



BUXLOW
Preparatory School

Buxlow Bulletin

Date of issue: Friday 8th November 2024

Facta non Verba

School Updates

Congratulations to our *Stars of the Week*:

Reception: Aqeelah
Year 2: Mark
Year 4: Vittoria
Year 6: Aryan

Year 1: Shlok
Year 3: Kika
Year 5: Shay

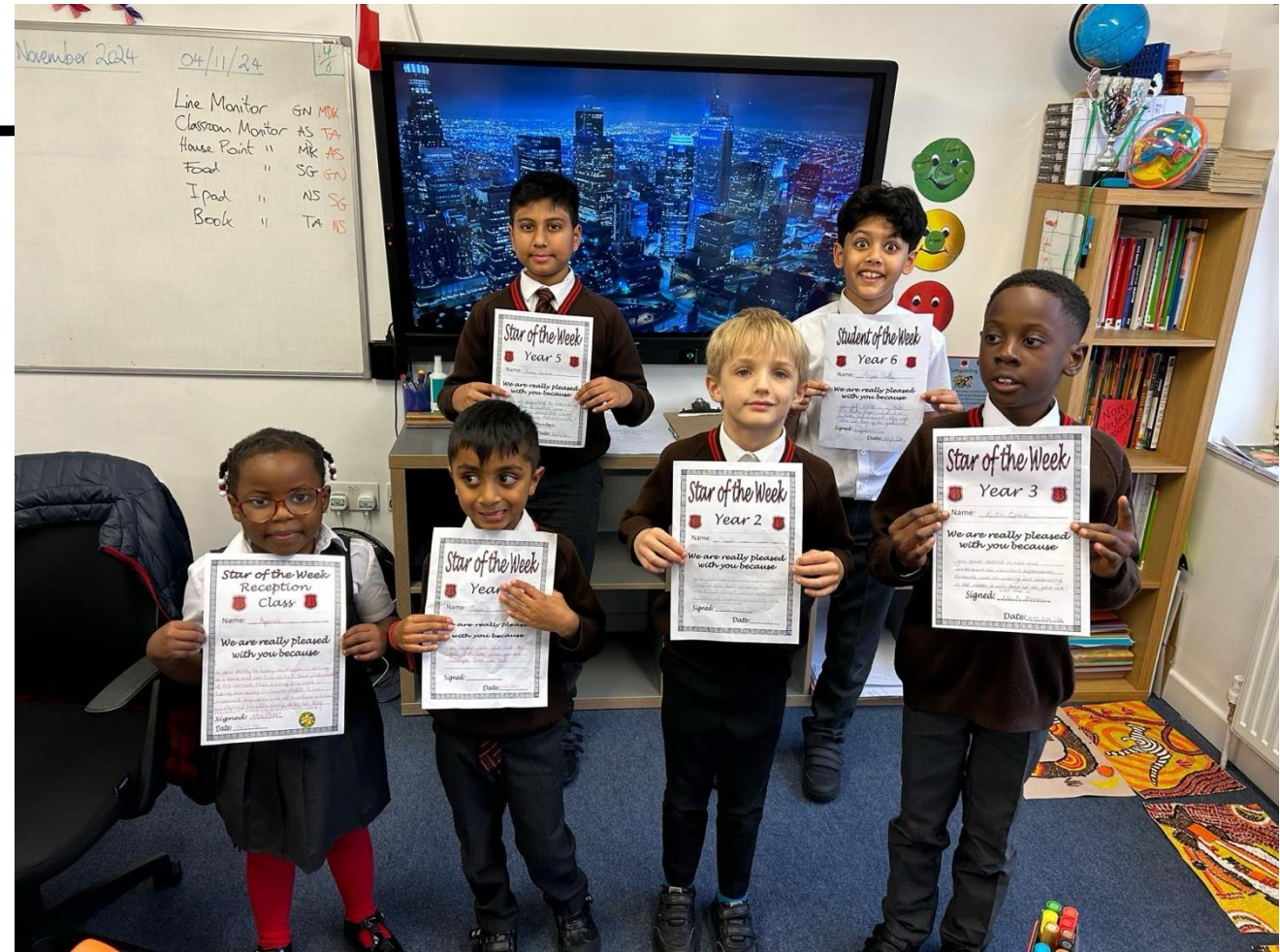
House Points:

Nicoll: 102

O'Donnell: 82

Emery: 62

Probyn: 79



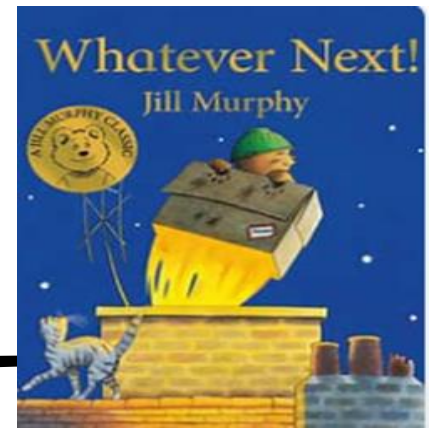
Reception

Welcome back! We hope you all had a fantastic half-term break. This week, we are excited to share our new theme, "Light and Dark," which we will explore through various engaging activities. Our focus text for this theme is the delightful story "Whatever Next!" by Jill Murphy.

Literacy - "Whatever Next!" tells the charming tale of Baby Bear, who dreams of going to the moon. He builds a rocket, packs a picnic, and embarks on an imaginative journey. The story begins with Baby Bear asking, "Can I go to the moon?" This question sets the stage for young readers to engage their imaginations and think about adventures beyond their immediate surroundings.

Activities:

- Imaginative Play with Boxes: Children were given boxes to transform into imaginative vehicles or objects (e.g., "I don't see a box; I see a car!"). This activity encourages creativity and helps develop narrative skills as children express their thoughts and ideas.
- Predictions and Questioning: We encouraged the children to predict what might happen in the story and ask questions about Baby Bear's adventure. This fosters critical thinking and comprehension skills, as students learn to formulate inquiries based on the text.
- Understanding Questions: We introduced the concept of questions, focusing on the punctuation that indicates a question mark (?). Children learned to recognise and write questions, enhancing their literacy skills. Children also create a list of items Baby Bear might take for a picnic on the moon, reinforcing both writing skills and imaginative thinking.

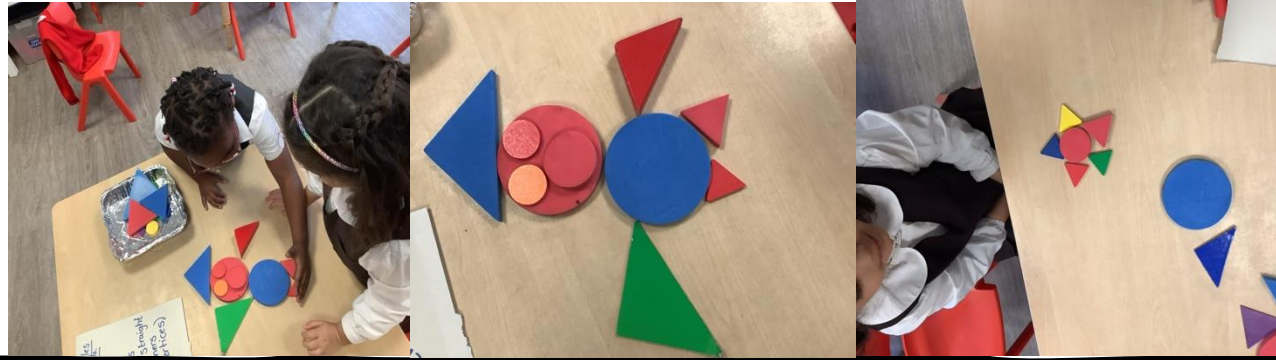


'I see a car... beep beep!'

'I see a rocket!'



Reception



Maths - This week, we introduced the topic of 2-D shapes, focusing on circles and triangles. Understanding shapes is foundational for mathematical reasoning and spatial awareness.

Activities:

- Identifying and Naming Shapes: Children learned to identify and name various 2-D shapes, comparing their attributes. This enhances their vocabulary and understanding of geometry.
- Environmental Shape Hunt: We went on a shape hunt around our environment, observing and discussing shapes found in nature and our surroundings (e.g., top of the tree trunks resembling triangles or circles). This real-world application reinforces learning and demonstrates how math is present in everyday life.
- Art with Shapes: Children created pictures using different shapes, reflecting back on their previous work with Kandinsky's abstract art. This connects art with mathematics and allows for creative expression while reinforcing shape recognition.
- Descriptive Language: We used stem sentences to compare shapes, discussing similarities and differences. This activity develops communication skills and encourages logical reasoning.



In science, we embarked on a journey to learn more about the moon, aligning with our theme of light and dark.

Activities:

- Research Projects: Children used books and the internet to gather information about the moon, culminating in the creation of a "fact file." This activity develops research skills and encourages curiosity about the world around them.

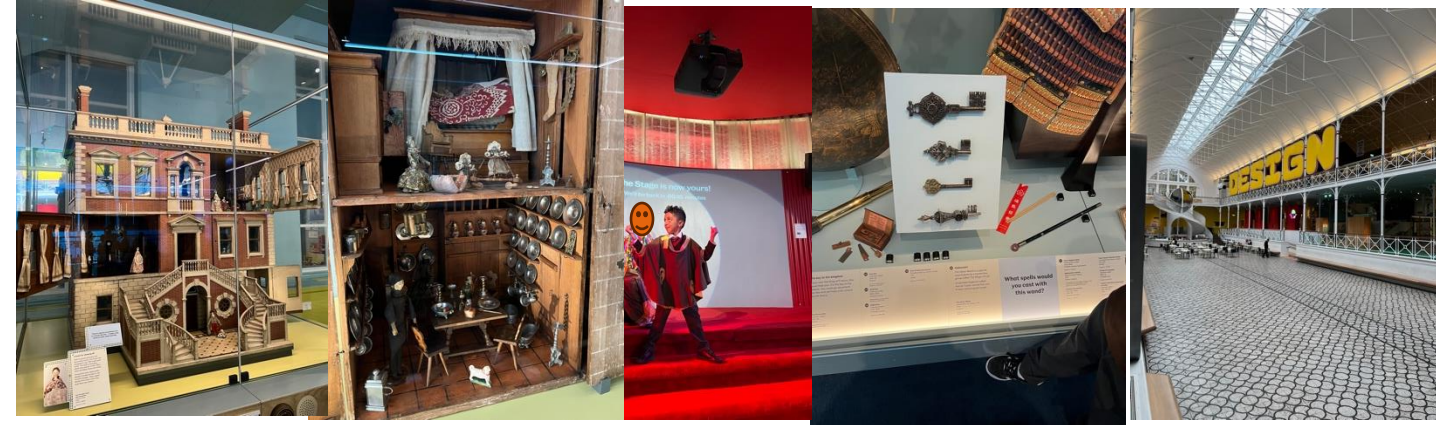
Understanding the World- In our discussions about light and dark, we explored various festivals that celebrate light. This not only broadens children's cultural awareness but also encourages them to share personal experiences.

Activities:

- Sharing Experiences: Children were invited to share their experiences related to light, such as birthday candles, Diwali lamps, or fireworks during New Year celebrations. This promotes social interaction and helps children articulate their thoughts and experiences.



Year One



This week, Year 1 and Year 2 visited the Young V&A and learned all about art, design, and innovation through exciting exhibits and hands-on activities.



In English, we are focusing on the tale of Goldilocks and the Three Bears. The children read the story and practiced retelling it in sequence using key words to ensure each part was in order. This helped them understand the structure of storytelling while building confidence in their ability to recall and organise information. They also worked on selecting key vocabulary from the story to add to our Vocabulary Wall, which they will be using in their writing pieces next week.

In Maths, they have been learning about part-whole models. The children are discovering how to break numbers into parts to better understand the concept of adding and seeing how the whole number is composed. These models have been incredibly helpful in making addition more concrete.

This week, we also focused on Remembrance Day in History. We explored the historical events surrounding this important occasion and discussed why it is observed each year. The children asked thoughtful questions and showed a lot of respect as we talked about the importance of remembrance.



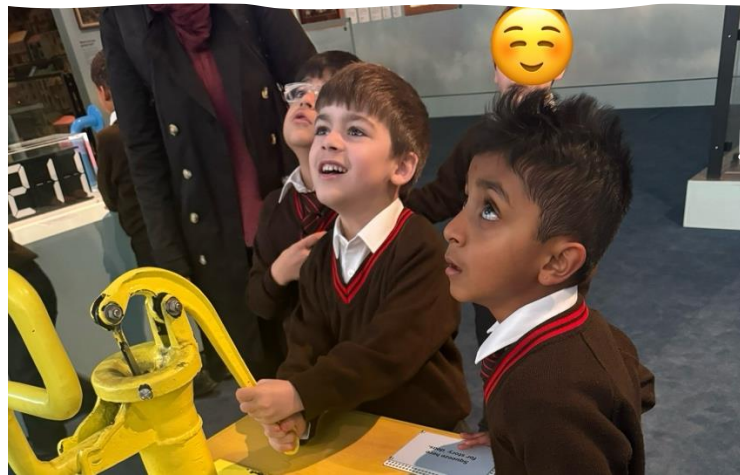


Year Two

In **English**, the children wrote narratives about their half-term holidays, sharing their experiences with vivid descriptions. They also explored the history of the **Gunpowder Plot** and crafted informative reports detailing why it occurred, the events of the plot, its aftermath, and how we celebrate Bonfire Night today. Additionally, we introduced our new class reader, *The Enormous Crocodile* by Roald Dahl. The students practiced making predictions and shared creative guesses about what the crocodile's next steps and secret plan might be!

In **Maths**, we worked on essential skills, such as subtracting a 1-digit number from a 2-digit number across a 10, finding 10 more and 10 less, and adding and subtracting in multiples of 10. The children are showing great progress in building confidence with these foundational skills.

A highlight of our week was our **trip to the Young V&A**, where children from Years 1 and 2 explored exhibitions of old toys, costumes, pictures, and artifacts. The children thoroughly enjoyed the hands-on activities, which included building structures, role-playing, picture tracing, and designing! It was an educational and inspiring day for all.



Year Three

The children have settled in well after their half term break.

In Maths we have revised a range of questions based on addition and subtraction to recap knowledge from last half term.

In English we have started our "Instructions" topic. The children have been looking at the features of instruction writing and writing sentences that involve imperative verbs, adverbs and time conjunctions.

In Italian, the children have focused on numbers up to 31 and completing activities to secure their understanding.

In RE and Art we have been focusing on **Remembrance Day**. The children have been learning the significance of Remembrance Day and creating a stained-glass poppy.

The children were excited about the new playground equipment that was ordered for them.



Year Four



We're back in school and loving it! Year 4 have gotten back to work as if they had never had a break.

In English, we started a new fiction unit based on *Finding Tales*: Stories where the main character finds something amazing that allows them to change their world around them – for better or worse! We are using this text to practise writing dialogue.

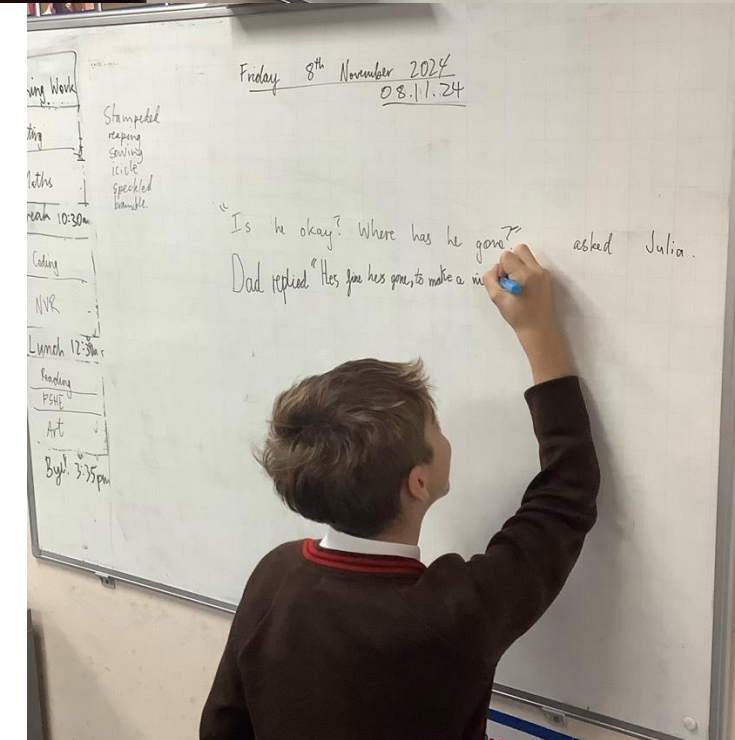
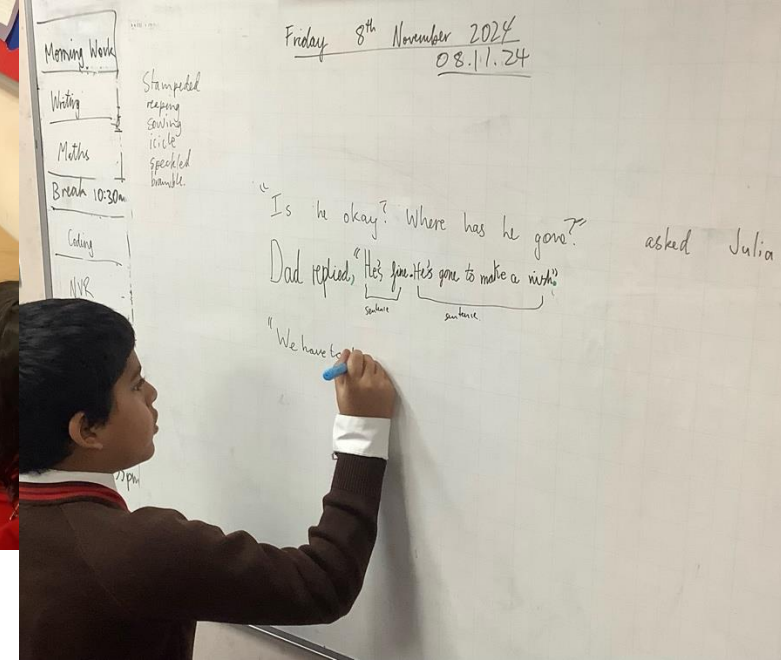
In Maths, we have covered the 6, 7, and 9 times tables: we only have the 12 times tables to go before we know them all.

In Geography, we are learning about the tropics, and the students are researching cities in the tropics to be able to present their climate to the class.

In History, we explored the what reasons the Romans had to invade Britain.

In Science, we are starting our electricity unit by understanding the difference between electricity generated by mains power versus battery power.

Finally, in Coding, after having done E-safety in the first half-term, we have started learning how to code through code.org. The pupils love it!



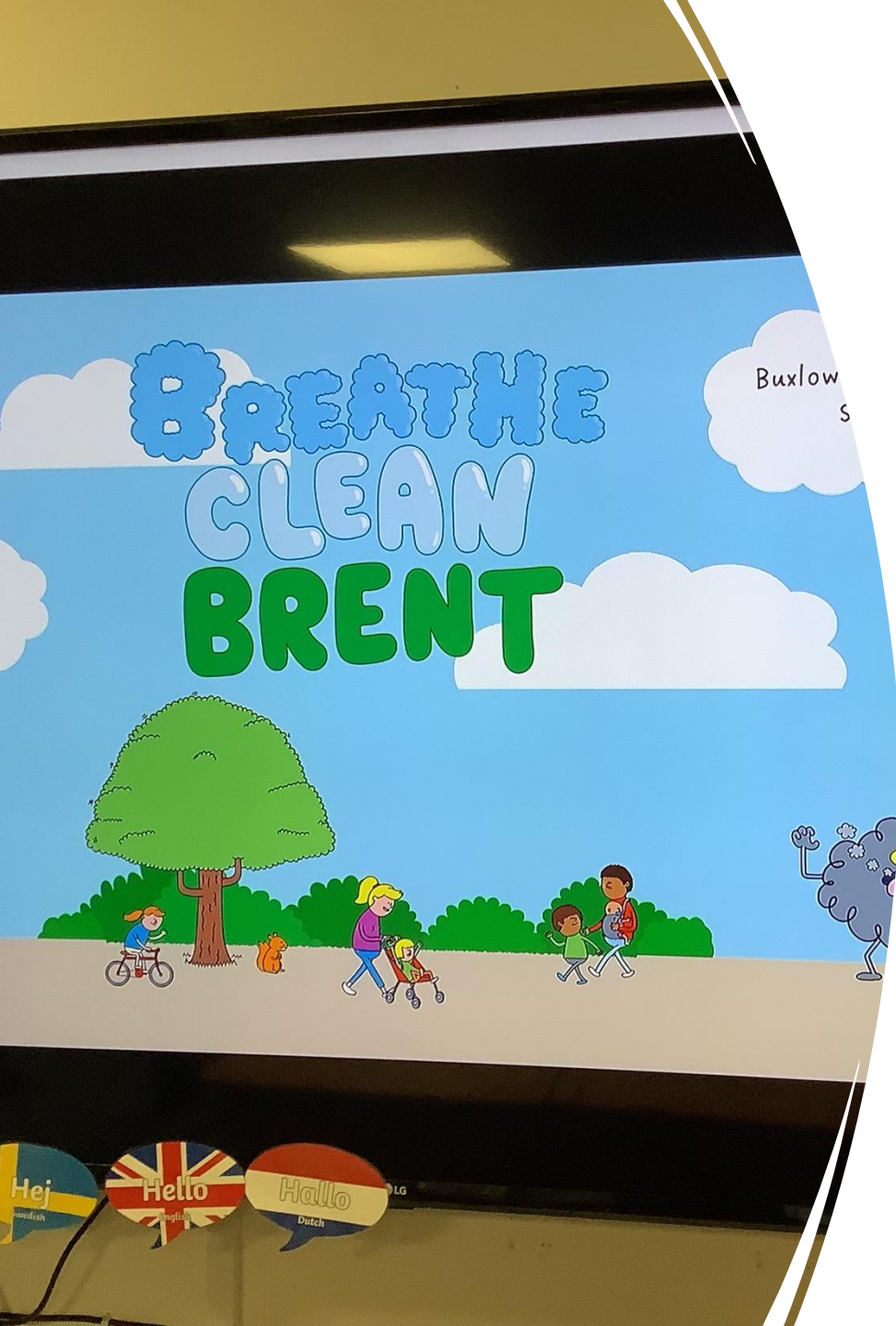
Year Five

Year 5 went straight back into curriculum content after the half term holidays! The children have started new topics in Maths, English, PSHEE, DT and Science (Angles, 'Finding' Stories, Celebrating Difference, Felt Phone Cases and Living Things).

They are moving towards the end of longer-term projects in History and Geography. In History we learned about the origins of the Olympics by examining Greek pottery as a primary source. In Geography we used online sources to select the elements of a trip to an Eastern European city.

In P4C we moved towards the more complex skill of selecting an enquiry question to discuss. These votes were based on questions we devised before half term.

Quote of the Week: "If all the adults vanished, then the teenagers would be in charge, and they don't know how to drive or make buildings so the world would just stop!" - Skye-Sahara



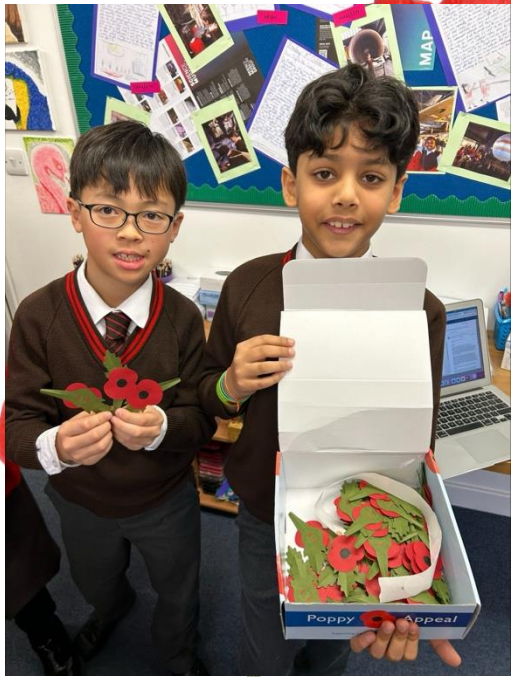
Year Six

Year 6 have been delivering on our school motto *facta non verba* this week. Taking a break from their 11+ preparations, they took great delight in pumping up the newly acquired Space Hoppers ready for their use in the playground. This required teamwork and resiliency and a LOT of stamina! They also did a **superb** job of clearing the playground of leaves, 18 bags in total!





REMEMBRANCE DAY 2024



This week, the Year 6 children have been visiting the other classrooms during registration time to collect donations for this year's Poppy Appeal. As well as the traditional poppies, children have been able to buy keyrings, rulers, bracelets and stickers. Thank you to the Year 6 children and to everyone who has donated some money. There will be one final time to donate on Monday morning, before our Remembrance Day Assembly.

Eco Schools News – 08.11.24



Eco Council and Club met again before half term. As a result we have now completed over half of the core elements of our award renewal! A key part of this was completing the Eco Code (the rules we will live by) and the Action Plan (the goals we wish to achieve) for next year. These can be viewed below, or a hard copy can be viewed on our noticeboard.

Eco Code: [Eco Code 2024-2025](#)

Action Plan: [Eco Schools Action Plan 2024-2025.docx](#)

This week we also had a visit from Brent Council who delivered a 'Breathe Clean' talk. We will be building on this throughout the year, but for now we learned about how traffic causes environmental issues and the benefits of walking to the planet as well as our health.

A continued request: we are working on an Art project about single use plastics. If you have any plastic bottle tops – from milk, fizzy drinks or cartons – we would love it if you could help us by collecting these and sending them in. We can't wait to show you the mural in progress.

Speaking of single use plastics, a polite reminder to bring reusable bottles only to school for water, please! These can be topped up in the fountains.

- Ms Stanton (Staff Rep)
- Noura (Year 6 Eco Lead)



School Council

The playground equipment that was requested by the children has started to arrive. We particularly are **loving** the space hoppers.

Our next meeting with Mrs McLelland will be on Tuesday 12th November.

Shlok, Mark, Suraj, Anaya, Zidane, Gabriel



Philosophy 4 Children

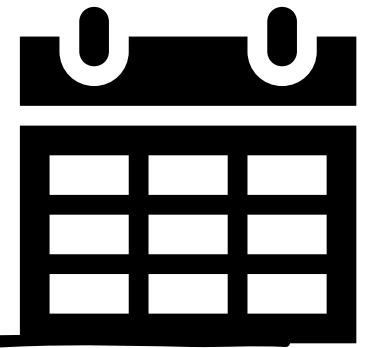
We thought you might like to have a mini enquiry with your children and family members at home. With this in mind, we will publish an enquiry question for you to explore each week. Remember, there are no right or wrong answers - the beauty is in the listening to each other and responding to what you hear.

Have a go!

What are some things you do that make you feel calm?



Dates for your Diaries **New Dates*



- **Monday 11th November:** Anti-Bullying week: Choose Respect
- ~~Thursday 14th November:~~ ILG Football Tournament, KS2 @ Rectory Park **NO SWIMMING TODAY - postponed - see below. Swimming as normal**
- **Tuesday 19th November:** Y3 & Y4 to workshop at Brent Cross Apple Store
- **Thursday 21st November:** Year 1 & 2 Live Stream (in school): The Great Fire of London
- **Tuesday 26th November:** Y5 & Y6 to workshop at Brent Cross Apple Store
- **Wednesday 20th November:** Debate Club competition at South Hampstead High School
- **Thursday 21st November: ILG Football Tournament (after lunch). NO SWIMMING TODAY**
- **Thursday 12th December** –Christmas Concert at The Lycée (morning performance, children to return to school afterwards) Reception through to Year 6
- **Friday 13th December:** End of term. School and Nursery close at 12:00