



LADY BANKES PRIMARY SCHOOL

Newsletter No. 6

Friday 27th March 2026

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ambition, togetherness, opportunity, respect, curiosity, happiness



Dear Lady Bankes families,

This term has been full of opportunities and wonderful achievements.

We have had so many events taking place to enhance the children's learning, from workshops, to visitors and trips across the school from nursery to Year 6. Activities have included going to Ruislip Lido on the bus, Uxbridge on the train and making pizzas at Pizza Express.

Our Year 2 classes have performed their class assemblies covering themes such as Spring, Eid and World Book Day- they were all absolutely brilliant. The children, as always, performed with great confidence and enthusiasm. We were all so proud of them as I am sure were their families. Thank you to all the staff team who prepared the children for these lovely assemblies.

I am sure that you will enjoy reading what each year group has been doing this month in this newsletter. We couldn't be prouder of our athletics team and their success in the London Youth Games and also to our New Age Kurling team who also competed, and did so well, in the London Youth Games. Both teams had to travel to the Redbridge in East London to compete.

FOLBA have provided the children with wonderful events this month for World Book Day and for our Children's Easter Fair. Thank you to all our FOLBA members who have given up their time to support the school and provide exciting opportunities for the children. They are always looking for new members so if you are able to come along and help please do let them know. An important date for your diary is the next event- the Big Bankes Birthday Bash when we will be celebrating 90 years since Lady Bankes School opened. All the children will be performing in a concert at 2pm on Friday 15th May so put it in your diaries to come along- it will be great fun. After school there will be a Fair with stalls and activities taking place.

Today we say goodbye to Mrs Savva. Mrs Savva has been part of our nursery team and Lady Bankes for the last 26 years. We wish her all the very best for her retirement and thank her for all her hard work and dedication supporting the youngest children at this school.

Congratulations to Ms Mackerness who gave birth to a beautiful baby girl yesterday. Mother and baby doing well and we are looking forward to meeting her very soon.

Have a very happy Easter holiday and we look forward to seeing all the children safely back to school on Monday 13th April.

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. Drive slowly and carefully around the



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.

Vacancy

Lady Bankes Primary School is looking to appoint an Assistant Caretaker/Handyperson to join our site staff team.

We are looking for someone to help maintain and look after this wonderful old building and work with our very experienced Site Manager and Caretaker.

This role will be busy and varied and does require someone who doesn't mind early mornings 6 - 10am. Any applicants will need to be practical and able to turn their hands to various tasks maintaining a large school requires.

If you believe you are the right person for this role we would love to hear from you. Contact office@ladybankes.school for an application form.



Diary Dates

Monday 13th April

Term Begins at 8.30am

Monday 20th April

Year 4 Pizza Express Trip

Wednesday 22nd April

NCMP Reception & Year 6

Friday 24th April

Arc Farm Visiting the Nursery

Monday 27th April

Tempest Class Photos
Year 2 Road Safety Theatre Show

Tuesday 28th April

Tempest Class Photos

Thursday 30th April

Year 2 Trip to Whipsnade
Year 4 Trip to Pizza Express
Lifebase Visit

Friday 1st May

Lifebase Visit

Monday 4th May

Bank Holiday

Thrive

Hillingdon have launched 'Thrive Hillingdon' to support children and families with their emotional wellbeing and mental health. There is lots of information to access – just scan the QR code or visit the website.



The poster features the text 'THRIVE TOGETHER' in large white letters at the top. Below it is a circular diagram with 'Thriving' in the center, surrounded by four segments: 'Getting Advice' (green), 'Getting Help' (blue), 'Getting More Help' (purple), and 'Getting Risk Support' (orange). The background is a colorful geometric pattern of green, yellow, blue, orange, and purple.

Thrive provides early help support for children, young people and families, using a shared needs-led approach that brings everyone together to help improve mental wellbeing.

Supporting children, young people, families and professionals
thrivehillington.co.uk



The background of this section is a soft, watercolor-style illustration of yellow sunflowers with green leaves, set against a light yellow background.

Sunflowers

Thank you to all the families who have purchased sunflower seeds for our annual school competition. Please look out for updates about submitting the height of them in the May newsletter. Fingers crossed for some brilliant sunshine so they grow well! 😊

Attendance and Lates March 2026

I want to start this attendance newsletter by thanking those of you who bring your children to school every day. Your support for their education is invaluable and the benefits they gain from being at school every day cannot be underestimated. Our current school percentage is 94.5%. Please remember, the government required percentage is 95% therefore please keep working on your child's attendance in the summer term. If your child's attendance is below 95% then they are falling behind on the requirement from the government on school attendance which will have a significant impact on their learning in school. Please be aware that any child with attendance under 90% is considered as a persistent absentee and school will be working with you to monitor their attendance in the next half term and putting steps in line with our persistent absentee procedures from the school attendance policy. Missing days from school will result in your child falling behind in their learning as lessons build on what children already know and missing one day will make tomorrow's lesson more difficult. One day could be as many as 6 missed lessons, as well as time spent with friends and doing extracurricular activities. You can support your child's physical, social and mental wellbeing by ensuring they are in school every day. Absences can also have a negative impact on your child's behaviour in school.

Attending school every day can help your child to achieve their aspirations, and the aspirations you have for them. Please support the school in improving your child's school attendance after the Easter holidays.

Thank you for your continued support!



**Best Attendance - KS1 (Year 1 & Year 2) – 2KB Miss Barr's class
2OR Mrs O'Sullivan & Mrs Wilson's class**

Least Lates - KS1 (Year 1 & Year 2) – 1US Mrs Sathyaroban's class

Best Attendance - KS2 (Years 3 to 6) – 5CG Mrs Gibson's class

Least Lates – KS2 (Years 3 to 6) – 5CG Mrs Gibson's class



Year group		% to date	Number of lates to date this month
Nursery	EYFS	86.3%	70
Reception	EYFS	93.9%	124
Year 1	KS1	93.5%	197
Year 2	KS1	95.4%	270
Year 3	KS2	94%	265
Year 4	KS2	94.9%	375
Year 5	KS2	94.6%	329
Year 6	KS2	94.9%	282

Green Team News

The Green Team have been very busy this half term!



The Year 1 to Year 4 Eco Ambassadors have been getting their hands dirty, on the transformation of Amy's Garden on our school grounds. They worked together with Mrs Ardoiun, to dig up the ground, sow new seeds and plant new bulbs.



We are hoping with the continued sunshine and some rainfall, we have beautiful flowers growing soon.

Let's keep our fingers crossed!!!



We also planted seeds in some little windowsill greenhouses. Mrs Ardoiun is keeping these safe for us in her bigger greenhouse, whilst they begin to grow. We will be keeping track of these on their growing journey.



We hope this also spurs everyone to grow their sunflowers in their own gardens.

We would also like to say a big THANK YOU to FOLBA for buying the garden equipment we could use to do this!!

The Year 5 and Year 6 Eco Ambassadors were given an amazing opportunity to visit a sustainable eco friendly shop in Ruislip called 'Refill Your Cup'.

We were greeted by the owner Natalie, who talked to us about her business idea and the sustainable products.



We then looked through the different products, like gluten free granola, handmade soaps, environmentally antibacterial spray and also freshly made peanut butter!



We weighed our empty container, filled it with what we wanted, and then weighed the container again, only paying for the amount of product we bought!

We had a great time and saw just how cost efficient and sustainably we can shop! If you have a time over the Easter break, we definitely think it is worth a visit!!

LBPS Sporting News

Sportshall Athletics - London Champions

The Year 5 and 6 athletics team were crowned Champions of London following their victory in the final of the London Youth Games this week. Following victories in Hillingdon and West London, the top 12 teams across London competed in the final in Redbridge. Taking part in a range of relays and field events, the team were crowned the best team in London! A lot of the children have been representing the school in athletics since they were in Year 3 so for them to achieve this is a testament to their dedication, hard work and talent. We are so proud of their achievement.



New Age Kurling

The Year 4 team represented Hillingdon this week in the London Youth Games final after qualifying by winning the Hillingdon competition. They competed really well at the event.



Football

The boys' football team won the Ruislip and Northwood cup beating Glebe 2-1 in the final. It was a closely contested match but two first half goals saw the team claim the victory. Well done boys!



Maths Challenge

Well done to Thea, Tristan, Niki and Leo who took part in the Ruislip & Northwood Maths Challenge at Newnham this week. Special congratulations to Tristan & Niki who went on to win beating 13 other teams from different schools.



Outside of School Achievements

Grace in 6LM has attended The Valerie School of Dancing in Hampton since she was 3 years old. She loves attending every Saturday.

This week she has been taking part in a show called "Lights Up" where she has been singing and dancing to hits from the musicals like Mulan and Annie.



Nursery

The Nursery children have been learning about the world around them. This has been another exciting topic, finding out about animals in the garden, our community including Nursery, sounds and pets in the home. We have had some wonderful celebrations this half term which included, Chinese New Year, Ramadan, Saint David's Day and Saint Patrick's Day. During 'World Book Day', Year 6 children joined us in our costume parade and 'Wake up, Shake up' dances. Year 2 visited us and read stories to our children in the nursery garden. During 'Science Day', the nursery children became scientists in the nursery laboratory exploring different experiments which included making a volcano explode with pretend larva! The children enjoyed 'Beep Beep!' day, which teaches them about 'Road Safety'. Our nursery children are very lucky as they had Easter fun activities which was organised by F.O.L.B.A. The Nursery Team would like to wish all our nursery families a lovely Easter and we look forward to seeing you in the Summer Term.



Reception

And suddenly, we are wrapping up another fantastic term. Over the past few weeks, pupils have been exploring how we can help the world around us, enjoying a range of engaging activities while examining different aspects of this important topic.

The excitement continued during Science Week, where curiosity and discovery were at the heart of learning. A highlight for many was a train trip to Uxbridge, which offered a hands-on opportunity to explore different ways of travelling around London.

It has been a busy and enjoyable term, full of learning, exploration and memorable experiences.



Year 1

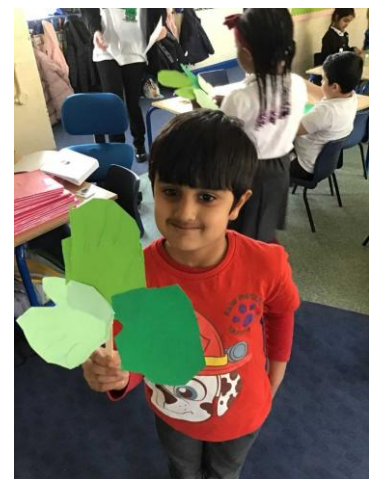
Another busy and exciting half term Year 1 have had! 😊

As part of science week, the children showcased their home learning projects and participated in various experiments and the brilliant bubble workshop.

We celebrated World Book Day in style and had a fun filled day.

The Ruislip Lido trips were a hit, with all the children eagerly practicing their skills at reading maps and becoming impressive plant hunters! We have made some great maps and keys after our trip. Thank you to all the volunteers.

We have been learning about the Easter Story and Palm Sunday in the run up to Easter.



Year 2

This half term has sped by and we cannot believe it is time for the Easter holidays already! At the start of the month, we celebrated World Book Day. In History we have been finishing off our space topic and making final comparisons between Neil Armstrong and Christopher Columbus. The children have had to decide if they would rather explore land or space and the overwhelming answer was of course - SPACE! We finished off this unit by completing our D and T topic of 'Space Buggies'. This was a huge success, have a look at the pictures below! We had fantastic class assemblies this half term, thank you all for coming to watch.

We have lots more exciting things coming next term, such as the arrival of our chicks and our trip to Whipsnade Zoo!



Year 3

Year 3 have had an exciting and enriching few weeks filled with creativity and discovery. During Africa Day, the children thoroughly enjoyed learning about different cultures across the continent. They explored vibrant African art, listened to traditional stories, and even experienced the rhythms of drumming, which brought great energy and enthusiasm to the classroom and the rest of the school.

In Science Week, pupils took part in a fun and engaging bubble workshop, where they investigated how bubbles form and experimented with different shapes and sizes. They also became young engineers by designing and making their own paper aeroplanes. The children tested a variety of designs, exploring how changes affected flight distance and stability, while learning about air resistance and forces.

It has been wonderful to see their curiosity, teamwork, and creativity shine throughout these activities.



Year 4

It is hard to believe that we are already at the end of the Spring Term. It has been a very busy term with lots of wonderful opportunities and experiences for the children to enhance their curiosity.

We had an amazing Anglo-Saxon and Viking Day where the children took part in different activities in order to answer our Key Question:

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

During this event, the children enjoyed lots of different learning experiences, such as; learning how to play an Anglo-Saxon game, taking part in an Anglo-Saxon quiz which focussed on weapons, armour, home-life and food, and many more. Here are some photos from our wonderful day.



We celebrated Science Week by diving into fun experiments and hands-on activities, enjoying every moment of discovery and curiosity. Here are some pictures from our investigative week:

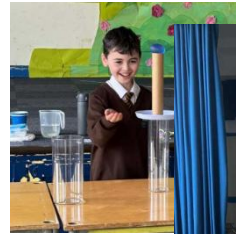


Wishing all our Lady Bankes families a lovely Easter, enjoy the break and we will see you in a couple of weeks' time.

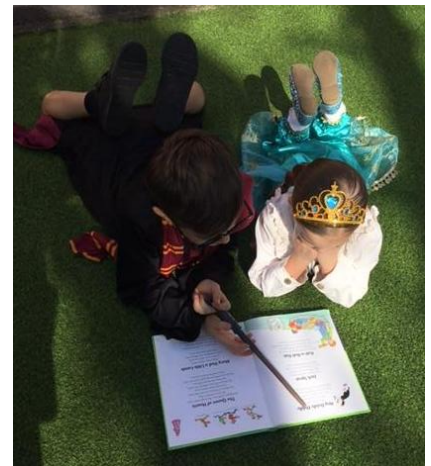
Year 5

We have had a busy half term in Year 5. We have thoroughly enjoyed taking part in our swimming lessons at Highgrove and also worked hard during our Spring term assessments.

During Science Week, we took part in workshops on this year's theme of 'curiosity'.



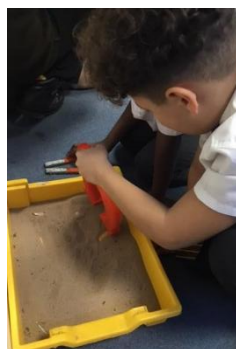
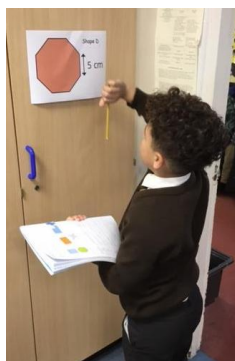
We also enjoyed dressing up as our favourite book characters for World Book Day. On this day, we read with the children in Year 1.



We have been continuing to practise our spoken language in French by performing role-plays as weather presenters.



Here are some other pictures of our learning from this half term.



We hope you all have a lovely Easter break!

Year 6

Year 6 have been working really hard this week completing their final mock SATs before they sit their actual tests four weeks after the Easter holidays.

We have continued building on our skills with pointillism.



We have begun learning about the Windrush Generation in Topic and tested our lung capacity in Science lessons.



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SCAN TO BOOK



 **LADY BANKES
PRIMARY SCHOOL**

 **30TH MARCH - 2ND APRIL
7TH - 10TH APRIL (9AM - 3PM)**

 **FOR CHILDREN IN
RECEPTION TO YEAR 7**

 **EXTENDED HOURS AVAILABLE
8AM - 9AM (£5 PER SESSION)
8AM - 6PM (£35 PER SESSION)**

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WWW.THEPSDGROUP.ORG.UK/PSD-FUNWEEKS**

☀️ The Eye After School Club – Summer Term Adventures! ☀️

Looking for a fun, energetic and safe place for your child after school?

The Eye After School Club offers an exciting revamped programme of team sports and games, themed activity weeks and creative experiences, all delivered by our experienced and qualified staff.

Our well-established setting has been supporting local families for over 35 years, providing a trusted and welcoming environment where children can relax, make friends and enjoy a wide range of engaging activities at the end of the school day.

This Summer Term children can look forward to:

- 🏀 Daily team sports and active games
- 🎪 All the Fun of the Fair Week
- 🦸 Superhero Week
- 🦖 Dinosaur Discovery Adventures
- 🌍 Around the World Activity Week
- 🚀 Space Explorers Missions
- 🏴‍☠️ Pirates & Treasure Hunts
- 🎬 Movie Makers Creative Week
- 🪄 Magic & Wizards Experiences
- 🎨 Colour and Festival Celebration Weeks

Each session offers a balance of physical play, creativity, outdoor experiences, quiet relaxation and opportunities to build confidence and friendships.

For younger children, our staff safely collect directly from school, ensuring a smooth and secure transition into the club.

A light optional tea can be provided at an additional cost for families requiring later collection.

Flexible booking options available:

1 hour | 2 hours | 3 hours

Places are limited and filling quickly.

To enquire or secure a place please contact Julie at jsludden@eyenursery.co.uk

Join us for a summer full of fun, friendship and adventure at The Eye After School Club!