



BUXLOW
Preparatory School

Buxlow Bulletin

Date of issue: Friday 17th May 2024

Facta non Verba

Update from Mrs McLelland, Headteacher

Today's Talent Show was a roaring success! It was a thrill to see participants from all year groups take part and with such confidence.

We were treated to dance, piano recitals, violin solos, singing, skipping, hopping, po-going keepy-ups, magic, Dad jokes and raps.

A huge well done to all performers – you were all very inspiring.

Congratulations go to the winners:

3rd place: Madison (Y5) Singing, Kiana (Y6) Piano

2nd Place: Samaarth (Y5) Singing, Sara (Y2) Violin

1st Place: Toma (Y5) - Piano

Next Friday we celebrate International Day – I can't wait!

International Day – Friday 24th May

Location: Playground

Timings for setting up your stall: 13:40 onwards

Time for the party to start: 14:00 onwards

How can you get involved?

- Prepare some delicious traditional savory or sweet treats to share
- Make a display of interesting artifacts, maps, flags, books
- Come along and join the fun!

Pupils to dress in traditional clothing for the day

We look forward to seeing as many of you as possible on the day, celebrating, enjoying food, music and a great atmosphere.



School Updates:

Stars of the week:

Reception: Ayah Year 1: Sulaiman
Year 2: Suraj Year 3: Kavisha
Year 4: Dylan Year 5: Toma
Year 6: Leila

Congratulations to Jamal and Skye-Sahara for earning their pen license.

House Points - Well done to **O'Donnell** for a total 109 of points this week!

Nicoll = 92

O'Donnell = 109

Emery = 95

Probyn = 86



Introducing Philosophy for Children P4C

I am **very** excited to inform you that from September 2024, we will be introducing Philosophy for Children (P4C) to the school curriculum.

In addition to strong academic outcomes, our pupils will need to develop a wide range of *soft skills* if they are to be truly well prepared for the future.

According to the World Economic Forum, in a world where Tech and Ai will increasingly be able to complete jobs and tasks for us, the following key skills will be essential in the work-place:

- Complex problem-solving
- Critical thinking and analysis
- Creativity, originality and initiative
- Leadership and social influence
- Resilience and flexibility
- Reasoning and ideation
- [Click here to access information from the World Economic Forum](#)



Introducing Philosophy for Children P4C

P4C is a philosophical approach to learning and teaching that enables students to think with others and to think for themselves and gives them a wonderful sense of agency.

P4C encourages teachers and pupils to think in a caring, collaborative, creative and critical way and develops the skills, attitudes and dispositions for higher level thinking:

- Ability to work with others
- Builds communication skills
- Raises self esteem
- Develops social responsibility
- Promotes respect and understanding
- Develops reasoning skills
- Promotes logical, critical and reflective thinking

[Click here to read more about P4C](#)



What does a P4C session look like?

Generating a philosophical question:

After the children have had time to investigate a given stimulus individually, with a partner and as a class, they then have to generate a question. The children are encouraged to develop their skills at developing a philosophical question,

They learn to understand which type of questions generate a good enquiry and which provide a very closed line of enquiry.

Closed question: What colour is Goldilocks dress?

Philosophical question: Can it ever be right to break into somebody's house?

Deciding on a line of enquiry

After generating their questions the pupils have the agency to choose which question they want to discuss. The children vote for the line of enquiry they wish to develop.

Discussion

The children then discuss the question. They listen to each other, share ideas, agree, disagree, build upon each others' ideas and all have to the chance to contribute.
Completing the enquiry

After a set period of time the enquiry will be brought to a close and the facilitator (the teacher) will recap on the ideas covered and discussed.

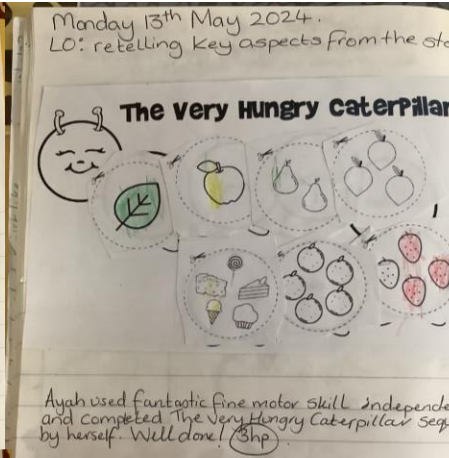
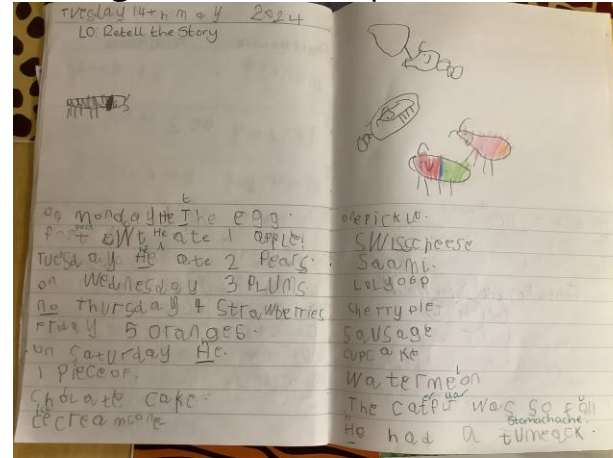


Reception

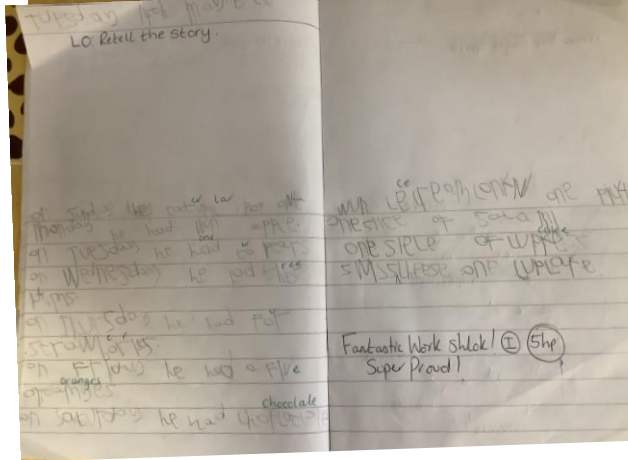


This week, your child has been engaged in a variety of stimulating activities that have not only been enjoyable but have also provided numerous benefits for their learning and development.

This week in our **English lessons**, we have been exploring the children's classic "The Very Hungry Caterpillar," where the caterpillar enjoys a variety of foods before transforming into a butterfly. The children have been practicing their writing skills by creating recounts of different parts of the story, focusing on constructing sentences accurately. This activity has reinforced their understanding of days of the week and different types of food, building upon their learning from the previous term.



In our **Expressive Art** sessions, the children have been using fruits and vegetables to create pictures inspired by the story. This task has encouraged creativity and imaginations and also allowed them to express themselves artistically. Can you guess which part of the story they have depicted through their artwork?

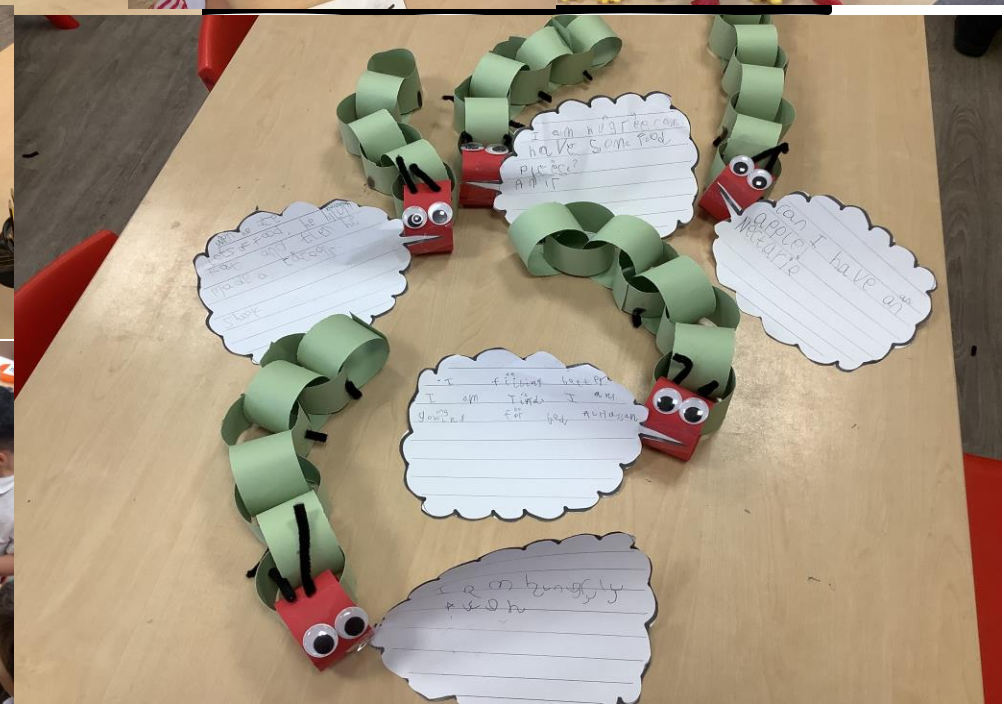
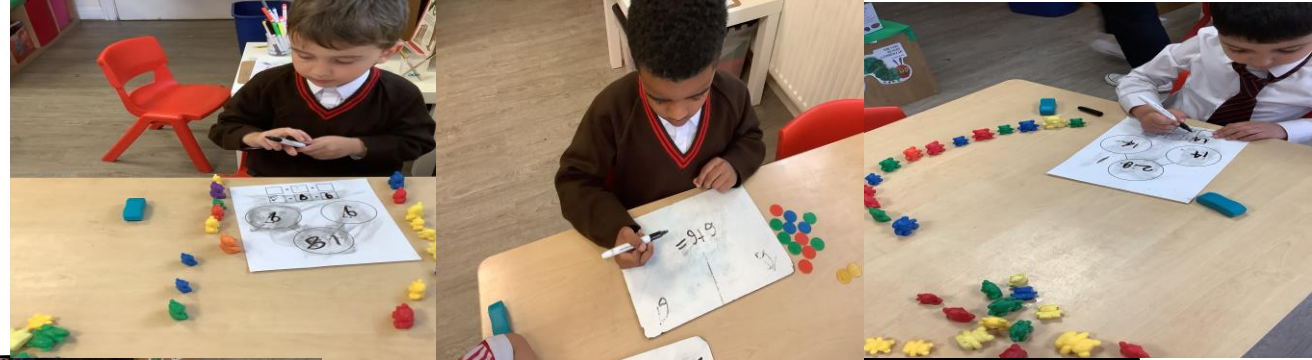


Reception Cont.d

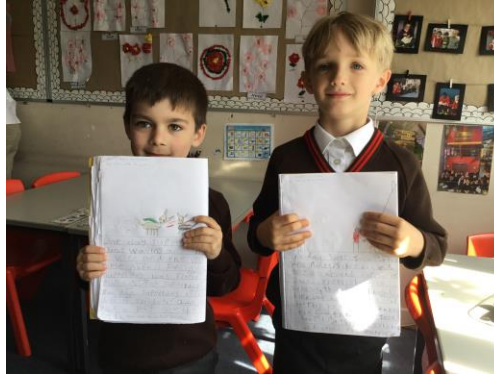
In **Maths** the children have been learning about doubling through practical activities using manipulatives. They have been exploring the concept of doubling as combining two groups of the same number to find the total. Additionally, they are practicing writing number sentences, such as understanding that the double of 2 is $2+2=4$.

Creating a caterpillar in **Arts and Craft**, along with writing a speech bubble for it, has given the children the opportunity to engage in imaginative play and storytelling. This activity promotes language development, critical thinking, and social interaction as they share their ideas with others.

In **French**, we talked about the French version of the Very Hungry Caterpillar to link with our English topic. In French, it is called "La chenille qui fait des trous" (which means the caterpillar who makes holes). Scan the QR code to hear the few simple sentences we recorded.



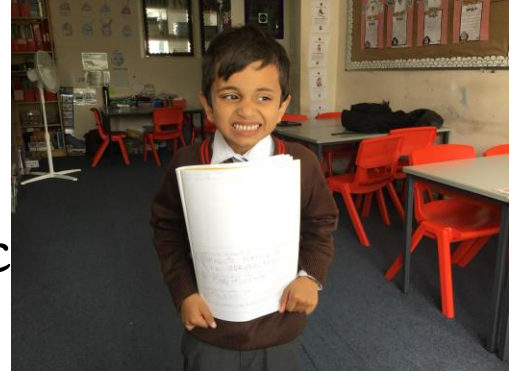
Year 1



This week in Year 1, children focused on writing their own comic book stories. They invented unique superheroes with special super powers, as well as, an evil arch enemy. They concentrated on writing stories with a beginning, middle, and end.

In Maths, children began a new unit on money. They learned to add amounts together, as well as, to subtract in order to find change from 20p. In addition, they worked on identifying different ways to give change.

Well done to Mohammed and Javon for participating in our school's talent show! They did a wonderful job hopping on one leg!



Year 2



Year 2 have been diving into the world of mythical creatures and honing their instructional writing skills. The children took on the exciting task of creating their very own mythical creatures and crafting instructional pieces about them. Using command verbs, they gave accurate instructions on how to care for and interact with their unique creatures. It was particularly challenging to think about the specific instructions and figure out the order in which they should be given.

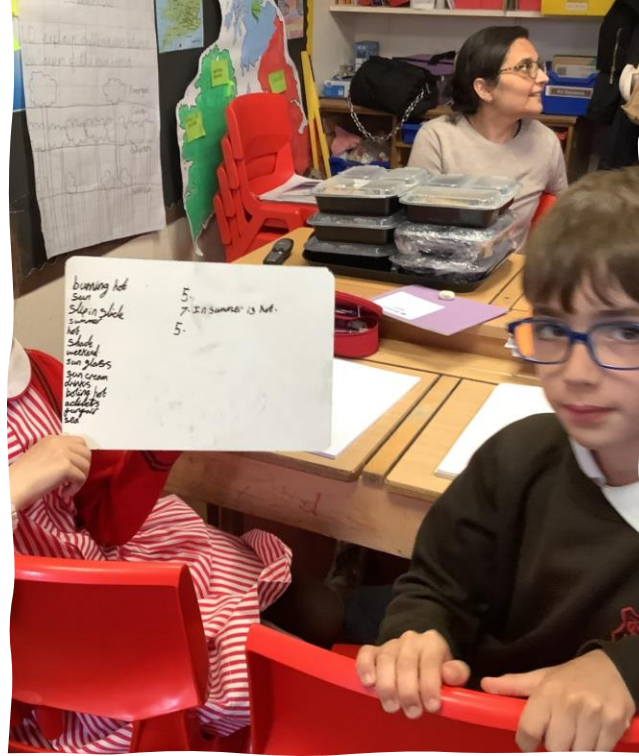
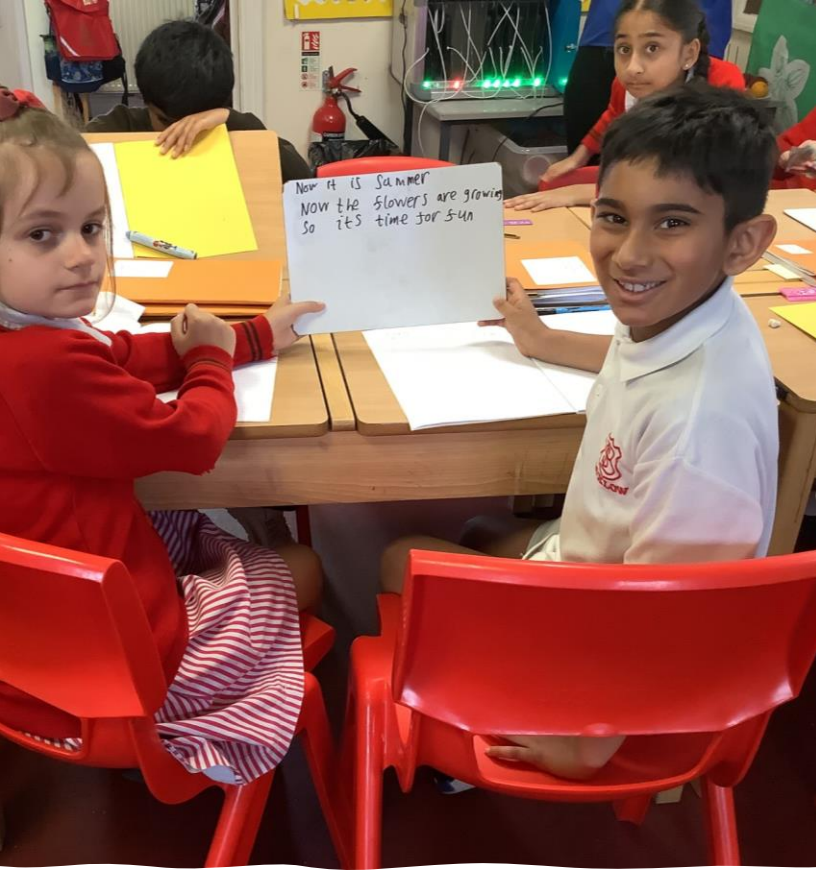
[Suraj's performance video >](#)

In Maths, they have been revising fractions and division. Year 2 have been exploring how these two concepts work together and understanding the concept of using them together to solve questions.

We also had an amazing Talent Show today! Year 2 really stole the show with their incredible performances. Suraj wowed us all with his Punjabi performance, and Sara's beautiful violin rendition of "Old MacDonal Had a Farm". A big round of applause to both of them and all the other talented students who participated!

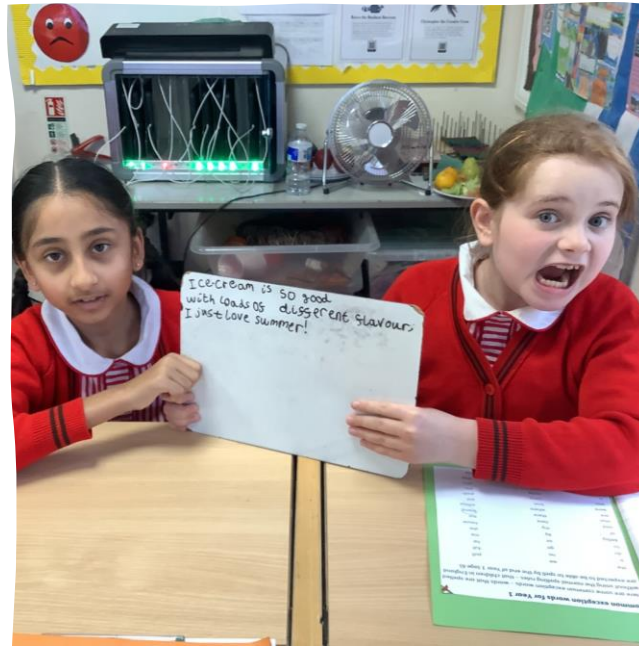
In French, Year 2 practised their basic questions (name, age and where they live). Scan the QR code to hear their conversations.



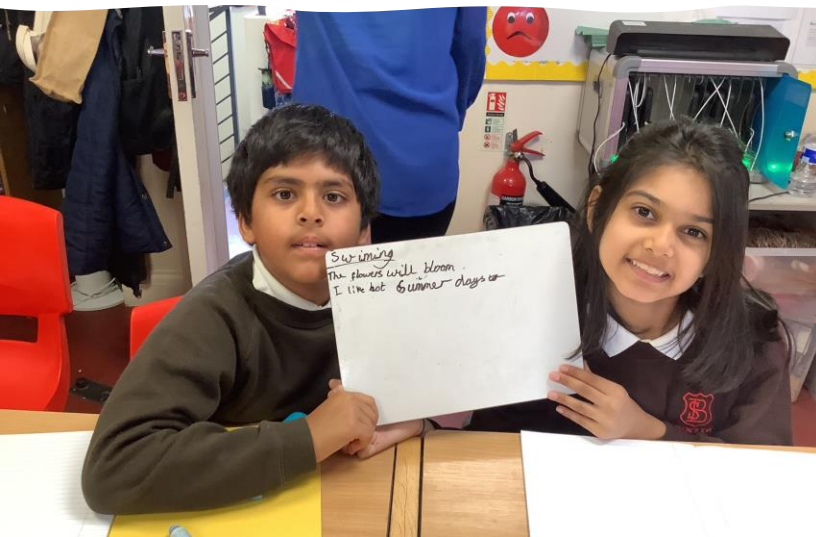


Year 3

Year 3 have been hard at work this week, developing their knowledge of fractions ahead of assessment week. They have focused on fractions adding to one whole and ensuring they can give full, developed answers to reasoning questions.



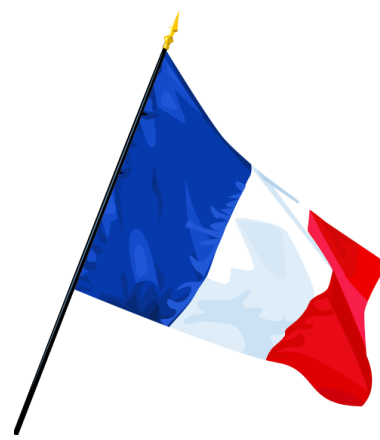
In English we have started a lovely new topic on syllabic poetry. This week we have written traditional Haiku and Tanka poems about our school and wider location, building up to writing longer form poems next week.



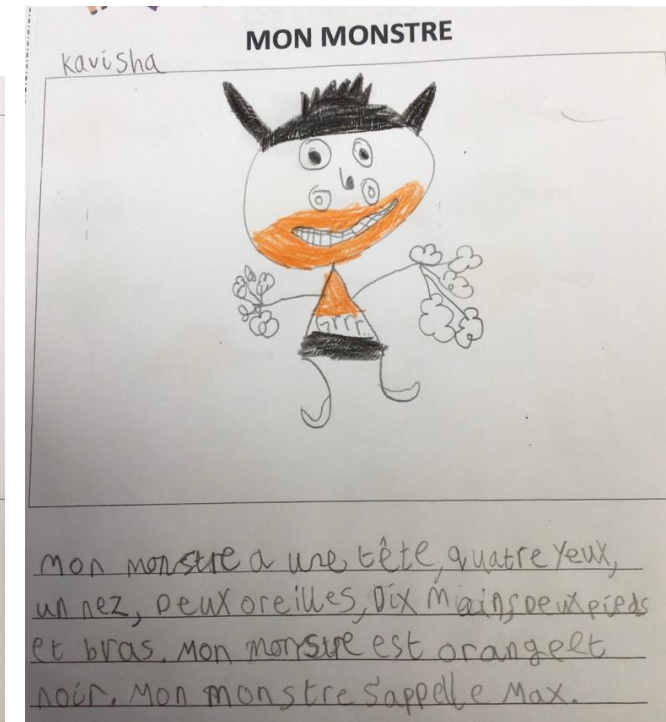
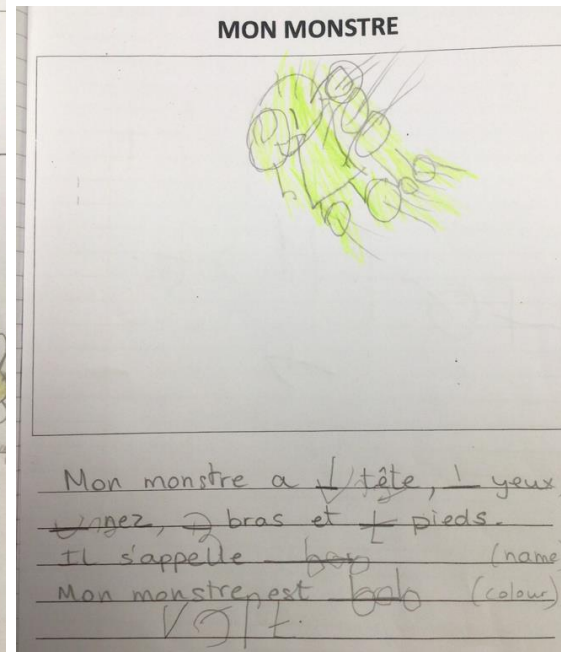
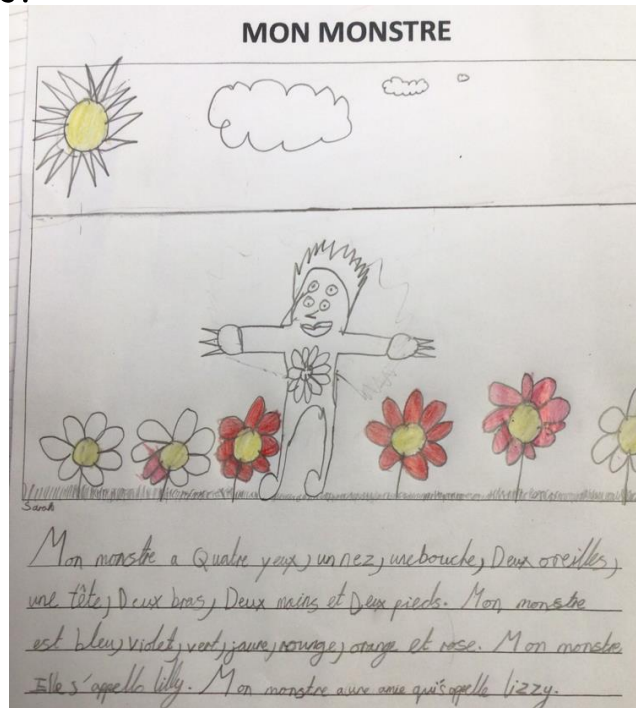
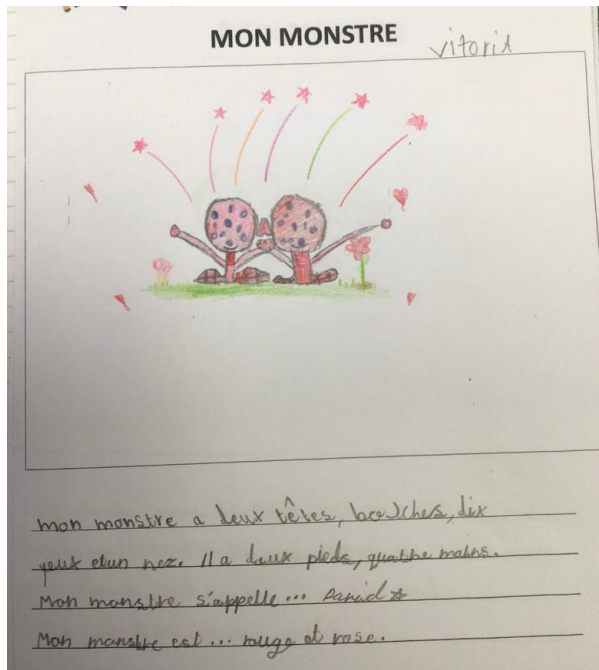
Elsewhere the children have achieved well across the range of subjects. They have enjoyed a lot of discussion about our class reader, *Secrets of a Sun King*, and were astonished to realise the double meaning behind the title!

In Science the children have planned an investigation into healthy plant growth, which we will set up next week. The children are really looking forward to it!

Year 3



In French, Year 3 wrote a description of a monster, using a variety of vocabulary such as numbers, body parts and colours.



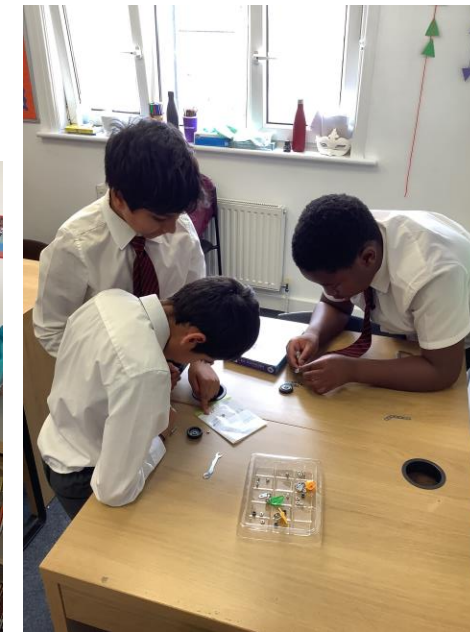
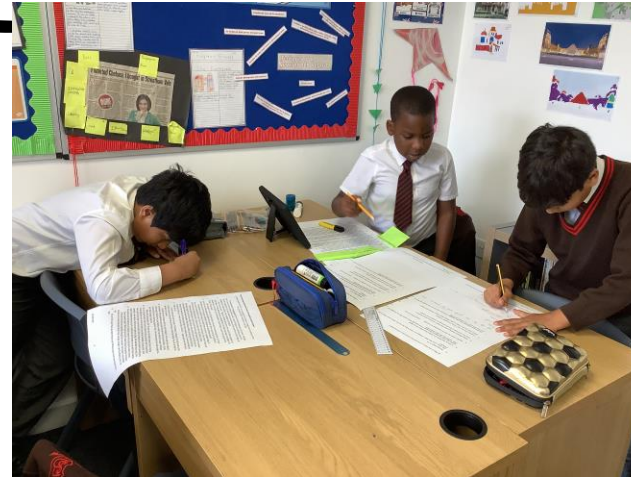
Year 4

In Maths this week, Year 4 have been revisiting place value, addition, subtraction, division and multiplication. They have also started learning about perimeters and calculating the perimeter of different 2D shapes.

In English, it was the first to complete a comprehension paper and a writing paper under exam conditions. The children did well as it was a challenging task for them. The writing paper had 6 choices, it was interesting to read their responses as the task involved writing essays with their own views.

The STEM project of building a vehicle in Science revealed a new turn, the children managed to progress and became more confident working in their groups, however, it will require another lesson to complete the project.

We had a question-and-answer session with the current Year 5 students. The Year 4s had many intriguing questions about Year 5 and what they should expect. Year 5s did a fantastic job answering the questions and giving insight to what is expected in Year 5.



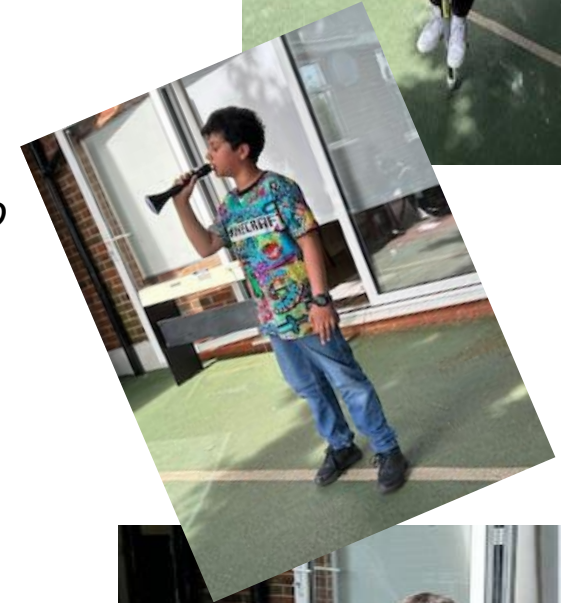
Year 5



In French, Year 5 acted out some conversations about pets, describing them with adjectives such as colours and character. Scan the QR code to hear their conversations.

The class continue to excel in Maths. They have all progressed onto a higher level of mental Maths (**again**) and they are also doing very well with the ISEB 11+ Maths Papers, which they did some collaborative work on this week.

The highlight of the week has to be the Buxlow Talent Show, that took place on Friday morning in the playground. There were some truly outstanding performances from Year 5. Everyone in the class performed something!! Congratulations to everyone for taking part but in particular to Toma though who was crowned the overall winner of the whole competition, with his standout Grade 5 performance on the piano. Well done, Toma!



Year 6



In English, we have returned to story writing, focusing on using formal and informal register in our dialogue. We have also focused on how dialogue uses conflict to drive the plot forward as well as reveal hidden layers of each speaker's characterisation.

In Maths, we have prepared for Assessment Week by revising fraction calculations and reasoning as well as measurement conversions and word problems. They have worked extremely hard in these sessions, and they appreciated the opportunity to revisit these areas of Maths that we had not seen in some time!

In History, we have started a research project into the Benin Empire. The students had the choice between researching either the religion, art or monarchy in the Benin Empire. This will also be an opportunity to further master their use of the Keynote app on their iPads, which involves creating slideshows that they will eventually present to the rest of the class.

We have also been making some time to flex our creative juices as well: not only are we still diligently working on our summer production, but we have also made time to create and interpret our own quickfire abstract art. It is very challenging but fun!

Finally, we have just had our Talent Show this week: congratulations to all the Year 6s who took part and shared their talents! A very special shout-out as well to Kiana, who won joint-third place!



Eco Challenges - 17.5.24

As you know, at Buxlow we are very proud of our status as an Eco School, having achieved the prestigious 'Green Flag' award for two years in a row and achieving a Merit for 2022-2023.

We are looking forward to pushing ourselves further and will now be sending you an Eco themed challenge each week in the Buxlow Bulletin.

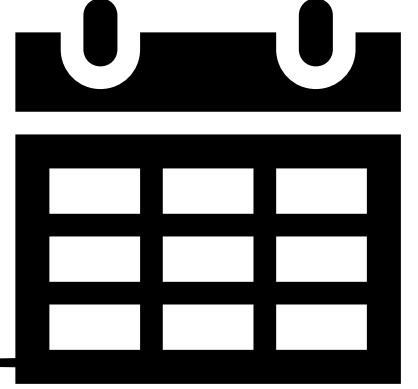
This week's challenge: The Amazon Rainforest is known as the 'lungs of Planet Earth'. Can you find out why?

Last week's winner: Amelia and Grace Caraiman

Send any results of your challenge to our staff supervisor, Ms S, via h.stanton@buxlowschool.org.uk. Good luck!

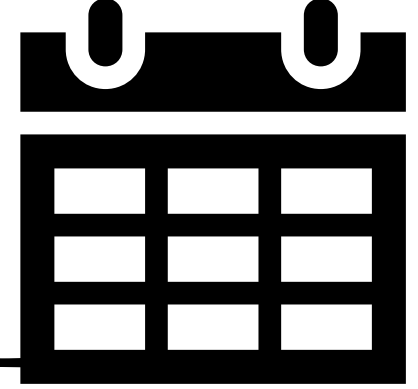


Summer Term Dates for your diary



- Monday 20th May – Assessment Week
- Friday 24th May – International Day
- **Monday 27th May to Friday 31st May – Half Term** (Nursery open)
- Monday 3rd June – 08:15 Year 4,5,&6 Parent Meeting re Residential
- Monday 10th June – Whole School Photo
- Wednesday 12th June – KS2 to Sir John Soane's Museum (no PE)
- Wednesday 19th June – Sports Day
- Tuesday 25th – LAMDA Exams for Years 3,4,5
- Wednesday 26th June – LAMDA Exams year 6

Summer Term Dates for your diary



- Thursday 27th June - Year 6 Production at The Lycée, 16:00
- Friday 28th June - Whole School Trip!
- Tuesday 2nd July to Friday 5th July - Year 4,5 & 6 Residential
- Monday 8th July - Whole School Art Day
- Monday 8th July - Parents meet next year's Teacher from 15:30
- Tuesday 9th July - Move Up Morning: Pupils spend time with next year's Teacher
- Tuesday 9th July - Year 6 Young Enterprise Day (for all pupils)
- Wednesday 10th July - Non-uniform day, class parties
- Thursday 11th July - Prize Giving Ceremony at the Lycée.

End of Academic year. School closes at 12:00

Term dates for next academic year



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TERM DATES - 2024/25

Autumn Term 2024

Monday 2nd & Tuesday 3rd September - Staff INSET
Wednesday 4th September - Start of Autumn Term
Half Term - Monday 21st October - Friday 1st November
Monday 4th November - Return to school
Friday 13th December - **End of Term (1200)**

Spring Term 2025

Thursday 2nd & Friday 3rd January - Staff INSET
Monday 6th January - Start of Spring Term
Half Term - Monday 17th February - Friday 21st February
Monday 24th February - Return to school
Friday 28th March - **End of Term (1200)**
Monday 31st March - Staff INSET

Summer Term 2025

Tuesday 22nd April - Start of Summer Term
Monday 5th May - May Day Bank Holiday
Half Term - Monday 26th May - Friday 30th May
Monday 2nd June - Return to school
Friday 11th July - **End of Academic Year (1200)**

ILG Refer a Friend Scheme

Did you know you could receive up to £750 rebate on your fees by referring friends and family to Buxlow?

For every family that you refer whose child/children join, and completes at least two full terms, you will receive a rebate on future fees, as a thank you.

Buxlow community is special and unique, and we want to share it with as many families as possible. By referring your friends and family, you are not only helping our school grow, and expand our facilities, but also giving others the opportunity to experience the same high-quality education and supportive community we strive to provide.

If you have someone in mind who has not yet contacted us, but would welcome our call, simply provide their contact details to the School and we will take care of the rest. The rebate will be paid once the child / children referred have completed two terms at Buxlow.

Thank you for your continued support, we look forward to welcoming new families to our school.



Saras Beads & Jewellery

Saras Beads and Jewellery now have a permanent kiosk at St Georges Shopping Mall, Harrow on the Hill Station!

Mrs Arouni (Year 4 Parent) is offering 5% discount to all Buxlow parents and staff during the month of May and will donate 5% of sales coming from Buxlow to the school charity.



Advertising Space Available

If you would like to advertise your small business or a community event here,

free of charge,

please contact Mrs McLelland

Head@buxlowschool.org.uk

Key contacts:

- Headteacher: Mrs McLelland - head@buxlowschool.org.uk
- Administrator: Ms Shipp - admin@buxlowschool.org.uk
- Designated Safeguarding Lead: Mrs Zaman - N.zaman@buxlowschool.org.uk
- Nursery Manager – Mrs Gercosne Tama nursery.manager@buxlowschool.org.uk

