Lady Bankes Primary School

Newsletter No. 2

Thursday 22nd October 2026

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ambition, togetherness, opportunity, respect, curiosity, happiness

Dear Lady Bankes families,

When I look at the children in Nursery and Reception in their classrooms it is hard to believe that they have only been in school for a few weeks. They are so settled in their classes and have made fantastic progress in so many ways already. We are so pleased they have joined Lady Bankes.

Thank you to all the families who came to our parent consultation evenings this week. There is always such a lovely atmosphere and the children really enjoy sharing their learning in their books with you. For families in RDP your parent meetings will take place after half term and further details will be sent out with arrangements after the holiday. Nursery parents are invited to come along to a drop-in session after school on Wednesday 25th November to see what the children have been doing and hear how they are getting on.

Year 5 and 6 are currently working with the Universities of London and Liverpool on a 'Love to Read' project. If your child is in one of those year groups and they haven't mentioned it at home you should ask them about it. We were very pleased to have been invited to participate in this research. We encourage all our families to read with their children as often as possible and talk about what the children are reading. Children across the school are read to by their class teachers at the end of the day. This is a lovely way to finish our school day.

We had our first class assembly from 5CG last week with the theme of harvest. Thank you to all our families for your kind donations for Hillingdon Food Bank. The food was taken there by staff from Lawrence Rand and I know that they will gratefully received by families in our borough who need help.

We send our love and congratulations to Ms O'Sullivan who had a baby boy this week, mother and baby are doing well and we look forward to meeting him soon.

We hope that you have a wonderful half term break and we look forward to seeing the children safely back to school on Tuesday 3rd November.

Mrs K Needs

PARKING

We understand that it is difficult to try and find a parking space in the morning if coming to school by car, however it is extremely dangerous and illegal to park or wait on the corners at the entrance of Dawlish Drive doing so could incur a penalty charge and could cause an accident!

We often get complains from local residents who are abused by parents after being asked not to block their driveways. When the whole road is blocked on both sides with cars its makes it very difficult for families to cross the road safely.

Also there has been reports of vehicle idling, parents waiting for 20-30 minutes with their engines running both before and after school. This is extremely bad for everyone's health and is also illegal under the rule 123 or The Highway Code and Section 42 of the Road Traffic Act.

Please can we encourage parents to park a few streets away and enjoy a short walk with your child, maybe take the opportunity to speak about your day, look at what's going on around you or meet up with friends and walk in together.

ROYAL BRITISH LEGION

Every year we support the Royal British Legion in their Poppy Appeal. Year 6 will be coming around to the classrooms every morning after half term to sell poppies, bracelets, pencils, rulers, reflectors.

4MB Special Class Assembly on 11th November at 9.00am

PICK UP FROM SCHOOL

KS2 Parents - To enable children to be dismissed safely at the end of the school day, please stand away from the main buildings and the pathway at the back of school to allow space for the children to leave the building safely with their teacher and go to their designated pick up point on the playground.



Diary Dates

Thursday 22nd October
Term Ends at 3pm

Friday 23rd October
STAFF TRAINING DAY (School Closed)

Monday 26th – Friday 30th October
HALF TERM

Monday 2nd November
STAFF TRAINING DAY (School Closed)

Tuesday 3rd November
Immunisation Team in for Flu Sniffs

Wednesday 4th November
5AS Class Assembly @ 9.00am - Diwali

Thursday 5th November
5OB Class Assembly @ 9.00am – Guy Fawkes

Friday 6th November
FOLBA Discos

Wednesday 11th November
4MB Class Assembly @ 9.00am - Remembrance

Friday 13th November
Children in Need/Diabetes Day (wear blue)

Monday 16th November
Friendship Week (odd socks day)
Year 5 Sorted Workshop

Tuesday 17th November
Year 5 Ancient Greek Day (lower hall)

Thursday 19th November
Open Day for Prospective Parents at 9.30am & 1.30pm
Sportshall Competition

Monday 23rd November
Year 4 Trip to the Verulanium

Wednesday 25th November
Nursery Photos & Retakes

Friday 30th November
Year 5 Test Week

Wednesday 2nd December
Year 6 Trip to see The Lion King

Thursday 3rd Dec
Christmas Lunch Day

Attendance and Lates October 2026

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

Attendance and Punctuality Matters!

Lots of people think that missing the odd day at school here and there can't do much harm but even taking a short amount of time off can mean that your child misses out on aspects of the curriculum that might not be revisited until the next school year. Children who miss school are missing out on the social side of things which might affect their ability to make and keep friends, affect their confidence to attempt new work and work alongside others.

If your child is absent there are different ways you can let us know. You can-

- call 01895 634180/01895 634318,
- email the absence email- absence@ladybankes.school, please DO NOT email the office email
- or text before 9.30am, with your child's name, **class** and reason for absence.

You must contact us every day of your child's absence unless you have advised us of the days they will be away. If we do not receive this information by 11am we may contact you, including making a home visit as all our children must have a valid reason for their absence.

All children must be absent for 48 hours if they have diarrhoea or sickness.

Coming to our school this term, 'pop in' disco for all our children with Mrs Smith and the admin team. The goal is to maintain 95% for our whole school attendance by the end of this term.

All children will be able to come along to the disco during the school day and will receive a treat at the end of the day.....lets' see what we can achieve together!

Year group		% to date
Nursery	EYFS	90.5%
Reception	EYFS	95.5%
Year 1	KS1	96.4%
Year 2	KS1	94.8%
Year 3	KS2	94.9%
Year 4	KS2	96.9%
Year 5	KS2	95.7%
Year 6	KS2	94.4%

Our current whole school attendance is 95.6%.
Mrs Sue Smith,
Attendance Officer

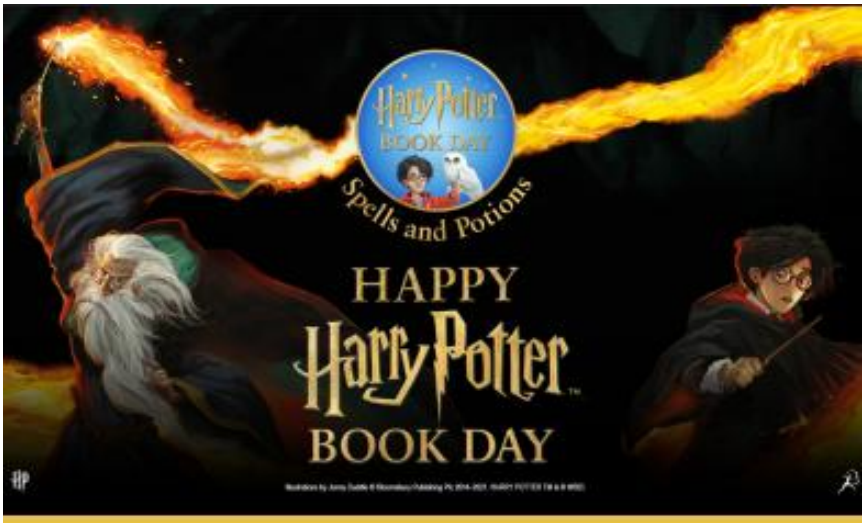
Attend Today
Achieve Tomorrow



Donations from the Harvest Festival – Going to the Hillingdon Food Bank







Hillingdon Libraries present
A Magical Day at Hogwarts!

Step into a world of magic this half-term and enjoy a spellbinding day of stories, crafts and wizarding activities for the whole family.

Make sure you join our **costume parade at midday**, where there will be a prize for the best dressed character judged by The Worshipful the Mayor of Hillingdon, Cllr Reeta Chamdal.

Remember the more imaginative costumes will stand out the most!

Entry is free, but please book your Hogwarts arrival time-slot in advance.

The Great Barn, Ruislip
Thursday 29 October 2026
10am to 2pm

GO ALL IN.

www.hillingdon.gov.uk/libraries

ADVICE FOR PUPILS, PARENTS AND CARERS

PHONE SAFE. PEOPLE FIRST.

Practical steps to reduce theft and get help when you need it.



01 On the way to school

- Keep your phone out of sight in a zipped pocket or bag. Put it away as soon as you finish using it.
- If you need to check a message or route, stop somewhere safe, away from the kerb. Look around before taking your phone out.
- Keep aware of people approaching, including on bikes or mopeds. Avoid distractions that stop you noticing your surroundings.
- Do not leave your phone on a table or hand it to someone you do not know. Follow your school's phone rules.

02 Set it up together

- Use a strong passcode, Face ID or fingerprint unlock, and a short automatic screen lock. Keep passcodes private.
- Turn on Find My and Stolen Device Protection on supported iPhones. On supported Android phones, enable theft protection and device finding.
- Hide lock-screen message previews, install updates and back up important information.
- Keep the IMEI and serial number somewhere separate. Dial *#06# to see the IMEI. Save a trusted adult's number somewhere other than the phone.

03 If someone threatens you

- **Your safety comes first.** Do not fight for a phone, chase someone or try to get it back yourself.
- Move to a safe, staffed place, such as a school office or shop, and ask for help. Tell a parent, carer or trusted member of school staff.
- If a tracker shows the phone's location, share it with police. Do not go there yourself.

04 Act quickly after a theft

- Use another device to mark the iPhone as lost at **icloud.com/find**, or use the manufacturer's Android locking service.
- Contact the network provider to block the SIM and handset. Tell your bank if payment apps or accounts may be at risk; secure your email and other accounts.
- **Do not remove a stolen iPhone from Find My.** Ignore messages claiming it has been found that ask for passwords, codes or removal from your account.

Parents and schools: agree a safe journey and a backup way to make contact. Reassure children: "Tell us straight away. We will help you." Reporting to school does not replace a police report.

REPORT IT. GET SUPPORT.

999 - if you are in danger, someone is injured, or the crime is happening or has only just happened. Use another phone or ask someone to call.

101 or met.police.uk - for a non-emergency report. Select "Report" then "Report a crime". Report threats and attempted thefts too, even if nothing was taken.

Help police: give the time, location, what happened, descriptions and direction of travel. Provide the IMEI and any tracking information. Keep messages and the crime reference number. Do not put yourself at risk to collect evidence.

Being targeted is never your fault. A phone can be replaced; you cannot.

Sources: Metropolitan Police - Protect your phone / Be Switched On: Apple Support - stolen iPhone (120837).
Further advice: met.police.uk/phonesnatch | support.apple.com/en-gb/120837 | Prepared 16 October 2026

METROPOLITAN POLICE Working together for a safer London
TERRITORIAL POLICING

Important information regarding Electric Scooters and Electric Bikes

Dear Parent/Guardian,

The Metropolitan Police Service is increasingly dealing with incidents involving e-scooters and e-bikes being used in an anti-social and dangerous manner.

Many parents purchase these vehicles for their children without realising there are legal restrictions regarding where and how they can be used.
Please be aware:

- Privately owned e-scooters and some e-bikes cannot be used on public roads, pavements or public spaces.
- Modified or illegally adapted e-bikes may be treated as motor vehicles in law.
- Riders can be reported for offences including careless driving, dangerous driving, driving without insurance and riding in an anti-social manner.
- Police have powers to stop and seize vehicles being used unlawfully or anti-socially.
- A seized vehicle may not be returned and owners can face recovery fees, fines and court proceedings.

We have received reports of e-scooters and e-bikes being ridden dangerously near pedestrians, schools, parks and shopping areas. These behaviours place both riders and members of the public at risk of serious injury.

In addition, we are increasingly seeing individuals in possession of e-bikes and e-scooters becoming targets for theft and robberies.

Parents and guardians are encouraged to:

- Check whether any e-bike purchased complies with UK legislation.
- Supervise children using such vehicles and discuss personal safety.
- Discuss road safety and responsible behaviour.
- Ensure children understand that police can seize vehicles being used illegally.

Our aim is to educate young people and keep our communities safe. However, where offences occur, enforcement action will be taken.

Thank you for your support.
Yours faithfully,
Metropolitan Police Service

Nursery

The nursery children are now starting their nursery sessions completing 'Funky Fingers' tasks which helps them with their fine motor control skills. They have enjoyed learning about the autumn season especially the red squirrels. The children know who is in their family. They particularly enjoyed seeing themselves in their baby and toddler photos. The nursery children are recognising their friends and making new friends every day. It has been a busy and fun half-term. After the October break, the children will be learning about 'Colours'. Enjoy the holidays and we look forward to seeing you on Tuesday 3rd November.











Reception

And just like that, our first half term draws to a close! The children have made the most out of the nice weather and have had great fun building their gross motor skills whilst exploring the outdoor classroom. We've had a wonderful start with our topic focusing on our key question 'How am I Changing?' The children have explored how they are growing and developing, as well as how the seasons change- especially during our recent focus on Autumn.
In phonics, the children have now learnt all their initial sounds and are beginning to blend-an important and exciting step in their reading journey. We are incredibly proud of their hard work and progress. Wishing you all a fantastic half term break. We look forward to seeing your children continue to grow and shine in Autumn 2.









Year 1











Year 2

Great Fire of London Workshop









Year 3

Year 3 have thoroughly enjoyed our trip to Chiltern Open Air Museum, which supported our Stone Age topic and helped us to explore and answer our key question. It was a fantastic opportunity to bring our learning to life! A huge thank you to all the parent helpers who gave up their time to join us and help make the trip possible. We really appreciate your support!

In Science, we have been enjoying learning about the human skeleton, discovering the different bones in our bodies and understanding their important roles.

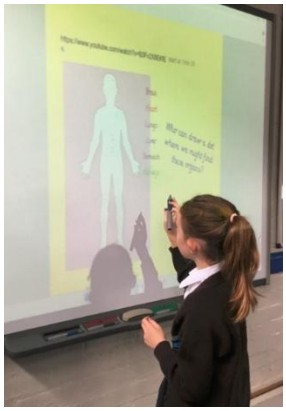
A huge thank you to all the children for the amazing home learning they have produced. We have been so impressed by their creativity and effort! Their wonderful work has certainly brightened up our classrooms and brought smiles to our faces. Well done, Year 3!

















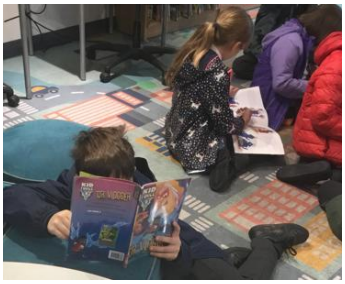


Year 4

It is hard to believe that we are already half a term into Year 4! We have had such a wonderful time so far with so many wonderful opportunities and learning that has taken place.

The children had a wonderful time on their trip to Ruislip Manor Library. It was a wonderful opportunity for them to learn lots about the library, explore the different sections, and discover the wide range of books available. The children thoroughly enjoyed their visit and were especially excited to choose and take out a book of their own to enjoy at home.







Thank you to everyone who came to Parents Meeting this week, if you were unable to make these meetings please speak to your child's class teacher to arrange an appointment after school.

Upcoming dates

4MB Class Assembly: Wednesday 11th November 2026 at 9am
Have a lovely half term!

Year 5

We have been working really hard during our first half term of Year 5. We have recently enjoyed designing and making Ancient Greek Pots in DT.









We have also enjoyed performing a role play showing the story of Rama and Sita in RE, and performed some nonsense poetry to celebrate National Poetry Day.








Here are some other pictures of our classroom learning this half term, as well as pictures of our trip to Ruislip Manor Library and pedestrian training.






Year 6

Year 6 enjoyed a great trip to RAF Hendon to experience a World War 2 classroom and learn more about the RAF during the Second World War.







Year 6 have been baking to compare World War 2 rationed cookies with chocolate chip cookies.





Well done to the football teams who played in the Ruislip tournaments this week!



