%

We would expect all our year groups to be above 95% at this point in the academic year.

If your child is too ill to attend school

Please contact the school office before 9.30am with full details of your child's illness/symptoms. Please either call 01895 634180, email the absence email absence@ladybankes.school or text. If we do not hear from you, we will text you to find out why your child is not in school and we may treat the absence as unauthorised. When reporting your child's absence, please include their name, class and reason for absence in any email or message. This saves us a lot of time and is much appreciated. If you are not sure whether your child is well enough to attend school, send them in anyway as they often perk up on arrival.

Absence during term time will not be authorised except in exceptional circumstances.

If you choose to take your child out in term time, please complete an exceptional leave form which can be obtained from the main reception and Mrs Needs will be in contact with you by email.

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.

Thank you for your support in helping to raise our school attendance. If you would like any support or advice on attendance or punctuality, please contact us we have always had an open door policy and we are all here to help you as much as possible.

Mrs Smith

Attendance Officer

'Regular school attendance is an important part of giving children the best possible start in life. The aim should be to attend 100% of the time. Children who miss school frequently can fall behind with their work and do less well in exams later on in life. Good attendance also supports children to make and build strong relationships'.

Sporting News

Before the half term holidays we took our Y3/4 and our Y5/6 Quaddkids Athletics Teams to compete in the Hillingdon borough competition. All children take part in a sprint, a long run, standing long jump and vortex howler throw with all points combined together for a team score. Both of our squads performed amazingly well and came in 1st place in the competition. Special mentions to Adam in Y4 and Charlie in Y5 who were the highest scorers (out of 160 competitors) in the entire competition.

The Year 5/6 team will now represent Team Hillingdon in the West London finals later on in June.

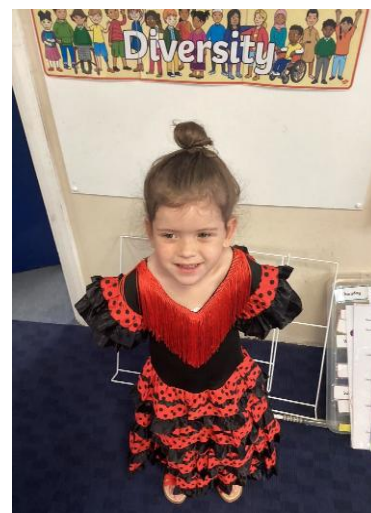
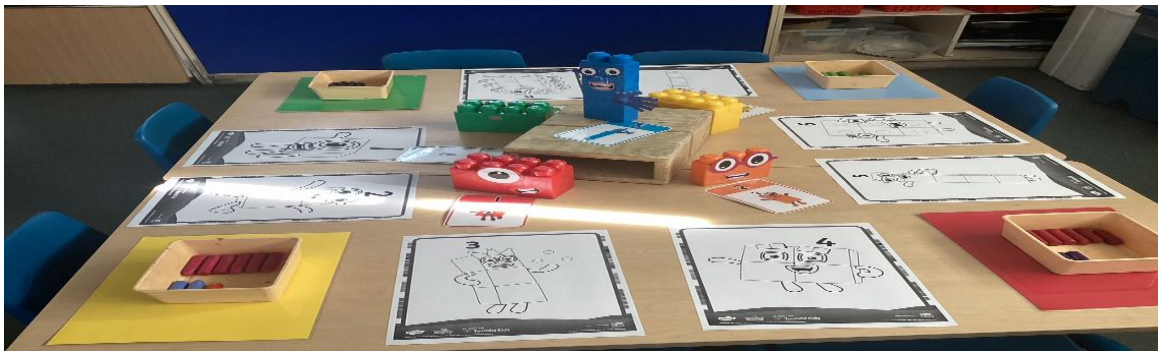
Well done to everyone who took part in the borough girls cricket competition this week. The girls got all the way to the semi-finals of the competition losing narrowly to St. Helens.

The district cross country competition took place in May with children from Year 5 and 6 completing the 2km course. Well done to those who took part.



Nursery News

It has been another exciting half-term! The nursery children enjoyed learning about life on the farm. They could not wait for the farm to visit them. When the farm arrived, the children had a lovely time stroking and brushing the animals. The pig was very lazy and sun bathed all day. The baby billy goats were very cute! The farm dog enjoyed getting tickled on the tummy. We also celebrated 'National Numeracy Day' with our number block friends and 'World Cultural Diversity Day' which was amazing.



Reception News

And just like that, we're back for our final half-term of the year! It was wonderful to see all the children return, eager and ready to dive right into their learning. Everyone seems happy to be back, and we're hitting the ground running with an exciting term ahead!



Year 1

We have had an action packed May in Year One. In Computing, we have been programming BeeBots to move around a map, which has also helped us with our positional language in Maths. We have written some brilliant alternative stories to the Queen's Hat. During the sunnier weather, we created nature sculptures based on the artist Andy Goldsworthy. We have also been to Legoland and we had a fantastic time. We were able to explore mechanisms in a DT workshop, explore the Miniland (which is lots of small replica of famous places) and enjoy the 4D shows. We even got to go on some rides! We will soon begin to practise our end of year Medieval show, which we can't wait to show our families! We also created some wind socks to show which way the wind blows.



Year 2

The children have settled back into school really well and are excited to see what the final summer term brings! As we didn't get a chance to show off our beautiful little chicks last term we thought we'd include them in this newsletter! Having the chicks was a wonderful experience. The children have observed them hatching, taking their first few steps and growing into very lively little chicks that liked to try and jump out of the box A LOT! As you can imagine we have had a few tears from the children when saying their goodbyes, they have loved having our little visitors in school and enjoyed all the cuddles we have been giving them ☺ This term the children are particularly excited about our Whipsnade Zoo trip and learning a little more about animals and their habitats, as well as the LBP talent show and Sports Day - of course!



Year 3

We've had a busy and enriching week in Year 3 as the children stepped out of the classroom and into our local community to bring our geography and history learning to life.

Trip to St Martin's Church – A Step Into History

Year 3 visited St Martin's Church in Ruislip, where we had the unique opportunity to see the resting place of Mary, Lady Banks. The children were captivated by the story of her bravery during the English Civil War and showed great respect and curiosity as they explored the historical site.

While at the church, we also spent time learning about the interior features of a Christian church. With the help of Father Robert, we explored key parts of the building including the nave, pulpit, altar, font, and stained-glass windows. This tied beautifully into our RE lessons, helping the children understand the function and symbolism of these sacred spaces.

Local Walk – Ruislip Manor High Street

We enjoyed a guided walk up Ruislip Manor High Street, using printed maps to identify key local landmarks and amenities. The children practiced their map-reading skills, identified symbols, and took notes on the different services available in our area—from post offices and shops to bus stops and cafés. This hands-on learning helped deepen their understanding of how a local community functions.



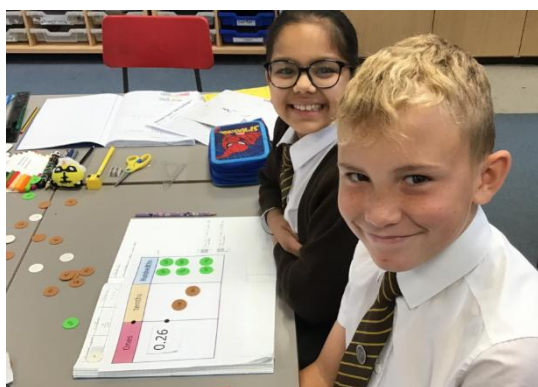
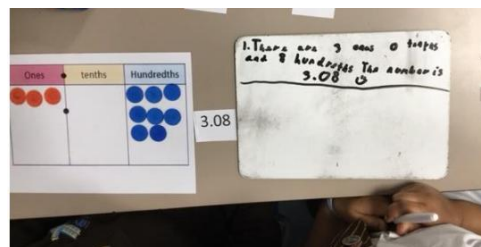
Year 4

Year 4 have had a fun and busy couple of weeks filled with exciting learning experiences! For Diversity Day, the children celebrated differences and inclusion through stories and discussions that helped them understand and appreciate the uniqueness of everyone in their community.



In science, they investigated which materials are best at muffling sound by testing different items like a towel, a pillow and aluminium foil to see how well each one blocked noise from a sound source. The children also explored pitch by listening to and playing instruments, identifying how high or low different sounds were.

In maths, we used place value grids to divide numbers by 100, helping them understand how digits move two places to the right when dividing by powers of ten. These past couple of weeks have been full of discovery, creativity, and teamwork!

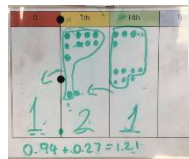
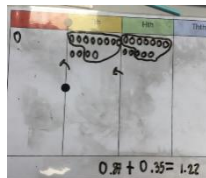
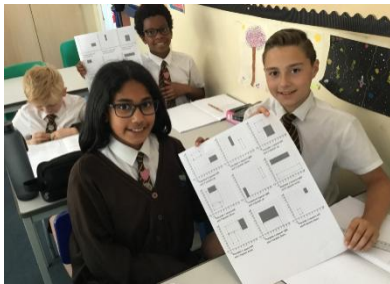


Year 5

Recently, Year 5 have been enjoying their Science topic on Space. We have completed lots of research about the planets in our solar system, as well as exoplanets. We then designed and created our own exoplanet and wrote newspaper reports about its discovery.



In maths we have finished learning about translating and reflecting shapes and have moved on to decimal numbers. We are learning how to add, subtract, multiply and divide decimals using place value charts and the column method.



We have been studying impressionist artists such as Degas and Monet. Here are some examples of our artwork inspired by these artists.



We are really looking forward to our activity day, Paultons Park, learning about Banksy, continuing our topic on Crime and Punishment and sports day too.

Year 6

Year 6 had a busy few weeks before half term. We had our SATs week.



Thank you to FOLBA for sharing the inflatables for our SATs party.



We also had a great time celebrating the end of SATs with a trip to Chessington World of Adventure.



