



SPRING TERM 1 2023 | ISSUE 2

MIDDLESEX LEARNING PARTNERSHIP Newsletter



*Have a lovely
half term!*

BARNHILL COMMUNITY HIGH SCHOOL | BELMORE PRIMARY ACADEMY | WILLIAM BYRD PRIMARY ACADEMY

Together, achieving our very best

WELCOME TO THE MLP

Welcome to our second edition of our MLP Newsletter, which celebrates the collective achievements of our young people across our Trust.

Dear MLP Community

Sometimes people make the assumption that schools are just for academic learning, to relentlessly apply the science of learning to classrooms and to ensure that students get the highest grades that they are capable of. However, this is only part of the story. When you look through this, our second Trust newsletter you can see just how rich the curriculum is for our pupils. What we do in the Trust is to support our pupils' strongly academic education with a rich and varied range of opportunities to develop themselves as people. We wish to create opportunities for them to find that part of our culture that is going to inspire them in the future or create memories, that will last them a lifetime.



Our vision is to transform life opportunities through education and just by simply reading this newsletter shows just how we are making this vision a reality.

I have some good news in regards to the leadership of the Trust. Nicola Edwards has been appointed substantive Head of School for William Byrd Primary Academy, after a term as the interim Head of School. Nicola was a Deputy at WBPA and instantly put into action her plans for a dynamic and highly effective school. She is a very popular appointment for both, staff, pupils and the community and I look forward to her adding her impact and energy to both William Byrd and the MLP executive team.

I hope that you enjoy reading about the Trust, please remember that if you wish to become part of our team through governorship, I am always happy to hear from you.

Kind regards

T. Hemming

TRACEY HEMMING
Executive Headteacher/CEO

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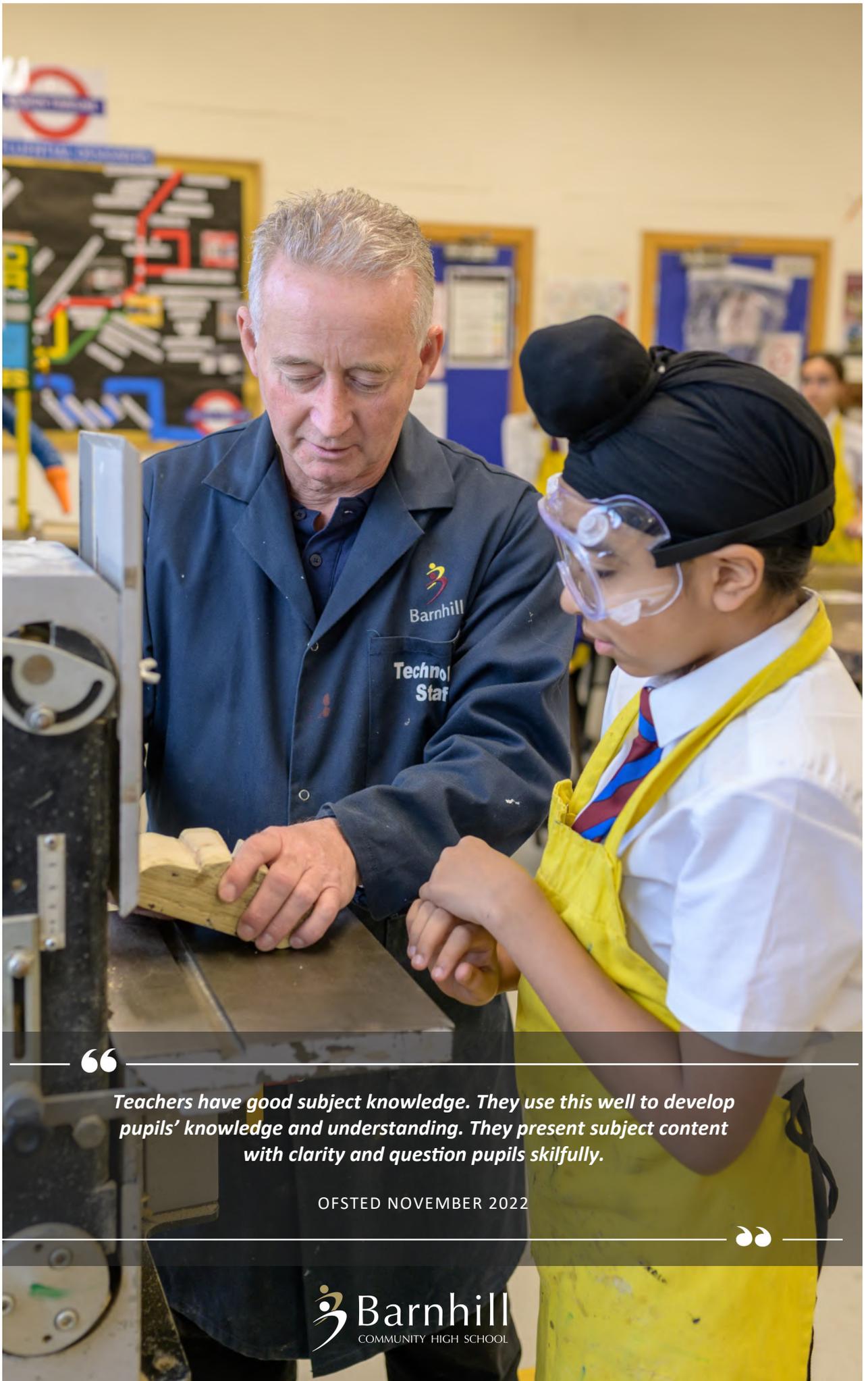
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“

Teachers have good subject knowledge. They use this well to develop pupils' knowledge and understanding. They present subject content with clarity and question pupils skilfully.

OFSTED NOVEMBER 2022

”



OUR VALUES

RESPECT

We understand that every person is important,
and we respect everyone for who they are

WISDOM

We admire the best of human achievements
and we aim to become experts

ASPIRATION

We enjoy challenges and we aspire to become better
tomorrow than we are today

COMMUNITY

We take an active part in our community
in order to create belonging, fellowship and identity



FROM THE HEADTEACHER

Dear parents and students of Barnhill Community High School,

I am pleased to present to you the Spring Newsletter of our school. This edition comes at a time when we have just received our latest Ofsted report. I am thrilled to share with you that we have once again been rated as a 'Good' school, with the inspectors stating that if it were a full inspection they believe it would be 'Outstanding'.



We are proud of the hard work and dedication of our teachers, support staff, and most importantly, our students, who have all contributed to this outstanding achievement. The report highlighted our strong commitment to providing high academic standards in a safe and supportive environment for our students.

I am also excited to announce several new initiatives that have taken place at school this term. These include our marvellous winter concert; a business studies event whereby the students marketed vinyl records; year 7s achieving the VESPA course; sports leaders training with a Taekwondo master; and looking back at Barnhill's Got Talent being celebrated for another year!

As students in years 11 and 13 prepare for their exams, I encourage all students to maintain their high standards of work this half term. There should also be some time to relax, meet with friends and see family.

In closing, I would like to express my gratitude to all of the parents, students, and staff who make Barnhill Community High School such a special place. I look forward to continuing to work together to achieve greater success in the future.

Best regards,

J. Jones

JOHN JONES
Headteacher

PANTOMIME? O YES IT WAS!***A great British tradition***

The EAL Department took a group of students to the Beck theatre before Christmas to see the pantomime, 'Cinderella'.



Murad from Y10 said it had been a great pleasure and a memorable experience and expressed his thanks to Mrs Vockic and Mr Nash for being given the opportunity.

The EAL team provide valuable support to students where English is not their first language and have a range of resources available to provide appropriate scaffolding for students to access the curriculum in accordance with their English language proficiency level.

Although some of the humour may have been lost in translation, hisses, boos and cheers are the same in any language!

Thank you to the EAL department for arranging the trip and giving students a taste of pantomime theatre.

STUDENT LEADERS AT TAEKWONDO TASTER

On Wednesday 25th January we took nine of our year 8 Sport Leaders to assist at a Taekwondo taster session for primary school pupils at the Unit Gym which is attached to William Byrd School.

Taekwondo is the art of self defence that originated in Korea. It is recognized as one of the oldest forms of martial arts in the world, reaching back over 2,000 years. The name was selected for its appropriate description of the art: Tae (foot), Kwon (hand), Do (art).

The 5 tenets of Taekwondo are:

Courtesy

Integrity

Perseverance

Self Control

Indomitable Spirit

These are great life skills and echo our own ethos of respect and aspiration.

The event was attended by pupils from a number of primary schools in the borough who were ably assisted by our Sport Leaders to ensure everyone participated and had an enjoyable experience.

Our students were a credit to the school and proved to be great ambassadors.

WINTER CONCERT

An evening to showcase the musical talent at Barnhill

This was our third concert organised by the music department and a huge well done to the performers and crew behind the scenes.

A variety of acts ensured there was something for everyone from rock drumming to classical piano and ballads to rock bands.

Students performed with confidence and commitment having clearly worked hard in rehearsals.

The grand finale was a choir performance and an invitation for the audience to join in on the final number, a classic from Slade – well it was Christmas after all!

A huge thanks to Mr Taylor and Mr C Jones for their dedication and support, for giving up their time and playing their parts on piano and guitar to complement the ensemble.

THE UNIT



BARNHILL'S GOT TALENT

Barnhill certainly has got talent!

There was a great response to auditions and many acts came together to put on a marvellous show on 15th December. There was singing, dancing and acrobatics from some very talented students who performed confidently, commanding the stage.

Head students, Celine and Patryk, hosted the show and the judges included Mr Khan, Mrs Gabriel, Mrs Winter, Mr Clyne (who put in a performance himself!) and, the super grumpy, Mr 'bah humbug' Wootton who was more critical than Simon Cowell but was hugely entertaining!

Well done to all the participants below:

Meslen (Y13) sang 'You give love a bad name'

Sowjanya (Y9) danced to 'Mi Jente & Swalla'

Taliah (Y8) sang 'Yours'

Mya (Y9) danced to 'Scars to your beautiful'

Ashmeet (Y13), **Jasveen** (Y7), **Ushpinderdeep** (Y12), **Diljot** (Y12), **Varneet** (Y9), **Manpreet** (Y11) and **Muhilan** (Y13) - performed 'Bhangra mashup'

Shanika (Y9) sang 'Like my father'

Isabella (Y7) danced to 'Arabian nights'

Euan (Y8) sang 'She used to be mine'

Aizah, **Mya** and **Anika** (Y9) danced to 'Believer'

Keyon (Y10) and **Darryl** (Y8) 'Flipping Brothers' performed to 'Don't fall in love'

The winners were the Flipping Brothers, Daryl & Keyon and Isabella who each received an Amazon voucher and chocolate treats.



HISTORY GOES BEYOND 'THE NORM'

A huge well done to Ayan for his two brilliant posters!

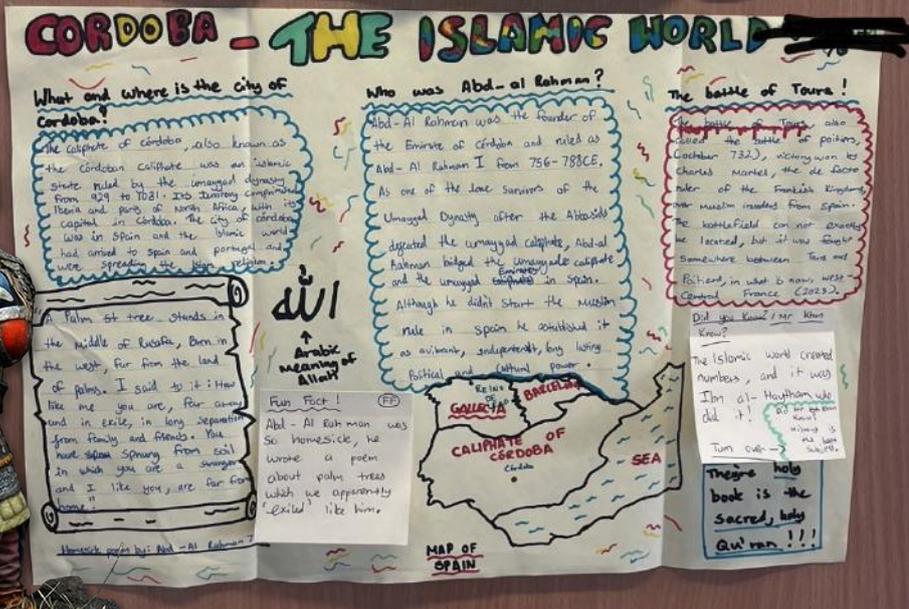
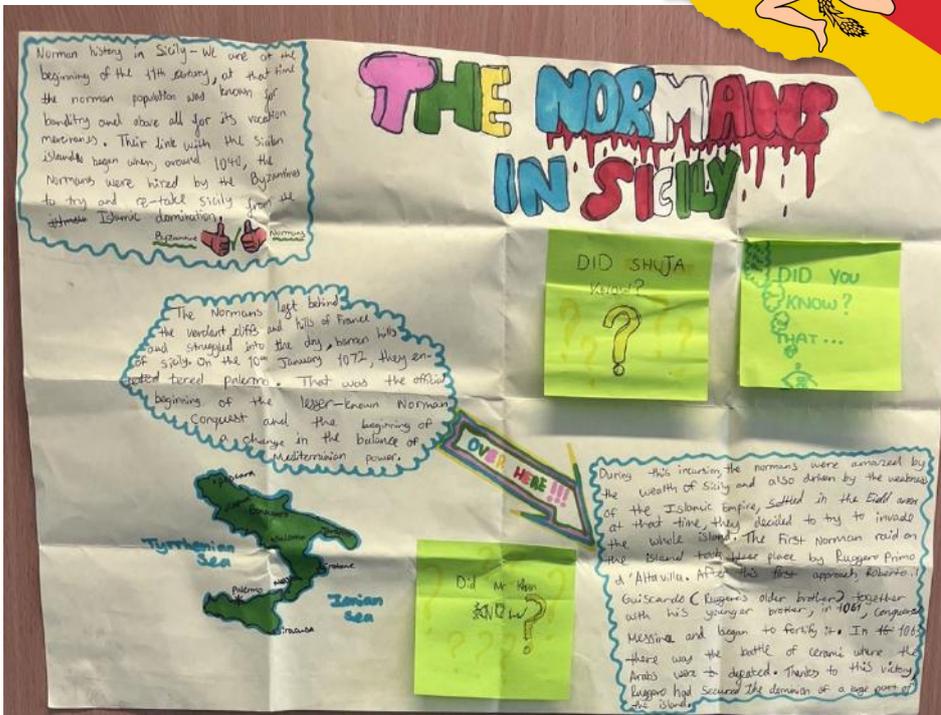
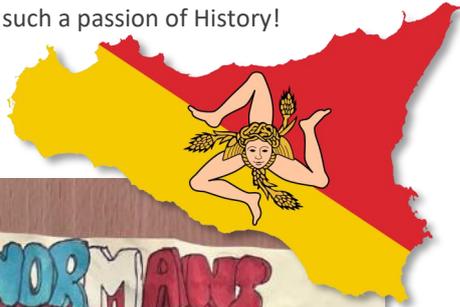
Recently, students in Y7 History have been learning about the consequences of the Norman Conquest of England in 1066. They were set homework to research the Normans in Sicily which Ayan presented in the form of a poster. The subject provided a connection to their next topic, the medieval Islamic World.

Ayan had just learnt about Muslim rule in Cordoba and produced the second poster. I really like the inclusion of Abd Al-Rahman's poem!

Ayan has been rewarded with positive Wisdom points for showing such a passion of History!

Mr Khan

History Teacher & Curriculum Lead



YEAR 7 STUDENTS SCOOTING TOWARDS SUCCESS

On board the VESPA Model

Year 7 students have been selected for our 'VESPA' Masterclass sessions, based on their high level of attainment.

Masterclass students have access to 'Beyond the Curriculum' sessions, in which Maths, English and Science specialist teachers deliver topic sessions where students get to engage with subject matter that they would not normally explore in the curriculum.

Students have also been introduced to 6th form mentors from Masterclass alumni, with most now targeting Russell group universities.

It is a very aspirational programme designed to motivate and test our most able students in a suitably challenging and engaging manner.

NAME	CLASS	NAME	CLASS
Aaliyah	7G	Innaya	7D
Abdurahman	7D	Klaudia	7F
Aiden	7G	Maryam	7B
Alfie	7J	Mussa	7A
Amari	7G	Navid	7H
Aramis	7A	Ria	7F
Avni	7B	Shiza	7I
Ayan	7G	Shuja	7B
Ayub	7D	Taraa	7H
Eva	7B	Thushali	7E
Hamnah	7I	Vibha	7C
Iga	7A	Yuvan	7G

BUSINESS STUDENTS SPINNING RIGHT 'ROUND ROUND RECORDS'

As part of their A Level Business course, students have been studying the vinyl record store "Round Round Records" and how they target customers and distribute their records.

As part of their character curriculum, students were allowed to see, hold and play records in class. Some of the vinyl's were over 50 years old!

Three students commented on this experience:

We had the opportunity to see vinyl records and record players in action. We each had vinyl's of popular songs, especially rock, with mine being Black Sabbath. Mr Church showed us how the vinyl's work, how the music is played and how to use the record player. From what I remember, the songs are scratched onto the vinyl's. If the record had multiple songs on them, like albums, the first song being on the outside and the last one being on the inside. What I learned is that on record players you can change the speed of the songs with a dial. I also learned that trying to find a certain song on a vinyl takes ages to master as a fine needle is what changes the sound waves. I enjoyed this lesson as it was practical, enjoyable and we all learned something new about something from a different time.

Fatou

After learning about Round Round records company as a case study in business, I have learnt how records are used after Mr Church bought his own collection from home! My class and I had the opportunity to explore the differences with how music works today; how sound vibrations get converted into electrical signals as the record spins. It was an unforgettable and exciting experience seeing records and playing them for the first time with the reminder of classical musicians like Elvis Presley.

Delina

While learning about different distribution techniques, we focused on Round Round Records as our case study regarding direct distribution. For the class to understand how records work, Mr Church offered to bring his collection in, and explained the basics, for example – learning how to drop the stylus at the right time so a song plays, or how to differ speeds in relation to the size of the record. Being able to have a hands-on experience with records had an impact on me in particular, as I would love to start a collection of my own soon!

Marwa



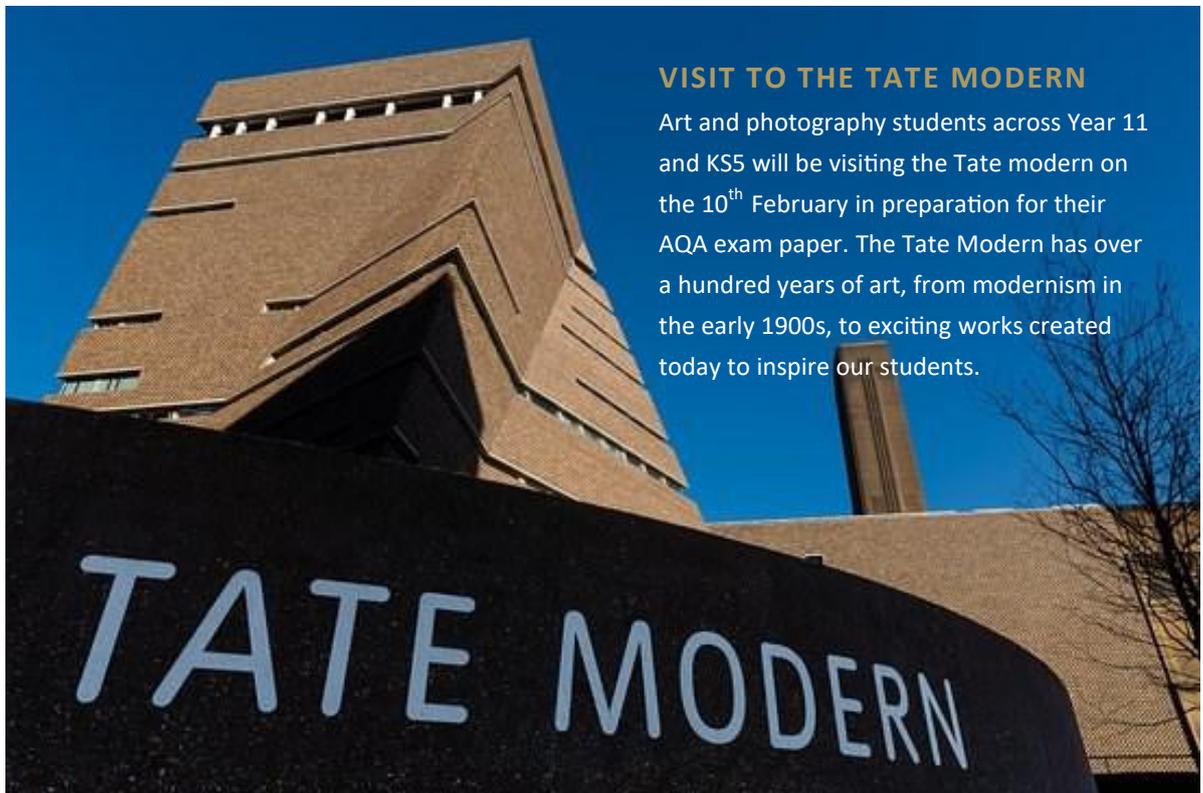
JACK PETCHEY GOLD SCHEME

Barnhill Community High school subscribes to the Jack Petchey foundation where students can be entered for awards in recognition of their hard work and community spirit which ties in with the school ethos pillars of Community and Aspiration.



Sir Jack Petchey CBE set up the Foundation to encourage young people in London and Essex to work hard and reach their full potential. He believes each and every young person should be given the chance to achieve. As he always says; "If you think you can, you can!"

One of our winners, Riley, used his award to host a football and pizza party for his friendship group who are all deserving of this team building treat, setting an example for others with their positive attitude and courteous conduct. We sincerely hope they enjoyed their day out.

**VISIT TO THE TATE MODERN**

Art and photography students across Year 11 and KS5 will be visiting the Tate modern on the 10th February in preparation for their AQA exam paper. The Tate Modern has over a hundred years of art, from modernism in the early 1900s, to exciting works created today to inspire our students.



BARNHILL DABBLE IN A LITTLE MIXOLOGY

Thank you to the Food Tech team for arranging the trip to Hammersmith College for our students to experience some of their hospitality and catering. Well done to Charlie and Dina who represented Barnhill in the Mocktail making competition and secured first place!

All of the students were a credit to Barnhill and shared their thoughts on the experience:

Isra 'The trip was very fun and educational. My favourite part of the trip was the dancing and singing and when I tried the okra fries'.

Iqra 'During the trip, I learnt many new things and how to cook sushi and make a mocktail. I also had so much fun.'

Mark 'I enjoyed the trip because I saw the food show and ate different foods. Also going on the bus and train.'



KEY DATES

EVENT	DATE
Half Term 2 Starts	Monday 20 February
Y12 Parents' Evening	Thursday 23 February
Y9 Options Evening	Thursday 9 March
Y9 Parents' Evening	Thursday 23 March
Photographer in school for Year 11 & Year 13	Monday 27 March
Deep Learning Day (all students off timetable for curriculum enrichment)	Tuesday 28 March
Spring Concert 7pm- all welcome	Thursday 30 March
End of Spring term	Friday 31 March
Start of Summer term	Monday 17 April
INSET Day - school closed to students	Friday 21 April
Bank Holiday	Monday 1 May
Bank Holiday	Monday 8 May



William Byrd
PRIMARY ACADEMY

OUR VALUES

KIND

We are kind and respectful

RESILIENT

We are resilient and learn from our mistakes

CURIOUS

We are curious and ready to learn

COOPERATE

We cooperate and work together

ASPIRE

We aspire to be the best we can be

FROM THE HEADTEACHER

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome to the first newsletter for 2023. Looking back over this term it has been an incredibly productive half term in our school improvement journey. It has been wonderful to see so many parents in the school building this term. We have held numerous successful events: The Reception Starry Night Exhibition, The Police Internet Safety Awareness Workshop and The Reception Parent Phonics training and reading cafe were personal highlights.



We look forward to seeing everyone at the parents meeting afternoon Wednesday 1st March. This will give you the opportunity to discuss your child's learning with their class teacher.

I hope you enjoy viewing all the exciting learning opportunities that the children have enjoyed so far this term!

I wish you all a safe and happy half term break and look forward to seeing you all in the new school term.

N. Edwards

NICOLA EDWARDS

Head of School

STAY AND PLAY SESSIONS

On Friday 6th January we successfully started our Stay and Play sessions. We invited all parents /carers to come and play with their children. All our little ones were very happy and excited to show their parents our nursery and all the activities set up. In Nursery we explore many different fairytales during the academic year. We started learning the story of The 3 Little Pigs, so most of the activities were related to the story.

Thank you to all our parents/carers that attended and we hope to see you again in our upcoming sessions.



FAIRYTALES IN NURSERY

As part of their learning this term, children enjoyed Fairytale Day in Nursery. Children had a wonderful day celebrating their fairytale topic. They enjoyed dancing with their friends and finished off the day eating special snacks. It truly was a magical day!

Children have explored The 3 Little Pigs story, Goldilocks and The 3 Bears, and The 3 Billy Goats Gruff. They have been creating their own story maps and acting out the stories using small world equipment, face masks and story sacks. They have explored different sizes, numbers and shapes. They have had a lot of fun creating/building houses for the little pigs.



RECEPTION PYJAMA DAY

Reception children had lots of fun during Pyjama Day which was perfect introduction to our Starry Night project.

In this project children explored the differences in the world at night compared to during the day and discovering what is happening in the world while they are sleeping.

RECEPTION EXPLORING SPACE

This half term children in Reception enjoyed a wide range of explorations related to our exciting topic about Space. The children designed and built rockets and space ships, talked about what is needed in Space and what we could do in there. We have been exploring what is an astronaut's job and what do they do in space! The children have been learning about how people celebrate Lunar New Year around the world and listened to the story of 'The Race'.

As a part of our 'Starry Night' project, children have been learning about difference between day and night; the importance of good night sleep for our bodies and nocturnal/diurnal animals.

Finally, we have been exploring 'Winter Wonderland'. We have looked at what happens during Winter and made our own snowmen.



THE STARRY NIGHT EXHIBITION

As a part of our 'Starry Night' project, children in Reception looked closely at Vincent van Gogh's amazing art.

Inspired by his work, children have created 'Starry Night' pictures using multi-medium techniques. We proudly displayed all their hard work and invited parents and carers to an exhibition. It was quite the event!



RECEPTION ART EXHIBITION



YEAR 1 PHONICS WORKSHOPS

On Monday 6th February, we had the first of two parent workshops for our Year 1 parents.

Our youngest Key Stage 1 children face an important DfE assessment in June, and this training was to help parents understand how we teach phonics, and make sense of the resources and documents sent home. We explored how to use these, what daily support at home looks like, and then unpicked the importance of reading for pleasure and reading with your child, rather than just hearing them read their home reading book set by their phonics teacher.



ANIMALS AND LIVING THINGS

In science this term, Year 1 have been learning about animals and living things including humans. We have been looking at how scientists classify animals, new scientific vocabulary and where animals live. In this lesson we were comparing physical features of humans and animals, looking at our similarities and differences. We then completed our play projects where we made animals and labelled them, built humans and labelled them, drew our portraits and wrote a T-Chart with our comparisons. Please do visit our website to see more photos.



YEAR 2 THIS TERM

This half term, in Year 2 we have been super busy in all our learning, we have been studying about different 2D and 3D shapes, identifying and describing these from everyday objects in everyday life.

We have written beautiful tales on the Crow, retrieving and returning the magical colours that were once lost.

We have been exploring the world- identifying different human and geographical features in different countries around the world and comparing them to our home city. The absolute highlight of our half term has been homing and looking after our chicks. We got the chicks as eggs, we watched them hatch, we observed, monitored and recorded their progress. We held them looked after them and loved them. It has been a fantastic half term and we are so excited for the next half term after a well-deserved break.



GUNTHUK SOUP

Year 2 explored different ways to prepare vegetables for their Gunthuk Soup in DT.

We used different utensils, we learnt the safest ways to handle the utensils and how different vegetables are prepared in different ways. We used peelers, graters, bowls, knives, chopping boards, strainers and garlic crushers. We identified which vegetables needed to be sliced, diced, chopped, grated, washed, peeled and mashed. We took turns to practise using the utensils safely and preparing the vegetables. After making the soup, we tasted it and shared our opinions with the rest of the class. Most of us really enjoyed the soup, some of us found it too gingery!



2D & 3D SHAPES

Year 2 have been studying about different 2D and 3D shapes, identifying and describing these from everyday objects in everyday life.



YEAR 3 THIS TERM

Year 3 have had an amazing start to the Spring term! In Reading, we have been engaged in the text 'Escape Room' by Christopher Edge (which, no pun intended, has kept us all on the edge of our seats). In Geography, we exploring rocks, relics and rumbles; we started by learning about the different layers of the earth which led us to exploring the movement of tectonic plates and how they cause the formation or instigation of mountains, volcanoes and earthquakes. We will be consolidating this knowledge on our February trip to the Natural History Museum. In Science, we've learned all about different forces including how friction and gravity work. We even have done experiments to test which objects have the most gravity, which surfaces require the most force to move on and which surfaces create the most friction with a football. In Art, we finished off creating our spectacular ammonites using mudroc before moving onto our DT unit on cooking and eating well. Every day we continue to enjoy writing different genres inspired by stories, and progressing through our maths curriculum. You can catch us most days singing a 4 or 8 times table song (often to the tune of Adele).



MATHS AT WBPA

The Spring term has been an exciting one for Maths at William Byrd! We have fully introduced NumBots for Year 1 and we are celebrating their successes alongside our usual TTRS champions at our Friday assemblies. We will also be participating in Number Day for the NSPCC on the 3rd of February - we will all come to school dressed like a number and pupils will be competing on NSPCC rocks on TTRS! The Maths team has also launched a very exciting tournament called the Multiplication Masters which will finish with a live tournament on the 24th of February - pupils will compete to be the top of the year group and teachers will compete against each other to see who knows their times tables best. What makes it even better? Everyone is invited to dress like a Rock Star!



YEAR 4 THIS TERM

This half term Year 4 have been deep diving into all things Egypt! We started the term by exploring our history unit 'Ancient Civilisations' where we have been learning about the Ancient Sumers and how the Ancient Egyptians developed from their ideology. This was then supported by our Reading and Writing text 'Secrets of a Sun King' By Emma Carroll. Throughout the book we have been able to link it back to our history knowledge and we are now working towards creating our own historical diary entry based on the 'Secrets of the sun King' book. Last week we were also lucky enough to visit the British Museum and go on our own hunt of Egyptian artefacts. The children were all so well behaved and a credit to William Byrd! We can't wait for our next trip!



The British Museum



YEAR 5 THIS TERM

This term in Year 5, we have been studying *The Explorer* in both Reading and Writing. This is a story of four children (Fred, Lila, Con and Max), who survived a plane crash and got stranded in the Amazon rainforest. This book is telling the story of how these four kids survived, despite all the challenges and difficulties they faced. In Science, on the unit of 'Living things and their habitats', we have been exploring life cycles and how they differ between insects, amphibians, birds, mammals and even plants. We have also had the chance to learn about the different parts of a plant and the many layers of an egg, by dissecting it. This was a very tricky activity, but children were very focused trying not to crack their egg. In Geography, we have been learning about biomes and what fauna and flora can be found in each one of these major habitats. Additionally, we have had an amazing workshop on 'BEE the best you can be' led by Heathrow and BEE (Business Education Events Ltd). In this workshop, we had the opportunity of meeting new people (Heathrow volunteers) and learn about their careers and what skills are needed when applying for a job. Within the activities prepared, we developed skills in how to overcome obstacles and understand the advantages of good teamwork.



Heathrow

SIGNALONG SIGNS

This year at William Byrd we have begun learning new Signalong signs each week! This has really supported us in becoming an even more inclusive school and has helped us to develop our communication skills. Here are a few of the signs we have learned so far. Please support us in practising these at home.



Maths



Lunchtime



Play



Home Time

TAEKWONDO SESSION

We have had a fantastic opportunity to partner with The Unit to provide our children with specialist lead Taekwondo sessions.

With world class instructors, the children have been able to immerse themselves in a new martial arts form with an exclusive opportunity to continue this outside of school. Demonstrations in assembly have also shown our pupils that anyone can do this if we persevere and aspire to be the best we can be. We would like to thank Instructors Matt and Jamie who have given up their time to do this and we can't wait to see our children thrive and succeed under their excellent guidance .



YEAR 6 LEARNING ABOUT BEHAVIOUR OF LIGHT & MUCH MORE!

Year Six have been incredibly inquisitive this term as we have explored the many behaviours of light! They have used torches, mirrors, prisms and colour filters to investigate the best surfaces for light to reflect off of whilst understanding why some materials are more effective for light to bounce off of than others. Learning about refraction and how white light can be separated to reveal the colours of the rainbow led to many curious minds thinking about how the world around us works! We had lots of questions about rainbows and some of us got to answer why the sky is blue! We have loved learning about light and about the discoveries made by famous scientists such as Isaac Newton (who introduced the theory of colour) and look forward to continuing our scientific journey with electricity!



In Writing this term, Year Six have shown their talents in acting when exploring the speeches of Greta Thunberg! Year Six became news reporters to address the issues of climate change and inform their audiences about the actions of the young protestor who has been campaigning for the world since she was 15! Year Six were very enthusiastic about their roles when performing and directing their news reports. It was brilliant to see Year Six adapting their use of language and vocabulary for different roles!



MENTAL HEALTH AND WELLBEING WORKSHOP

On Monday 6th February we had a mental health and wellbeing parent workshop. We explored how to keep children emotionally healthy and the importance of having routines. We looked at emotional literacy, how to teach children to be emotionally aware, situations that trigger strong emotions, and how to support children to understand and regulate their emotions.

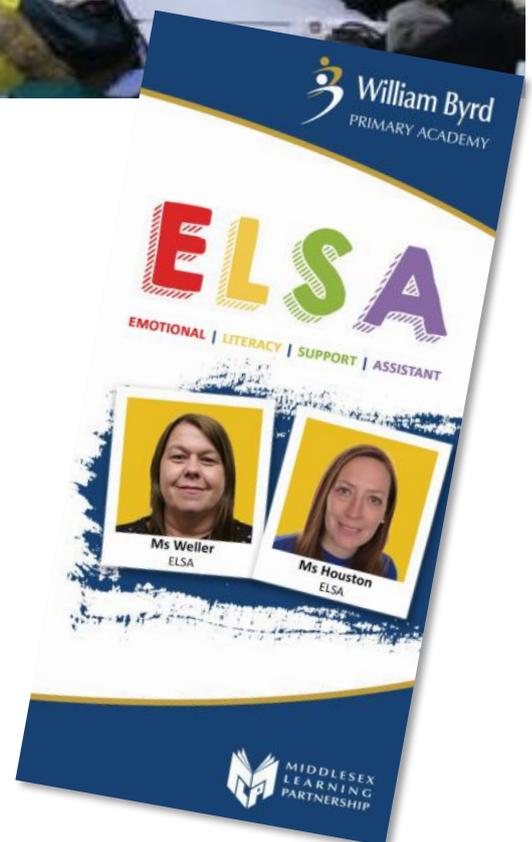


WHAT DO WE OFFER?

We have two Emotional Literacy Support Assistants (ELSA's), Mrs Houston and Miss Weller.

ELSA is an initiative developed and supported by Educational Psychologists. It is recognised that children learn better and are happier in school if their emotional needs are met. We have undergone training, and receive regular support from, Educational Psychologists from our Local Authority to plan and deliver programmes of support to pupils who are experiencing temporary or longer-term emotional needs.

Parents/Carers can request support directly. If you think your child may need my support or if you would like some advice with how to support your child at home please email us on ELSA@williambyrd.school



Pack your child a HEALTHY LUNCH BOX



Choose a variety of foods from each food group

Fruit					
+					
Vegetables					
+					
Dairy					
+					
Wholegrains					
+					
Lean meat & alternatives					
=	A Healthy Lunch Box				



Please do not use glass containers or bottles to pack your child's lunch. All food and drink should be packed in plastic/metal containers and bottles.

Keep up-to-date with many of the amazing things going on at William Byrd through our Twitter feed!



follow us on **twitter**

Visit us now @WBPAcademy

KEY DATES

EVENT	DATE
Y3 Trip to National History Museum	Monday 20 February
Year 1 Dress as an Animal Day	Wednesday 22 February
Phonics Parent Training	Wednesday 22 February - 2pm KS2 hall
Multiplication Maths Tournament	Friday 24 February
Dress as a Rock Star!	Friday 24 February
Parents Evening	Wednesday 1 March - Children finish at 1:15pm
Teacher Strike Day TBC	Thursday 2 March
World Book Day	Friday 3 March
Spring Disco	Thursday 9 March
Year 6 Trip to Brunell (Junior Citizens)	Friday 10 March
Teacher Strike Days TBC	Wednesday 15 March & Thursday 16 March
Comic Relief	Friday 17 March
Nursery Mother's Day Spa Day	Friday 17 March
Easter Cake Sale/Raffle	Tuesday 28 March
Y5 Trip to London Zoo	Thursday 30 March
Nursery Egg Hunt	Thursday 30 March
Clubs Finish	Thursday 30 March
End of Term	Friday 31 March - Children finish at 1pm

OUR VALUES

KIND

We are kind and respectful and work together

RESILIENT

We are resilient and learn from our mistakes

READY

We are ready and prepared to work

ACTIVE

We will be active in mind and body

ASPIRE

We aspire to be the best we can be

FROM THE HEADTEACHER

Dear Parents & Carers,

It has been another incredibly busy half term here at Belmore. It has been great seeing the learning happening within the classrooms and being able to be part of some amazing experiences outside the classroom once again. We have had a focus on writing this half term and getting a chance to drop in and see the progress children are making with their writing has been wonderful.

Year 6 have attended the Battle of Britain Bunker this half term. I was really impressed to listen to our students give the museum experts a run for their money when explaining all they had learned in class and in particular what they had learnt about the 'Dowding System' and the role it played in the Battle of Britain.



I would also like to say well done to all the children who represented Belmore at the Young Voices Choir at the Ovo Arena this half term. The time and effort that each member has put into rehearsing has been wonderful to hear and I know the show will have been a great success. Thank you to all those who supported and attended this trip.

We have also had success at basketball, netball teams attending competitions with both teams performing really well.

As always, I am incredibly proud of the efforts and outcomes of all of our children at Belmore and thankful to all the teams who work hard to ensure every day is a success.

I hope you all have a wonderful half term break and look forward to seeing you after the half term holidays.

L. Hyatt

LAWRENCE HYATT

Head of School

CHILDREN'S MENTAL HEALTH WORKSHOP

It was fantastic to see a great turn out to our parent workshop about supporting our children's mental health run by our Pastoral Manager, Mrs Morgan.

Parents/carers came along to learn information, strategies and agencies that can help in supporting their child's mental health.

Thank you to everyone who attended. If you are concerned about your child's mental health or would like more information, please talk to your child's class teacher or arrange to see Mrs Morgan through the school office.



NURSERY

This term in Nursery our topic has been 'Once upon a time'. We have enjoyed listening to our favourite fairy tales Goldilocks and the Three Bears, Little Red Riding Hood, The Three Little Pigs, The Three Billy Goats Gruff and Cinderella. We have really enjoyed carrying out a range of fun activities relating to these stories including making porridge and choosing our favourite healthy toppings.

We have also been learning all about Chinese New Year and how it is celebrated around the world. We even tried different food from around the world.



READ WRITE INC PHONICS

Reception children are participating in their daily Read Write Inc phonics lesson. The children are learning their sounds, blending them together to learn to read fluently and at speed. This phonics programme develops children's skills in comprehension, vocabulary and spelling.

Read Write Inc.
Phonics



RECEPTION THIS TERM

In Reception this half term our project has been 'Starry night' and 'Winter wonderland'. We have been exploring the differences in the world at night compared to during the day. The children have been talking about the importance of a good night's sleep and their bedtime routines, e.g. brushing their teeth, having a bedtime story etc. Linking to our project we read the story 'Peace at last'. Children have been discovering what is happening in the world around them while they are sleeping, including finding out about nocturnal and diurnal animals, bats, owls, foxes, badgers etc. We learnt all about people who work while we are sleeping, nurses, doctors, pilots, taxi drivers etc. and what they do for us. We read the stories, 'Whatever next' and 'How to catch a star' and the children explored space, the moon and stars. The children thought about how they could catch a star, producing some wonderful ideas for drawings and writing. We then moved on to learn about the moon, the first man to walk on the moon and how he got there.



In the next part of our project 'Winter wonderland' children explored and discussed the changes that happen during winter, including the types of weather associated with winter. We also explored places that have snow all year round and the types of animals that live there.

In maths the children have been working on different ways to make numbers to 8. They have used a variety of resources and games to support their counting and learning.

Reception children have been working so hard on learning their sounds, blending them together to learn to read fluently.

Homework reminders:

Oxford Owl: Well done to all the children that have been accessing and completing their reading homework on Oxford Owl. We have noticed a real positive impact on their blending and reading.

Homework folders: Please ensure that homework folders are returned each Wednesday.

Reading books: Please ensure that these are returned each Monday. Your child cannot be given the next book until their book is returned. Please put a comment and sign your child's reading record informing us that your child has read with you at least three times.

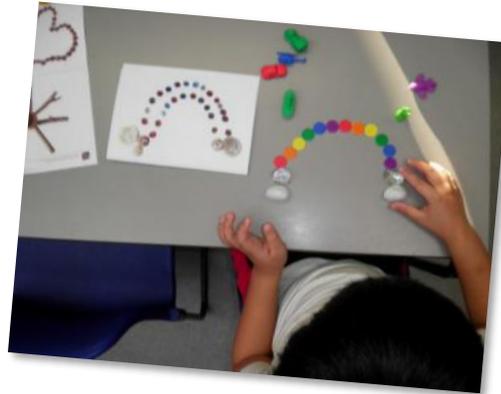


YEAR 1 THIS TERM

In Literacy this term, Year 1 loved their trip to space for our experience day. To envision what a day in space would feel like and allow the children to empathise with the characters in our book for this half term 'The Way Back Home', we decided to turn our classrooms in to space! The children were fully immersed in this experience and this enabled them to develop some brilliant vocabulary to use in their writing.



In Art, the children showed off their true artistic skills and used a range of different objects to replicate their own weather motifs. As you can see, they really tapped into their creative side and used counters, plastic counting bears and even sea shells. Some even got to hear the waves crashing in the sea. Well done Year 1!



To help develop the children's knowledge of place value within 20, Year 1 have been exploring the number line in a multitude of ways including : finding one more and one less of a number and how to find the halfway point. In this practical session, we provided children with larger than life number lines and gave them the task of placing the missing numbers in their correct position. The children were fully engaged with this activity and physically placing the numbers allowed the children to deepen their understanding of place value as well as address common misconceptions.

This half term, our topic in RE is Christianity, with a particular focus on friendship and how Jesus showed friendship to others. After watching the bible stories of Zacchaeus, Lazarus and the calming of the storm, children ranked whether it was easy or difficult for Jesus to show friendship in each story and why. This provided a great basis for discussion in to friendships amongst the year group and the importance of showing friendship, even if it may be difficult at times.

FRIENDSHIP WEB

In RE this week, Year 1 children brought their friendships to life by creating their very own friendship web. To consolidate their recent topic on friendships, the children were asked to express what qualities they valued about a friend in the class and used this activity to share some positivity about their peers.



YEAR 2 LOOKING AT ROYAL POSES

Year 2 children were comparing royal poses throughout the years in their History lesson. The children looked at two different royal poses and compared their similarities and differences they then had to say which royal pose their preferred and why.



PSHRE IN YEAR 2

Our PSHRE lessons this term have been 'Me and My Relationships' and with this week (6-10 Feb) being Children's Mental Health week we were exploring our feelings like, being worried, sad, excited, surprised and angry. We looked and talked about the different kinds of feelings that we have and how the responses we receive from others; can either make us feel happier or have the opposite effect on us.

For example, Feeling nervous about something, one-person gives a positive response and ask - "What can I do to help you?" While another could say - "Stop being silly and just get on with it!" We talked about how negative actions by others can have an impact on our mental health. We concluded that we could always say something supportive and be a good friend.



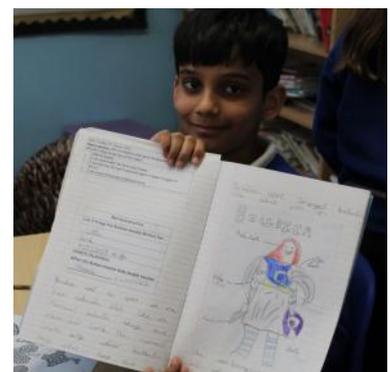
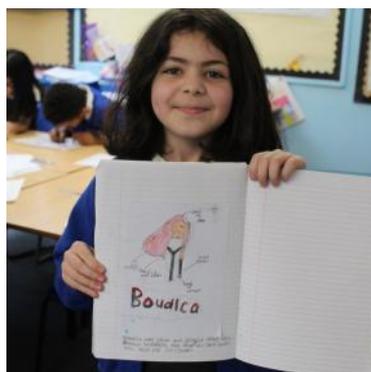
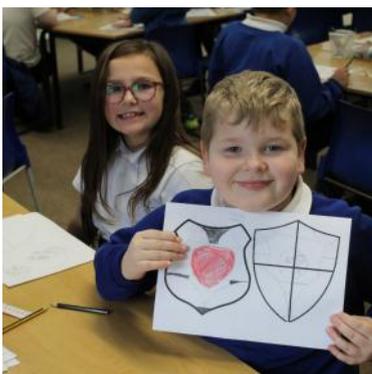
YEAR 3 ANSWERING THE BIG QUESTION

What impact did the Roman invasion have on Britain?

They have explored the causes and consequences of the invasion and are learning about how one brave Celt woman; Queen Boudica of the Iceni tribe, built a rebellion against the Romans around 61AD.

They have been creating an image of her using facts and writing from the time when she lived. They are now designing their own shield using Celtic symbols and their knowledge of the weaponry of the time.

The Children's shields are representations of them and also Celtic symbols. They designed their own coats of arms and emblems.





YEAR 3 LITERACY BASED ON 'FLOOD' BY ALVARO VILLA

Year 3 are writing a narrative based on the book 'Flood' by Alvaro Villa where a family has to evacuate their home amidst a raging storm.

To enable them to write with empathy and emotive language and immerse them into the story, they had an experience day in which they watched news reports of flood evacuations and studied pictures where people had to pack up their possessions in a hurry. They really enjoyed performing role plays using props and suitcases to imagine what it would be like to have to choose only a few treasured and necessary items and leave their homes. The children used emotive vocabulary to show how the characters would be feeling and fully engaged with the day. They finished by drawing and labelling their chosen items in a suitcase and explaining why they had chosen them. Well done Year 3!



PSHRE - KEEPING SAFE

Year 3 are exploring about how we keep ourselves safe and learning about 'safe' and 'unsafe' environments. They have been discussing the differences between a 'risk' or 'danger' and role playing scenarios and are now thinking about how they would avoid risks and dangers in certain situations. They are creating pictures in response to scenarios and showing how they would deal with instances where there may be a risk or whether danger could happen.



YEAR 4 THIS TERM

Year 4 have had a busy half term! Year 4 used the Diennes equipment to help them understand how to divide numbers using a Place Value chart. They are enjoying using manipulatives to help them understand how numbers work. We have travelled back in time to look at the lives of the fascinating Ancient Egyptians; investigated the 3 states of matter in science and written a poem connected to water. In RE, we have been thinking about Buddha's teachings and their relevance to the modern world. Also, we are working on a fabulous Vista in art, however you will have to wait for our exciting exhibition to see our masterpieces unveiled...



YOUNG VOICES CHOIR

On Tuesday, 7 February, 39 children from Key Stage 2 and 5 adults had the experience of going to Wembley Arena to be a part of the Young Voices Choir and evening performance.

The children had an early lunch and headed off on the coach at 12.30 pm. They all arrived and took their seats in the arena. The children enjoyed taking part in the rehearsals doing lots of dancing and singing. The children were part of a choir of over 5,000 children from several schools around London. It was great meeting up with the other primary school within our Trust, William Byrd.



After the rehearsals it was time to get changed into white shirts - some children were lucky enough that their parents had bought them a Young Voices T-shirt and a torch.

Then it was time to sing and dance the night away performing for all the parents that had bought tickets. It was just like a real rock concert!

It was fantastic that so many parents came along to watch.

It was a very long day, but an amazing day. A huge thank you to Mrs Cook and Miss Patel for organising it.

All the teachers were so proud of all the children for all the hard work they had done by going to rehearsals every week, and also the exceptional singing and behaviour from the children. They made Belmore proud!



MYTHOLOGICA

In Year 5 this term, the children are learning all about Ancient Greeks, in both history and guided reading, which they are thoroughly enjoying.

The book *Mythologica* is an illustrated encyclopaedia of Greek mythology like no other, with startlingly beautiful and exquisitely otherworldly portraits of mythological characters in eye-popping colour from artist Victoria Topping. The children are uncovering the colourful lives of 50 powerful gods and goddesses, earth-dwelling mortals, and terrifying monsters as they journey back in time to ancient Greece.



THE SHANG DYNASTY

This term in art, Year 5 children were making dragon eyes inspired by our previous history topic The Shang Dynasty.

The children were able to develop their artistic talents, whilst working on their project. They designed a range of eyes in their sketchbooks, where they were able to improve their drawing skills and knowledge of different art media. They built on these skills by designing and creating a clay dragon eye in the end and painting them using bright, bold colours.



LINE, LIGHT AND SHADOWS

Year 5 are learning all about the visual qualities of line, light and shadows.

They have been exploring the work of Pablo Picasso and Rembrandt and have been introduced to a range of shading techniques. They are learning that continuous, or one-line, drawings, are made by keeping a pen or pencil in contact with a piece of paper for the duration of a drawing exercise.



YEAR 6 VISIT THE BATTLE OF BRITAIN BUNKER

This half term, Year 6 have been learning about World War II and the impact inflicted on those on the Home Front. To immerse ourselves in the action-fuelled world of one of the most important battles, we visited the Battle of Britain Bunker which was an underground operations room at RAF Uxbridge and served as a base for fighter aircraft operations throughout the war. We all thoroughly enjoyed the day, but one student had a particularly thrilling time:

On Tuesday 31st January we went to the Battle of Britain Bunker in Uxbridge and it was...SPECTACULAR! We had so much fun!

As we sat in the auditorium, unable to hold in our excitement, we were introduced to our guides, Hannah and Phoebe, who were the kindest staff we had ever met. After an explanation of what were going to do that day, we set off into our groups and we saw many artefacts that were actually used during the battle.

We're in the bunker! We found out that there are 76 steps in total leading into the bunker and learned what roles different people played. For example, the plotters were members of the WAAF (Women's Auxiliary Air Force) and they were responsible for moving plotting blocks on a map, which showed both enemy and friendly squadrons.

Overall, it was an amazing experience and we are all looking forward to learning more!

Eman Burhani, Anderson class



KEY DATES

EVENT	DATE
Y1 Trip to Gunnersbury Park Museum	Tuesday 28 February
Teacher Strike Day TBC	Thursday 2 March
World Book Day	Friday 3 March
Year 6 Junior Citizens Trip to Brunel University	Wednesday 8 March
World Maths Day	Wednesday 8 March
Nursery Parents Meeting	Monday 13 March - 12.30pm to 5.15pm
Year 6 Parents Meeting	Monday 13 March - 3.45pm to 6.00pm
Year 6 Parents Meeting	Tuesday 14 March - 3.45pm to 6.35pm
Teacher Strike Days TBC	Wednesday 15 March & Thursday 16 March
Red Nose Day	Friday 17 March
Art Exhibition Week	Monday 20 March - Friday 24 March
Nursery to Year 5 Parents Meeting	Monday 20 March - 3.45pm to 6.00pm
Nursery to Year 5 Parents Meeting	Tuesday 21 March - 3.45pm to 7.00pm
Down Syndrome Awareness Day	Tuesday 21 March
Science Week	Monday 27 March - Friday 31 March
VIP Assemblies (parents/carers invited by invitation only)	Monday 27 March
Autism Awareness Day	Friday 31 March
End of Term	Friday 31 March - Children finish at 1.30pm

MIDDLESEX LEARNING PARTNERSHIP

Middlesex Learning Partnership, Yeading Lane, Hayes, Middlesex UB4 9LE
enquiries@mlp.org.uk | 020 8839 0600 | www.mlp.org.uk

BARNHILL COMMUNITY HIGH SCHOOL

Barnhill Community High, Yeading Lane, Hayes, Middlesex UB4 9LE
enquiries@barnhill.school | 020 8839 0600 | www.barnhill.school

BELMORE PRIMARY ACADEMY

Belmore Primary Academy, Owen Road, Hayes, Middlesex UB4 9LF
enquiries@belmore.school | 01895 462 364 | www.belmore.school

WILLIAM BYRD PRIMARY ACADEMY

William Byrd Primary Academy, Victoria Lane, Harlington, Middlesex UB3 5EW
enquiries@williambyrd.school | 01895 462 394 | www.williambyrd.school