



LADY BANKES PRIMARY SCHOOL

Newsletter No. 5

Friday 27th February 2026

Tel: 01895 634180

www.ladybankes.school

Email: office@ladybankes.school

Twitter: @lady_bankes

ambition, togetherness, opportunity, respect, curiosity, happiness



Dear Lady Bankes families,

I hope that all our families had a lovely half term break. It has been lovely to see the children back to school eager to learn and working hard.

February has been a very busy month at school with so many activities that have taken place. The choir had a great time at Young Voices on the 4th February, singing with 4900 other children at Wembley Arena. They represented the school superbly. We had a very well-attended Live Phonics session for our Reception families- thank you to all who came along to see the amazing learning that the children are doing and how to support your child at home.

We have supported Home-Start Hillingdon through our non-uniform day and your generous donations will help this local charity to support local families. We marked Children's Mental Health week with the children completing activities through the week. We have had two more fantastic class assemblies from 3BH and 3BR. 3BH shared the love with a Valentine's Day themed assembly and 3BR informed us all about Lent. Well done to all the children for performing so confidently, to the staff for writing and preparing such great assemblies and thank you to all the families who came along.

We have had a lot of sporting success in February too- see the sports news section for details.

Thank you to all the families who came along to our parents' evenings before half term. I hope that you enjoyed looking through your children's books at the brilliant learning they have done and hearing from their teacher about how well they are doing. For children who have individual learning plans you should have an appointment to meet your child's teacher now to go through them with their teacher this half term.

Children in years 1 and 4 have attended author events at the Winston Churchill Hall this week in advance of World Book Day next week. On Thursday 5th March children can come to school dressed as a character from a book and FOLBA have a Harry Potter themed event to start the day- we hope you can join us. World Book Day will be the theme of 2KB's class assembly on Wednesday and we look forward to their families coming along to watch it.

Today we say goodbye to Miss Mackerness who is beginning her maternity leave. We send her all our love and look forward to meeting the new addition to her family very soon.

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

Mrs Needs

Parking

Please park considerately when dropping off and collecting your children from school. DO NOT block residents driveways or park on the yellow lines, corners of the road.



PE Kit & School Uniform

Children should have their PE Kit in school everyday. PE is an important part of the school curriculum and all children are expected to take part unless there is a valid reason that they are unable to.

Please also ensure that your children are wearing the correct school uniform in accordance with our school uniform policy. If you are unsure please see the school website.



Diary Dates

Wednesday 4th March

2KB Class Assembly @ 9.00am

Thursday 5th March

World Book Day
4MB Trip to Pizza Express

Friday 6th March

Year 3 Africa Day

Monday 9th March

Year 5 Swimming Lessons All Week
British Science Week

Tuesday 10th March

RLH Train Trip

Wednesday 11th March

Year 4 Portals in the Past
RLD Train Trip

Thursday 12th March

RDP Train Trip
2HT Class Assembly at 9.00am

Monday 16th March

Year 5 Swimming Lessons All Week
Year 6 MOCK SAT's week
1AM Ruislip Lido

Tuesday 17th March

1US Ruislip Lido
Year 3 Cinema Trip
London Youth Games

Wednesday 18th March

1KH Ruislip Lido
2OR Eid Assembly @ 9.00am
Year 6 Cinema Trip

Thursday 19th March

Year 5 & 5 Green Team Trip to Eco Shop, Ruislip

Friday 20th March

Red Nose Day (Wear something RED with your uniform)

Monday 23rd March

School Council to Connect Cafe

Wednesday 25th March

Children's Easter Fair Break & Lunchtime

Thursday 26th March

Seated Volleyball Competition

Friday 27th March

End of Term @ 2.00pm

Thank you for
being amazing!



Lady Bankes Primary School
You raised **£506.38** for
Home-Start Hillingdon!

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



Attendance Information for Lady Bankes Families

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

As we move into springtime and the weather improves, we also expect your children's attendance to improve. Currently we have many children with attendance below the government's expected level of 95%. Anything below this is equal to a day off every two weeks. Please help us to support your child's education by sending them to school every day and achieving the minimum level of 95% at least.

Punctuality – School Times 8.30am to 3.00pm



Children need to be in their class so that they can start their lessons promptly. Children who arrive late are greatly disadvantaged because they miss starting the day with their peers and the beginning of lessons. This means that they can be unsettled and confused about tasks. Their teacher will not always be able to re explain work.

It is also very important that children establish good routines and habits in preparation for the rest of their lives. Punctuality is a life skill that they need to develop whilst they are young.

It is essential that you ensure that your child arrives at school on time to prevent disruption to your child's own learning and that of others.



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.



THE EYE NURSERY'S

HOLIDAY CLUB

Fun &
Creative
Activities for
Children in
Reception-
Year 6!

OAWLISH DRIVE,
RUISLIP MANOR,
HA6 9SF

07:30-18:00

EVERY SCHOOL BREAK

ACTIVITIES:

- Arts & Craft
- Music & Dance
- Puppet Shows
- Themed Parties
- Water Fun
- Pets Day
- Sports Days
- Zoo Lab
- Cinema Trips
- Bouncy Castles
- Park Trips
- Crazy Hair Day
- Slime Making
- Bowling / Arcade Trips



ENQUIRE NOW!!

SPACES ARE
LIMITED

**REFER A FRIEND
SCHEME NOW
AVAILABLE!**



For more information please
contact:

creed@eyenursery.co.uk
01895 - 636765
www.eyenursery.co.uk



Message from the Green team:

*"Time to choose our own destiny:
Less plastic waste or no fish in the sea?
We gotta act now or there will be,
More plastic than fish by 2050!"*



This was a rap sung by the brilliant performers in 3BR's class assembly this week.

We also received a very informative letter from Georgia in 6KC requesting us to ban the use of single use plastic bottles in school!

She gave great money saving tips by comparing the price of purchasing one reusable bottle, with buying single use plastic bottles.

We loved Georgia's enthusiasm, and although we wouldn't be able to implement the ban, we agree with finding solutions through reusing and recycling!

So let us take a moment to reflect on how we can help save our own environment and also the habitat of millions of sea life.



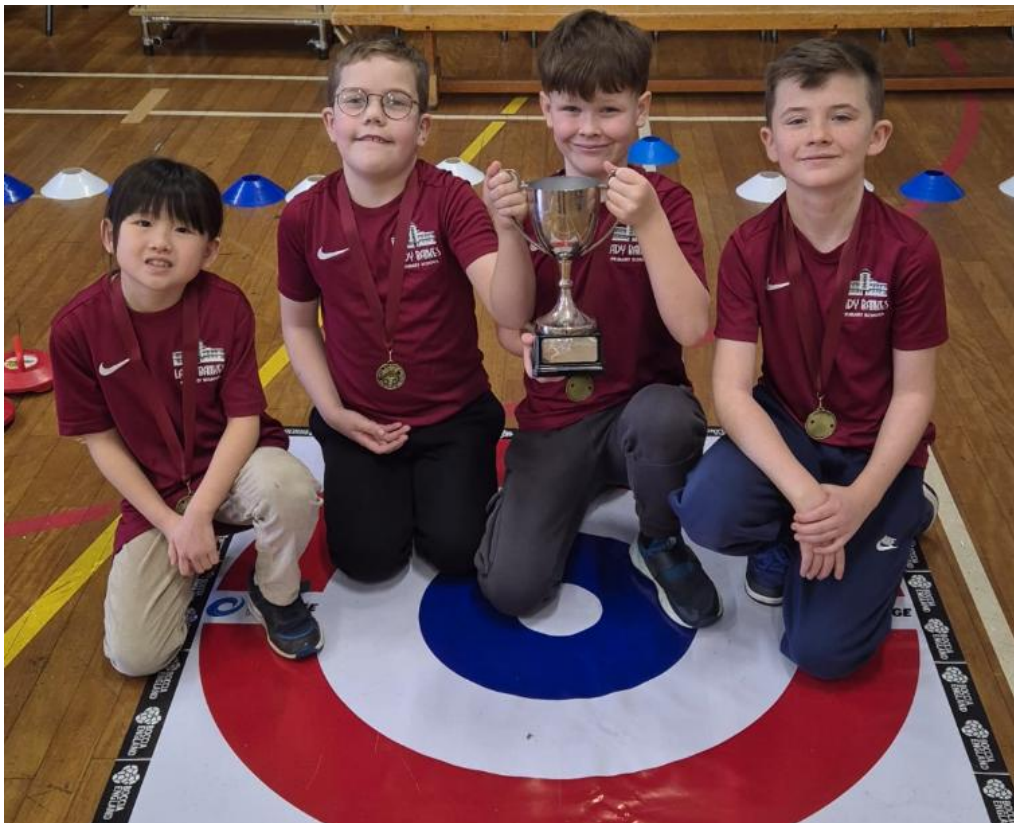
Small changes, like using reusable water bottles, or containers instead of freezer bags, can make a huge difference long term.

So let's work together to make our world a better place for all!

LBPS Sporting News

The athletics team represented Team Hillingdon in the West London Sportshall Athletics final before half term. They won this round of the competition beating teams from Harrow, Brent, Haringey and Ealing and will now compete in the London finals in March. Well done to everyone who took part.

A group of Year 4 children competed in and won the Hillingdon New Age Kurling competition. They were so proud to return to school with their medals and trophy. Well done!



Nursery



As always, the Nursery children had a busy time continuing with their previous topic about 'Favourite Stories'. They made real gingerbread men and ate them pretending to be the fox. They loved the story of 'The little Red Hen' and were excited to make their bread rolls over in the school diner with the support of the chef and nursery staff. They ate the warm bread rolls and enjoyed the smell of freshly cooked bread.



The story of 'The Tiger who came to Tea' was very popular with the children. They particularly enjoyed listening to the song linked to the story.



Nursery children enjoyed 'Non uniform day' to support Home-start charity. We celebrated this day with a superhero theme which was a great success!



As part of Mental Health week, the children were able to come to Nursery in clothes that they felt comfortable in and we discussed about what is their happy place. Many children answered "Lady Bankes Nursery" as their happy place!



The children were introduced to 'Buddy' the internet safety dog and learnt a song about how to stay safe on the internet.

To end the half-term, we celebrated Valentine's Day with a selection of fun activities. It was a real pleasure meeting you at the Parent's evenings to discuss the progress your children are making within the nursery environment. The children are a delight to me 'Mrs Cowley' and the Nursery Team.



Our key question this half-term is 'What is happening in the world around me?' This week, the children are learning about the story 'Owl Babies' and next week, the story is 'Peace at Last'. No doubt, they will be looking forward to dressing up as a book character on Thursday 5th March for 'World Book Day' when they will be having a fashion parade to show off their different characters with each other!

Reception

We have reached the halfway point of the Spring Term and it has been a pleasure to see the children continue to grow in confidence and understanding. Their phonics skills are progressing wonderfully, strengthening both their reading and increasingly their writing – something we are very proud of.

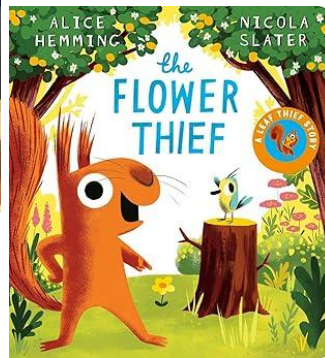
After six weeks exploring traditional tales, the children wrapped up the topic with great enthusiasm, particularly enjoying choosing their favourite characters. Our "People Who Help Us" theme has also seen the role-play shed transformed into a busy police station, inspiring plenty of imaginative play.

Next, we look forward to beginning our new topic, *How can we help the world around us*, as we continue another exciting term of learning and discovery?



Year 1

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 practising for their class assemblies!

The children 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!

The highlight of the week was undoubtedly the arrival of the Space Dome! This immersive experience allowed the children to travel through the cosmos without leaving the school hall.

The visiting instructors were absolutely blown away by their "astronomical" knowledge! Our children shared so many impressive space facts that the experts were truly amazed. It was a brilliant way to spark curiosity and bring our learning to life.



Year 3

Year 3 would like to say a huge thank you to Wealdstone Football Club for delivering such a fantastic six-week coaching and maths programme. The children thoroughly enjoyed taking part in the sessions and developing both their football skills and their confidence with numbers. It was wonderful to see their teamwork, determination and enthusiasm grow each week. The combination of sport and learning made maths fun, active and engaging for everyone involved.



We would also like to thank the team for attending our class assemblies this term. It was lovely to welcome you to our Stone Age assembly, as well as our special assemblies on Valentine's Day and Lent. Your support means a great deal to our school community, and the children were very proud to share their learning with you.

We truly appreciate your time, effort and commitment to Year 3.



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:

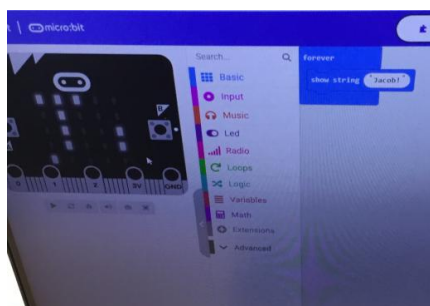
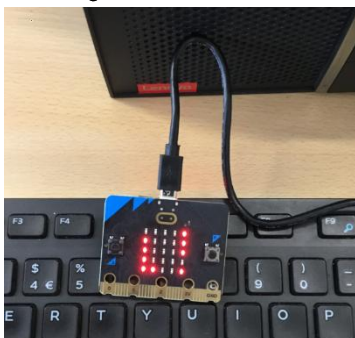
[Who were the Anglo-Saxons and Vikings and why did they invade and settle in Britain?](#)



The children took part in an exciting DT project where they worked in groups to design and create their own Anglo-Saxon village. As part of their learning about the period, they carefully researched Anglo-Saxon homes and settlements before planning and building model houses and farmlands. The project allowed them to develop and use a range of different skills, including designing, measuring, cutting, joining, and evaluating their work. They also demonstrated creativity, teamwork, and problem-solving as they collaborated to bring their villages to life. We were incredibly impressed with their effort, cooperation, and the fantastic final results!

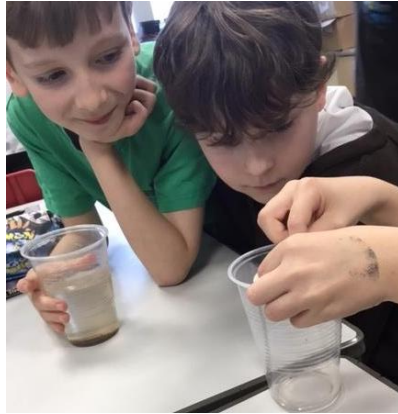


In Computing we have started a new unit where we are exploring and creating projects using a Micro:Bit. We created our own name badge as our first project and are looking forward to developing our coding skills further!

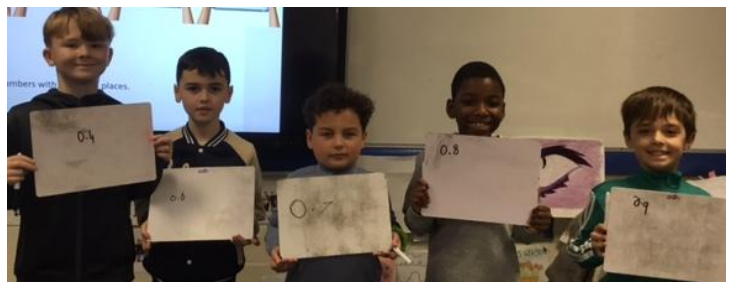
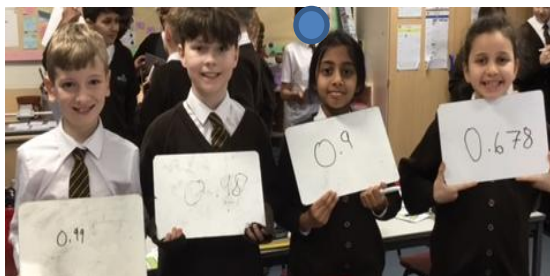
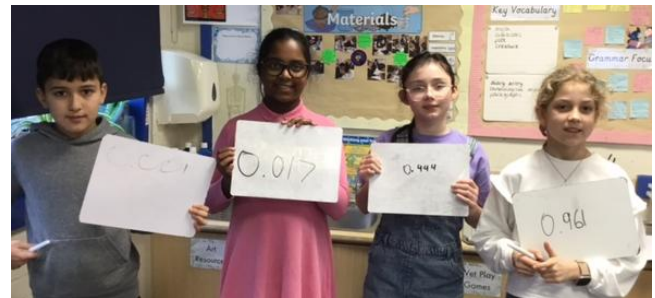
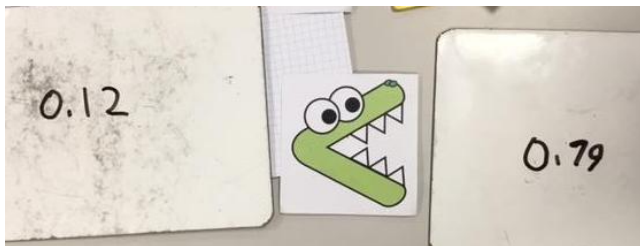


Year 5

We are continuing our Science topic of Materials and have been conducting experiments using dissolving and filtering. In our recent experiment, we mix sand and salt together and added water. We used filter paper to filter the sand from the water and then left the water to evaporate which left us with salt crystals.



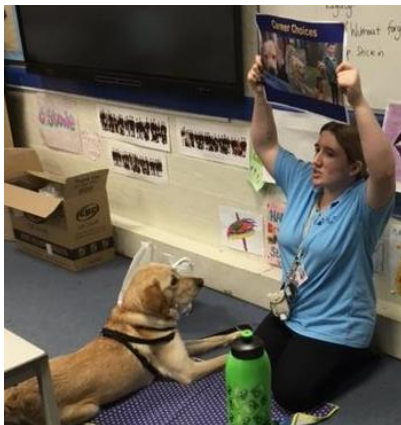
In maths, we have been learning about decimals, fractions and percentages and converting between these.



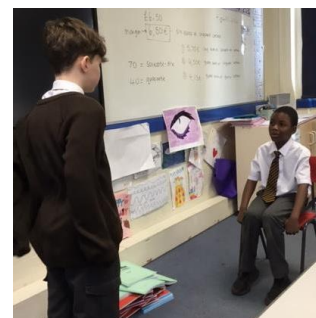
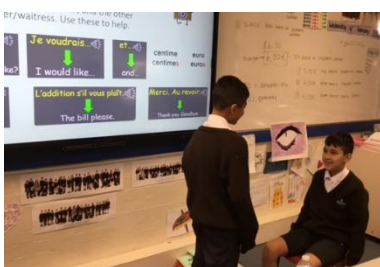
We also enjoyed a recent visit from 'The Riot Act' where we learnt about the importance of road safety. We gathered evidence from a crime scene to explore the dangers and things to be aware of when crossing busy roads.



We also enjoyed a very lovely visit from Miss Templer's trainee guide dog, Hedley. We learnt about how guide dogs are trained and the types of people who they help.



Finally, we have been practising our spoken language in French by performing role-plays based on our topic of 'The Café'.



As we move through this half term, we are looking forward to our swimming lessons and creating our own pieces of art work in the style of Alma Thomas!

Year 6

Year 6 have had a very busy half term as we continue to cover a large variety of topics across the curriculum. We are very proud of the children for their dedication towards improving on their previous best.

We have started rehearsing our end of year show, more details will be sent closer to the time. The children created wonderful portraits in the style of Georges Seurat who we have been studying in art lessons. We are sure you will agree they are fantastic!

