



William Byrd
PRIMARY ACADEMY

NEWSLETTER

SUMMER TERM 2 2024

ASPIRE



CURIOUS



RESILIENT



KIND & RESPECTFUL



COOPERATE



MESSAGE FROM THE HEAD OF SCHOOL

Dear Parents and Carers,

What a wonderful term! Once again, we have made so many wonderful memories together. The Year 6 team, and many others, have worked incredibly hard to make the experiences in Year 6 extra special in their last term with us. I have enjoyed observing children thrive at PGL, the end of term production and the Prom. Year 6, we will miss you all so much.



We are sadly saying goodbye to some of the team this term; Mrs Quille (HR Assistant), Miss Panesar (Year Group Leader), Miss O'Connell (Teacher), Miss Otto (Teacher), Miss Saifallah (Teacher), Miss Jama (LSA). They have all contributed to making our school such a magical place to learn and work. I wish you all the best in what you chose to pursue next!

A huge thank you to our PTA. We have enjoyed so many events through the year. The Summer Fair topped it off. My whole family have not stopped talking about it. It was incredible to see so many people come together and have fun as a community.

As always, I am looking forward to the new term. I wish you all a restful break.

Warmest regards,

N. Edwards

MS N EDWARDS
Head of School

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CELEBRATING SUCCESS

At William Byrd we have so much to be proud of. Each day we see children meet goals they have set for themselves, and develop as kind and respectful, resilient, curious, co-operative students who are ready to learn and aspire to be the best they can be. National testing is far from the best measure of success, but we also have children, parents and school staff who have worked phenomenally hard to help children achieve against these National Benchmarks too.



NATIONAL CHECK/TEST	WILLIAM BYRD	NATIONAL DATA 2023/2024
Early Years Children achieving a Good Level of Development:	73%	67.2% 2023
Children achieving the expected standard in phonics at the end of Year 1	89%	79% 2023
Year 4 children who scored 100% of the Multiplication check	36%	29% 2023
Average score in the multiplication check	22.52	20.2 2023
Year 6 SATs: Percentage of children who met the expected standard in Reading, Writing and Maths	62%	61% 2024
Year 6 meeting expected standard in Reading SATs	74%	74% 2024
Year 6 meeting expected standard in Maths SATs	74%	73% 2024
Year 6 meeting expected standard in Writing	81%	72% 2024

NURSERY THIS TERM

This term in nursery, we've been exploring the theme "On the Beach." We've been learning about sea creatures and reading "Barry the Fish with Fingers" and "The Rainbow Fish." We have learned from Barry that we are unique, and everyone can be a superhero. Following on from this, we had a superhero day where children, parents, and teachers dressed up as superheroes. The children had a great time creating superhero masks and capes and participating in superhero-themed activities. The superhero play is beneficial for their learning as it encourages imagination and exploration.

We also learned about the importance of sharing from "The Rainbow Fish", and we delved into the water cycle through the story "The Drop". Additionally, we collaborated with Year 6 on an art project, and the children had a fantastic time creating artworks together.

As the nursery children prepare to transition to Reception, they've been spending time with their new teachers and getting familiar with the new environment. To enhance this transition, we've been taking our children to Reception for story time and having the Reception teachers visit the nursery.

We'd like to extend our gratitude to all the parents for their contributions towards purchasing a new shed that we've turned into a sand pit. The children absolutely love playing in it and it's great to hear the conversations they have while they pretend to be at the beach.

A big thank you to Mrs. Tahirah Muhammad from Yiewsley Library. The nursery children thoroughly enjoyed their story time, singing, and dancing.



NURSERY THIS TERM

We concluded the end of term with our family picnic. A heartfelt thank you to Mrs. Cristina Plavustyak for staying with us all day and helping organise our family picnic. A huge thank you to Jack and Charlotte for their support throughout the day. We couldn't have done it without your help and it is greatly appreciated.



RECEPTION THIS TERM

What an exciting term it was in Reception! The children had an amazing time exploring the "Big Wide World" project and learning about the global community to which they belong. They discovered how living things, communities, and climates differ around the world. Additionally, we learned about taking care of our planet and the concept of recycling. The children created posters to encourage people to look after our environment and protect sea creatures. We also worked on a few upcycling projects using bottle tops and cans.

Inspired by Steve Antony's writing workshop, the children wrote their own Rainbowsaurus-inspired stories and created beautiful illustrations for their books.

Reception have also been exploring the outdoor environment this term. They have been looking after the plants they planted in the spring, reading books by the pond, and practicing their gross motor skills in different ways. There was a buzzing atmosphere at the woodworking station outdoors, where children used their newly acquired skills to build various vehicles, instruments, and other objects to support their role play.

Our year in Reception ended on a very exciting note with a trip to Ruislip Woodland Centre.



YEAR 1 THIS TERM

This term in Year 1 has been very busy and full of exciting learning.

In writing we have written our first scary story. It was all about the dark. We also looked at how it is ok to be scared of things and have fears but everything will be ok. We wrote some fantastic stories about the dark and how it makes people feel.

In Maths we have been learning about numbers all the way to 100. We practiced counting, comparing, and using 100 squares to find different numbers and count on. We are now working on money and learning the value of the different coins as well as notes. We are continuing to use our greater than and less than symbols to compare coins as well as notes.

In Science we have been learning all about plants and trees. We have been naming different wild and garden plants as well as comparing different habitats that plants grow in. We then sorted some plants according to the habitat they thrive in. We learnt about the 5 main habitats grasslands, aquatic, forest/woodlands, mountains and desert. Did you know in the desert even though there is not very much water plants are still able to grow there?



In DT our unit is all about swings. We have learnt the history behind swings and where they originated from. We have also looked at the forces needed to make a swing work and the different parts a swing need. We will soon be making our very own swing using the knowledge we have learnt about them.

In Geography this term we have been looking at our wonderful world. We have been learning about the continents and the oceans. We used balloons to create our own globes and stuck on the continents and oceans. We have also been looking at the different hemispheres and naming the hemisphere we are in. We then looked at the different human and physical features around the world.



YEAR 1 THIS TERM

On Tuesday 2nd July Year 1 had their transition day and as part of this we looked at the unit we would be starting in History in September. To get us excited and ready for this new learning we pretended to be doctors and nurses and talked about how they help people when they are hurt. We also used bandages to wrap-up broken bones to make our patients feel better. It was such a fantastic lesson and the children had lots of fun! Don't forget to complete the homework over the holidays ready for September.



YEAR 2 THIS TERM

Year 2 have had a phenomenal year, they have had the most positive, engaging, productive and mind-blowing learning experiences across the curriculum! History has definitely been everyone's favourite subject this year learning about our magnificent explorers and how their inventions are still being used today and are a crucial part of our everyday lives, comparing their voyages, their findings and the impact this has had, setting the course for following inventions. Magnificent Monarchs was a great topic we all enjoyed exploring, visiting Hampton Court Palace, understanding the laws and rules of Parliament, how Henry 8th changed these and what makes for a powerful monarch today.

We are currently learning about The Great Fire of London, we have learnt about this major event in History change the architecture in London, we followed the diary of Samuel Pepys and are going to write our own. Along with reading Samuel Pepys' diary we have been busy reading lots of other books and logging them to our Boom Readers. We are all super excited for the upcoming Summer Reading challenge, we will have lots of time to read over the summer and engage with different genres of books, it's a good thing we have learnt to tell the time in Maths, using an analogue clock is not easy, we can now tell the time in 15 minute and 5 minute intervals, past the hour and to the hour.

We have also really enjoyed PE, RE, Art and DT lessons, we created a magnificent montage for our Art Topic, inspired by Paul Cezanne. Please have a look at our school website for more photos of the exhibition.

It's been a busy year but we have learnt so much, grown so much and have made great memories. We are now looking forward to Year 3!



YEAR 3 THIS TERM

Year 3 has had a busy final half term! We have been writing our own adventure story based on the book "The Secret of Black Rock" and we are also enjoying reading a new book called "The Wild Robot". We recently found out that "The Wild Robot" is being made into a film and we can't wait to see it when it comes out in the Autumn!

In science, we have been learning about the function of the skeleton and muscles, as well as the difference between vertebrates and invertebrates. In art, we have created some amazing mosaic designs.

The highlight of this half term has been our sleepover! It was the first time that many of our children have stayed the night away from home. The children had a fantastic time with their friends, playing with sports equipment, colouring, getting glitter tattoos, eating endless snacks, and watching films.



YEAR 4 THIS TERM

What an amazing end to Year 4 we've had! It has been another busy term for us, filled with lots of learning and fun. We started the final term with our MTC check, which is a compulsory math test for all Year 4 pupils in England based on our times tables, and we did really well! We worked very hard throughout Year 4, both at school and with the help of our families at home, and we are extremely proud of ourselves.

In history this term, we learned about the history of migration and what might be a push or pull factor for why people leave their homes. We used our prior learning of the Romans and the Vikings to come up with reasons why they chose to settle in England.

Towards the end of the term, we visited Chessington World of Adventures to coincide with our science topic about animals' adaptations. We spent the day exploring the zoo, seeing and learning about the animals, learning about animal adaptations in different climates, and going on rides.

It's been a fabulous year in Year 4, and we are so excited for our next chapter at William Byrd in Year 5.



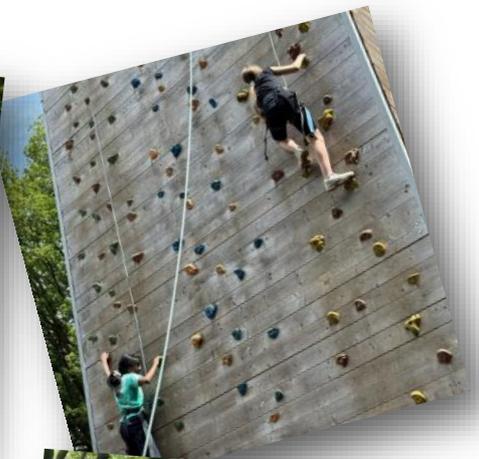
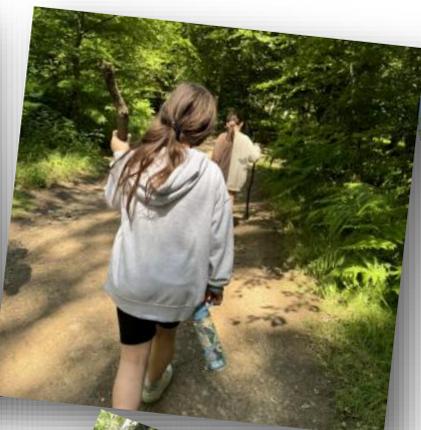
YEAR 4 THIS TERM



YEAR 5 THIS TERM

This half term, Year 5 had many exciting experiences! We were visited by the fire department, who taught us all about how to keep ourselves and our families safe from fires in the home. We were also visited by the police, who spoke to us about staying safe online, with a particular focus on age limits on apps and games and the reasons for these. It was very enlightening! Some of us also had the amazing opportunity to go on a two-night camping trip to Cuffley Active Learning Centre, where we got to experience a campfire, zip-lining, rock climbing, fire building, archery, problem-solving, and many more fun activities which allowed us to work on our cooperation and communication skills. We were all very well-behaved and loved being able to spend time in nature, especially with the lovely weather we were lucky enough to have!

At school, we have been continuing to work on our working scientific skills in Science by investigating reversible and irreversible changes. We have made good progress with our writing through our non-fiction unit, which was a balanced argument about screen use, and our narrative unit, which was based on the book 'I Believe in Unicorns' by Michael Morpurgo. We have had a great end to the year and are very much looking forward to the adventures that Year 6 brings after the Summer holidays!



YEAR 6 THIS TERM

Our final term in Year 6 was jam packed with excitement. We focused heavily on our writing, and crafted some amazing narratives, letters, non-chronological reports and more! We also explored the circulatory system, inheritance, adaptation and evolution in Science (and did some very cool experiments around resting heart rate). Our last trip of the year was to the Battle of Britain Bunker in Uxbridge, where we learned about the plotters and how they managed the airfield battles using coordinates. We got to practice plotting, learn about WW2 technology and even go inside the bunker (where Winston Churchill made his famous speech - never was so much owed by so many to so few which was about the plotters)!

We've had many workshops including the SORTED workshop on drugs and alcohol, the police visits on gangs and knife crime, the SORTED transition workshop on drugs and alcohol and a well-being workshop on managing anger.

To celebrate the end of their primary school era, the Year 6 pupils partnered with the Nursery pupils to create picture books which they then read and delivered to them. We will finish off the term with our Year 6 production - which is a show fully based on their own experiences in year 6 moving into Secondary School. All of the pupils have done an incredible job acting, singing, designing and making sure the production looks amazing for the parents (who watched in on July 11th and 12th).

The Year 6s all went to their new high schools for transition day and were very excited to share all of the exciting things they learned and new friends they met!

We will finish our term with the much anticipated prom, our annual leavers assembly and a final farewell in the school playground. The Year 6 team would like everyone to know what an honour it was to teach this cohort. The resilience, determination, character, humour, leadership and kindness of this year group will live on as a legacy at WBPA! Please don't forget to visit to come and tell us your experiences and successes in Secondary School!

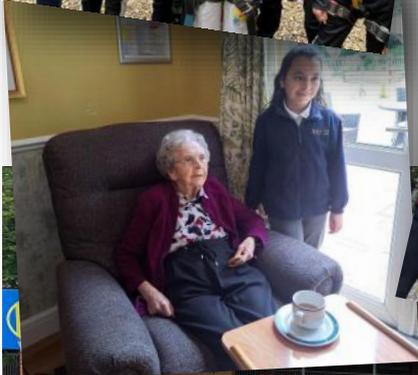
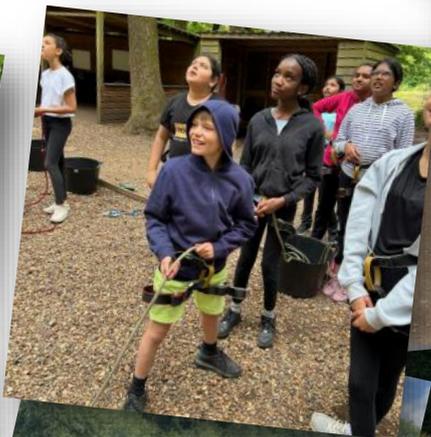


YEAR 6 THIS TERM

PGL/White Plains Care Home

From July 7-10th some of our Year 6s went to PGL in Marchant's Hill. It truly was one for the memory books! Every day was filled with exciting activities like abseiling, archery, Jacob's ladder, survival skills, raft building and more! The children earned points by showing resilience and tackling new challenges! They sang songs, ate amazing meals and even had a bit of downtime to relax and hang out with their friends. They bought souvenirs (and loads of sweets) from the shop and stayed up a little bit past their bedtime (except for the last night, when everyone was exhausted). It truly was an incredible weekend filled with friendship, memory-making and confidence!

Back at William Byrd, our pupils attended White Plains Care Home in honour the 80th anniversary of D-Day! The pupils spoke to the residences, listened to them sing and heard stories of their past. They even spoke to Sylvia, who is 100 year olds! They learned how life and society have changed in their lifetimes and it was a truly memorable experience for all.



MULTIPLICATIONS MASTERS TOURNAMENT

The Summer term also saw the return of our Multiplication Masters. After testing themselves on Times Table Rockstars in the weeks leading up to the event, Avan, Azaan, Ravneet, Joshberg, Ahmed, Prayag, Frankie, Zarah, Aadyah, Hannat, Navjot and Anika were the chosen finalists for their year group. Each year group was tested with a series of times table questions and did their fellow classmates proud! The whole school took part and dressed as a rock star - it was truly a sight to behold. It wasn't just the children however as Miss Morgan took centre stage to take down the prestigious teachers' award! We challenge you all to practice over summer for a chance to be back on stage in Autumn 2024! Rock on!



PTA NEWS

The PTA would like to say a huge THANK YOU to all the parents, carers and members of the local community who braved the insane washout and joined us at the Summer Fair! We are so immensely thankful for all your ongoing support and cannot say enough, that without you, we would not be able to do what we do. Despite the downpour, the muddy puddles, and the last-minute change of layout, it was all sunshine and smiles indoors! What a success! We looked across the hall with such overwhelming pride and we were in absolute awe of how many of you came out and got involved. The raffle, the food, the drinks, the games, the stalls- what an event! Thank you to everyone who donated on the Mufti Days, who purchased raffle tickets, who spread the word, and attended. Because of you, we raised a total of £1587.42 which will be put towards upgrading the main playground with some great new equipment.



PTA NEWS



We would also like to say a heartfelt 'Farwell' to our Year 6's who have successfully completed Primary school and will be going on to High School! Wherever you may go, and whatever paths you decide to walk, we wish you all the happiest, safest and the absolute best of luck. We look forward to hearing about all the amazing things you will learn and experience, and hope that the 5 Guiding Powers remain with you in everything you do.

We wish everyone a safe and splendid summer and look forward to seeing you all back at school on Wednesday 4th September.

IN OTHER NEWS



We are very proud to have been awarded the wellbeing badge from the Diana award. Our Anti-Bullying Ambassadors have been working hard to encourage positive wellbeing and kindness in our school community.



On 19th June we had a year 6 transition parent coffee morning with Brilliant Parents. This was really useful for parents to discuss any concerns they had regarding their child starting secondary school.



On the 25th June the Anti-Bullying Ambassadors took part in a peer mentoring workshop with the Mental Health Service Team. The children were taught how to look after their mental wellbeing and to how support their peer's mental wellbeing.



On the 25th June the Mental Health Service Team delivered a parent workshop on managing challenging behaviour and setting effective boundaries at home. We will be having lots more workshops coming up in the future.

We have been awarded the wellbeing badge from the Diana Award. This demonstrates the school's commitment to anti-bullying and underpins all we have been trying to achieve this year. We are really proud of our achievement and excited to make William Byrd the best it can be.



DAYS OUT IN LONDON

If you are in receipt of universal credit, over the summer holidays you will be able to visit places in London from as little as £1.00, for up to six members of your household. Some attractions, but not all, allow other benefits such as job seekers allowance, working tax credit, child tax credit, pension credit, employment support allowance and income support. Check the attractions website for details. [Click here](#) or scan the QR code for more information.

A promotional graphic with a yellow background and a pattern of small dots. The text "WHO DOESN'T LOVE A GREAT DEAL?" is written in large, bold, stylized letters. "WHO DOESN'T" is in white with a black outline, "LOVE A GREAT" is in red with a black outline, and "DEAL?" is in red with a black outline. There are several blue stars scattered around the text. To the right of the graphic is a QR code and the text: "Scan the QR code to see where you could save money eating out over the holidays".

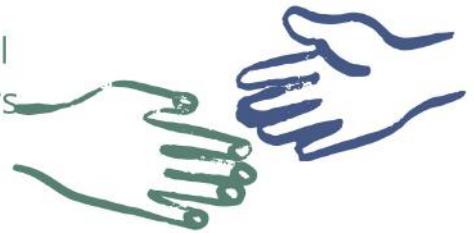
Scan the QR code to see where you could save money eating out over the holidays



TRANSITION SUPPORT FOR YOU AND YOUR CHILD

For parents of Year 6/7 students who are experiencing any of the following challenges:

- School Refusal
- Persistent disruptive behaviour in school
- Alienation from family members or peers
- Vulnerability due to additional needs
- Involved in substance misuse
- Social, emotional or mental ill health



Moving from Junior to Secondary school can sometimes be an extremely challenging time, for the child, and their parents or carers to navigate. If a child is already experiencing some challenges in a Primary school setting, getting some additional support as they move to Secondary education can make all the difference.

If you think you may need some support during your child's transition to secondary school, Brilliant Parents can provide you with a Parent Champion. Offering non-judgemental support over six weekly check-ins for up to an hour via a phone/zoom chat, at a time that suits you.

You can register by clicking [here](#)

Please call Sarah on 07495 024 449 for further information.

PENALTY NOTICE FINES FOR SCHOOL ATTENDANCE IS CHANGING

FIRST OFFENCE

1

The first time a Penalty Notice is issued for Term Time Leave or irregular Attendance the amount will be:

£160 per parent, per child if paid within 28 days
Reduced to £80 per parent, per child if paid within 21 days.

2

SECOND OFFENCE (WITHIN 3 YEARS)

The second time a Penalty Notice is issued for Term Time Leave or Irregular Attendance the amount will be:

£160 per parent, per child to be paid within 28 days. No reduced rate will be offered.

The following changes will come into force for Penalty Notice Fines issued after **19th August 2024**.

3

THIRD OFFENCE AND ANY FURTHER OFFENCES (WITHIN 3 YEARS)

The third time an offence is committed for Term Time Leave or Irregular Attendance a Penalty Notice will not be issued, and the case will be presented straight to the Magistrates' Court. Magistrates; fines can be up to £2500 per parent, per child.

Cases found guilty in Magistrates' Court can show on a Parents future DBS certificate, due to failure to safeguard a child's education'.

10 SESSIONS (5 DAYS) OF UNAUTHORISED ABSENCE IN A 10-WEEK PERIOD

Penalty Notice Fines will be considered when there has been 10 sessions of unauthorised absence in a 10-week period.

A national Framework for penalty Notices for school absence, including unauthorised holiday absence, is being introduced following changes to the law. These new government regulations will come into effect from 19th August 2024.

KEY DATES

EVENT	DATE/TIME
INSET Day	Monday 2 September
INSET Day	Tuesday 3 September
Children back to school	Wednesday 4 September - Normal time
Y6 Meet the Teacher	Thursday 5 September - 3.20pm
Y5 Meet the Teacher	Friday 6 September - 3.20pm
Y4 Meet the Teacher	Monday 9 September - 3.20pm
Y3 Meet the Teacher	Tuesday 10 September - 3.20pm
Y2 Meet the Teacher	Wednesday 11 September - 3.20pm
Y1 Meet the Teacher	Thursday 12 September - 3.20pm
Club Starts	Monday 16 September
School Improvement Plan Presentation for Parents/Carers	Tuesday 24 September - 9am & 2.15pm KS2 Hall
Macmillan Coffee Morning	Friday 27 September - 9am-11am KS1 Hall
Y5 Swimming (2 weeks)	Monday 30 September - Friday 11 October
3N Class Assembly	Monday 7 October - 2.45pm
3B Class Assembly	Tuesday 8 October - 2.45pm
3F Class Assembly	Thursday 10 October - 2.45pm
World Mental Health Day - Wear something yellow	Thursday 10 October
Harvest Festival	Friday 11 October
World Food Day - Bring a dish to school	Wednesday 16 October - 3.30pm KS2 Hall
Individual & Sibling Photos	Wednesday 23 October
Halloween Disco (More details to follow)	Thursday 24 October
October Half Term	Monday 28 October - Friday 1 November

WILLIAM BYRD PRIMARY ACADEMY

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