



**90th
ANNIVERSARY
EDITION**

LADY BANKES PRIMARY SCHOOL

Newsletter No. 8

Thursday 20th May 2026

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ambition, togetherness, opportunity, respect, curiosity, happiness



**90th
ANNIVERSARY
EDITION**

Dear Lady Bankes families,

What a wonderful celebration of Lady Bankes we had on Friday. Thank you to all the families who came along to the concert and enjoyed hearing the children sing through the all decades that Lady Bankes has been educating the children of Ruislip Manor. There were many past pupils attending who had been at the school back as far as the 1950s. The cake to commemorate our 90th Anniversary was cut by our oldest pupil, Omer in Year 6, our youngest pupil, Adam in nursery, and the oldest past pupil at the celebration- Doreen who started Lady Bankes in 1940 and is now 95. We calculated that there were over 2000 people at the concert- just amazing!

A huge thank you to our incredible FOLBA for organising the fair after the concert. We were so lucky with the weather. They have been working tirelessly to organise the event and make it so enjoyable for our children and families. It was a huge success. We had so many past pupils and staff come along. as well as our current families, so thank you again to all who attended.

I hope that the children enjoyed receiving the book to commemorate the 90th anniversary and will look back on it fondly when they are older.

As usual this half term has been full of great learning, trips, workshops and visitors. Well done to Year 6 for all trying their best when completing their SATs tests last week. We were so proud of them. After half term our Year 4 pupils have their multiplication check and Year 1 their phonics screening check. They have been working very hard in preparation.

I hope that you have a relaxing half term and we look forward to seeing the children safely back to school on Monday 1st June.

Mrs Needs



Diary Dates

Monday 1st June

Clubs Resume

Tuesday 2nd June

Year 6 PGL Meeting @ 9.00am
Year 1 'Homes through the Times'

Wednesday 3rd June

Year 6 Moving On Presentation

Thursday 4th June

Year 5 Trip to Tower of London

Friday 5th June

Year 5 Trip to Paulton's Parks

Monday 8th June

School Council to Café Connect

Tuesday 9th June

Nursery Class Photo's

Thursday 11th June

Year 3 Trip to Hobbledown Heath
Year 6 Banji Alexander Visit

Tuesday 16th June

Reception Visit from a Dentist

Thursday 18th June

Open Morning at 9.30 for Prospective Parents

Friday 19th June

Year 1 Trip to Windsor Castle
Year 1 - 6 Summer Parties (FOLBA)

Monday 22nd June

Year 5 Pedestrian Training
School Council to Connect Café
District Sports

Tuesday 23rd June

EYFS Sports Morning

Wed 24th June

Year 1,2,3 Sports Morning

Thurs 25th June

Year 4 ,5,6 Sports Morning

Monday 29th June

Year 4 Pedestrian Training

Tuesday 30th June

Year 6 Enterprise Day

Wednesday 1st July

Year 1 Medieval Assembly
Year 3 Pedestrian Training
Year 6 PGL Trip until 3rd July

Thursday 2nd July

Year 2 Pedestrian Training

Friday 3rd July

Year 1 Assembly @ 9.00am
Year 6 Return from PGL Trip
Nursery & Reception Summer Party (FOLBA) 3pm

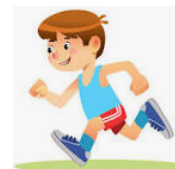


Sunflowers

For those families who have brought sunflower seeds to enter the competition, please send a photo of your child with their sunflower and the height of the flower to science@ladybankes.school

Please put your child's name and class as the subject header and send it by 1st July. Thank you.

Well done to everyone who took part in the 2026 TCS Mini London Marathon. As a result the school have been rewarded with £150.00 to spend on sporting equipment.



Attendance and Lates May 2026



We would like to take the opportunity to say 'Thank You' to all of our Lady Bankes families who consistently work to ensure their children's attendance and punctuality is high.

Getting these important habits established early on in your child's life will make a difference in the future. There is a proven link between attendance and achievement and it is therefore very important that your child attends school every day.

Punctuality

We appreciate the effort it takes some of our families to get to school on time and we hope we can continue to work with those families that find this more of a struggle to support them to make the improvements that are needed. Lack of punctuality affects learning and behaviour not only of the pupil who is late, but it has an impact on all other learners as the teacher is required to recap on missing learning for those who arrive late.

This reduces learning time for the rest of the class.

Please make every effort to get your children into school on time.

School starts at 8.30am.



Best Attendance - KS1 (Year & Year 2) - 2KB Miss Barr's class

Least Lates - KS1 (Year 1 & Year 2) - 1AM Mr Milner's class



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

Least Lates - KS2 (Years 3 to 6) - 3RG Mr Gohil's class

6BM Miss Mackerness's class



Year group		% to date	Number of lates this month
Nursery	EYFS	87.3%	13
Reception	EYFS	94.3%	12
Year 1	KS1	93.7%	19
Year 2	KS1	95.5%	25
Year 3	KS2	94.2%	26
Year 4	KS2	94.8%	25
Year 5	KS2	94.7%	34
Year 6	KS2	95.2%	22

**Attend Today
Achieve Tomorrow**

Our current whole school attendance
is 94.7%.

Mrs Sue Smith, Attendance Officer



What's on at Ruislip Manor Library

An afternoon with
children's author **Betsy Griffin**

Saturday 13 June
from 3pm to 4pm



Join us for an inspirational talk with a remarkable young lady, who became a published author at 9 years old!

Betsy is visually impaired and lives with a life limiting condition. Her talk will focus on her book, positivity and how she deals with daily life.

For families and children 4+
Tickets free. Booking essential.

To book your place, please scan the QR code below or search 'Betsy' via <https://pre.hillingdon.gov.uk>



National
Year of
Reading
2026

GO
ALL
IN.



What's on at Ruislip Manor Library

"How To Catch A Book Witch"
Storytelling Show + Workshop

Saturday 23 May
from 10am to midday



Join Kira and her friend the Book Worm as they try to discover why all the words in the library seem to be vanishing...

An open-hearted show featuring live music, puppetry and storytelling from award-winning Coppice Theatre.

For children aged 4+
Tickets free. Booking essential.

To book, please speak to a member of staff:
01895 556262 or ruislipmanor-library@hillingdon.gov.uk



National
Year of
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What's on at Botwell Green Library

"How To Catch A Book Witch"
Storytelling Show

Saturday 23 May
from 2pm to 3pm



Join Kira and her friend the Book Worm as they try to discover why all the words in the library seem to be vanishing...

An open-hearted show featuring live music, puppetry and storytelling from award-winning Coppice Theatre.

For children aged 4+
Tickets free. Booking essential.

To book, please speak to a member of staff:
01895 558633 or botwellgreen-library@hillingdon.gov.uk



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Identifying and supporting young carers at Lady Bankes Primary School

Dear Families,

We are committed to ensuring that all students get the support they need to have a positive school experience, are happy in school and can achieve their full potential.

We know that for some students, factors outside of school can have a big impact on this, particularly if there is someone in their family or a friend who is ill, disabled, or has a mental health problem or an addiction. We think in every class there could be as many as two pupils who are helping to support someone because of one of these factors – we call these students **young carers**.

Students can be young carers for lots of different reasons:

- They might be providing physical support to a parent with a physical illness such as fibromyalgia or ME, such as cooking, fetching things or helping with things like putting shoes on or doing the shopping.
- They might be helping a parent with a disability who needs help with more personal tasks such as getting dressed, bathing or changing dressings.
- Or it could be more emotional support – like being there if their autistic sibling is upset, taking responsibility for young siblings whilst parents attend health appointments, or checking that a parent with depression/anxiety is okay.
-

Some young carers might be doing lots of caring, others just a small amount but are impacted by the situation at home for example by worrying about the person with the health condition, or needing to do more things for themselves compared to other students.

There is lots of support available for young carers and their families should they ever need it – both inside and outside of school.

If you think that any of the above applies to your child and that they might possibly be a young carer then please contact Miss Cronin on the email address youngcarer@ladybankes.school

Even if you feel your child or family are doing really well and don't need any support, we find that it's better for us to be aware and have them on our radar as potential young carers, in case the situation suddenly changes and they (or you) do need support. It just means that you and your child don't have to start from scratch with letting us know what is going on if things have become difficult.

Yours sincerely,

Young Carers' School Operational Lead: Miss Cronin



Sporting News

Congratulations to the Y3/4 and the Y6 athletics teams who both won gold at the Hillingdon Borough Quadkids competition! We are so proud of you.



Nursery

The Nursery children enjoyed their visit to the farm. They loved stroking and brushing the animals. It was a great experience for them to get them so involved. The children had the opportunity to see the baby chicks in the incubator and were able to touch their soft feathers.

There was great excitement meeting Harold the giraffe at the 'Life Space'. The children confidently answered the questions related to the routine of getting ready to go to Nursery. We had celebrated Sir David Attenborough 100th birthday by transforming our learning environment into a safari, a jungle and life under the sea. It was amazing! The children understand how important it is to look after our planet and all the animals.

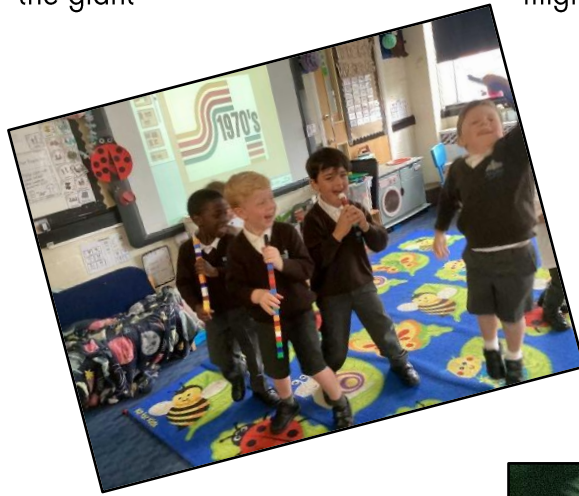
We promoted the keep fit and healthy approach for our 'Little Feet' to walk to Nursery with their parent. The children felt very proud singing and dancing to Wham! 'Wake me up before you go-go' to mark the 90th anniversary of Lady Banks.



Reception

As we come to the end of Summer Term 1, we have been reflecting on what an exciting and memorable few weeks it has been in Reception! This week has been especially special as we celebrated our school's 90th Birthday. We had a fabulous time at our celebration on Friday. The children loved looking at old photographs and discussing what life might have been like for Reception children back in 1936.

Our topic, 'How Do Living Things Grow?' has now come to an end, and what a fantastic learning journey it has been. The children have thoroughly enjoyed planting and growing different things, observing how they change over time. One of the highlights was planting some "magic beans" – only to discover that overnight a gigantic beanstalk had appeared in our classrooms! The children became brilliant detectives, searching for clues and wondering where the giant might have gone.



Year 1

We have had so much fun learning how to program Bee-Bots in our computing lessons! The children loved giving the Bee-Bots instructions and watching them move around the mats. We practiced using forwards, backwards, left and right turns to help the Bee-Bots reach different destinations. It was fantastic to see the children working together, solving problems and showing great perseverance when debugging their instructions. We were all very proud of how confident and independent we became with our programming skills!



Big Birthday Bash

Year 1 had such an exciting time preparing for the Big Birthday Bash concert! We worked really hard practicing our song with the Year 1 team and were so proud to perform 'Try Everything' from Zootopia on Friday. Thank you so much to all the families who came to watch and support us – it made the day even more special.

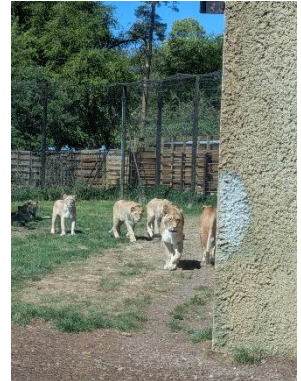
As part of the school's 90th birthday celebrations, we also enjoyed learning about the history of our school and made some lovely birthday cards to help celebrate this very special occasion.

This week we have visited Legoland and will be sharing photos in the next newsletter.



Year 2

We had a fantastic time at Whipsnade Zoo and we got to see a lot of animals. There was a pride of lions, which was the first pride that the zoo has had for a long time! We also loved seeing the baby rhino and the bears were incredible. We saw the elephants on the train and we saw many more exciting animals.



Big Birthday Bash

We were very excited about the Big Birthday Bash concert and practised really hard with the Year 2 team. Thank you to all the families who came to watch us, perform High School Musical! We had a fantastic time celebrating 😊

As part of the 90th Birthday celebrations, we were able to interview some of the staff members who went to Lady Bankes, to see the similarities and differences. We really enjoyed asking inquisitive questions and we found out that the girls and boys had to play separately.

We wish all the Year 2 families, a safe and restful half term 😊



Year 3

Year 3 had a wonderful time celebrating at the Lady Bankes 90th Birthday Bash! The children performed an energetic rendition of "Spice Up Your Life" by the Spice Girls and sang with great enthusiasm and confidence. It was fantastic to see everyone enjoying such a special occasion together. A huge thank you goes to the amazing team from FOLBA for organising and running the event so successfully. We would also like to thank all the Lady Bankes families for their continued support, generosity and encouragement. The celebration was a memorable occasion for the whole school community, and Year 3 were proud to be part of it.



Year 4

This month has been incredibly memorable where we have enjoyed celebrating Lady Banks 90th birthday! The milestone celebrations were made unforgettable thanks to Friday's amazing concert, where the talented Year 4 children sang their hearts out with a very special performance of a classic 1950s Elvis Presley hit, filling the school grounds with incredible energy and nostalgia. To top off an already magical occasion, the audience was treated to the ultimate surprise: for one concert, and one concert only, "Elvis" himself made a legendary appearance! It was a magnificent tribute to a remarkable milestone, and we hope this special year brings as much joy, laughter, and wonderful memories as that unforgettable afternoon. Happy 90th Birthday!

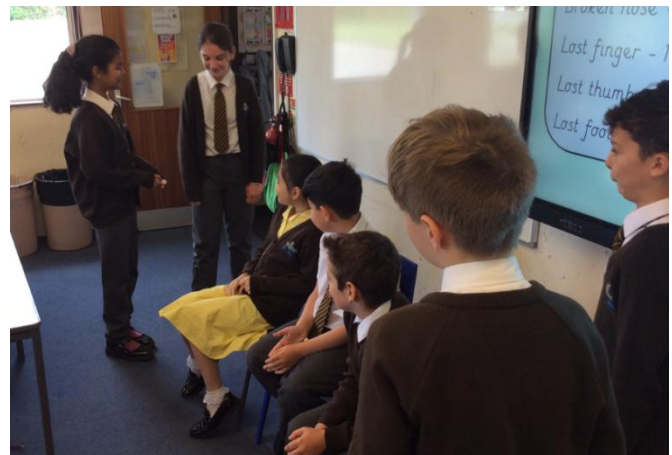
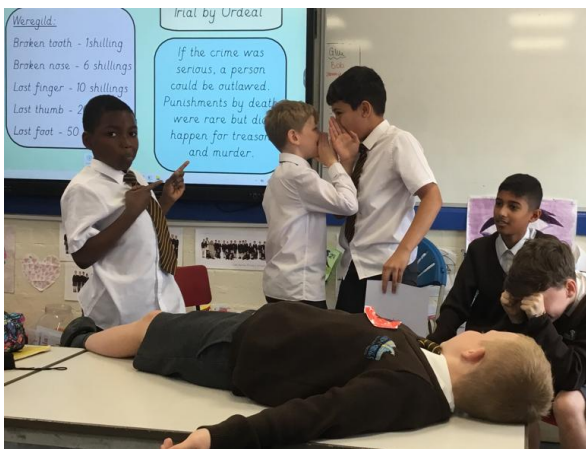


Year 5

We enjoyed celebrating and singing 'Dancing in the Street' at the 90th Birthday Bash last week! Thank you to all the family and friends who came to support us.



We have enjoyed starting our new Topic of 'Crime and Punishment' and so far have learnt about the Romans and Anglo-Saxons and compared these to modern day crime and punishment. We completed a role-play activity where we assessed the evidence of an Anglo-Saxon crime and decided on appropriate punishments!



In art, we have been learning about Street Art. We have studied the work of Banksy and have created street art murals of our own to convey a range of messages that are important to us. We have also experimented with writing our names in graffiti font in preparation for using spray paints after half term!



Some sporting news from Year 5! Well done to Poppy who represented Team Year 5 at the Mini Marathon in London last month. On Sunday, Mrs Gibson completed the Hackney Half Marathon to raise money for the charity, 'Mind'. What great achievements!



Year 6

We are incredibly proud of our Year 6 pupils for their fantastic effort and dedication during last week's SATs. They approached the assessments with a wonderful attitude. After our SATs finished last week, we were very lucky to be able to use the bouncy castles as part of our SATs Party. Thank you to FOLBA and parents for their contributions.

A huge thank you goes to the wonderful Lady Bankes Diner staff, who prepared a delicious breakfast for the children each morning. It was a fantastic way for the pupils to relax with their friends and enjoy a tasty meal before their tests—the cinnamon rolls were a massive hit!

The celebrations have also continued across the school as we marked Lady Bankes' 90th anniversary. The children thoroughly enjoyed taking part in the special celebratory concert and creating beautiful bunting to decorate the school.

Finally, a massive well done to Mya (6KC) for creating an incredible piece of artwork. Her piece beautifully celebrates her family's multi-generational history with Lady Bankes. How wonderful!

