

WHAT'S NEW AT BANANA ISLAND INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL

ISSUE NO. 1

ISSUE
THREE



Welcome to our Newsletter!

Welcome back! We are delighted to begin the second half of the term and look forward to the exciting learning, activities and special moments ahead. With renewed energy and curiosity, our pupils are ready to build on all they have achieved so far and we are excited to continue this journey together with our families and school community.

In this newsletter, you will find: Class activities & photos for the week, SOTW, reminders and many more. Keep reading!

SPOTLIGHT ON



We are incredibly proud of **Aisosa** for placing in the top 25% at the finals of the Global International STEM Olympiad! This outstanding achievement reflects dedication, resilience and exceptional talent. Aisosa has truly represented our school with excellence. Congratulations on this remarkable milestone — we celebrate you! 🎉🎉



UPCOMING DATES

5th Mar - World Book Day

12th Mar - Nursery Class Circle Time with Parents

Key term dates on page 9



SCHOOL NEWS

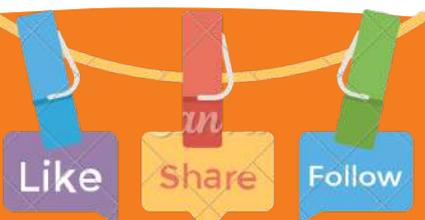
CAMBRIDGE INSIGHT ASSESSMENTS RESULTS

We are incredibly proud of our pupils' excellent performance in the Cambridge Insight Assessments, which evaluate key skills including reasoning, mathematics, reading, vocabulary and problem-solving. A great number of our learners performed above age expectations, with some achieving results up to three years ahead of their age related expectations.

These outcomes reflect our teaching approach which focuses on developing thinking skills hands-on learning, daily mental maths, structured reasoning sessions and strong problem-solving practice. Supported by small class sizes and personalised attention, our pupils continue to grow as confident, independent learners ready for future success.

If you haven't received your child(ren)'s Cambridge Insight Assessment result yet, please make sure payment has been made and forward proof of payment to the school office via WhatsApp.

TEMPROARY MUSIC ROOM DEVELOPMENT PROGRESS



Follow us on social media to get up to date content about the school and fresh content.

 @bananaislandsch

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 Banana Island School

BIIS IN PARTNERSHIP WITH BEST PRACTICE NETWORK (BPN)

🔔 Now Open: Spring Cohort – National Professional Qualifications (NPQs) for International Educators

📅 Registration deadline: **31 March 2026**

In partnership with Best Practice Network International and Banana Island School TEACH, we're now accepting applications for NPQs designed to support teacher development and school leadership in international settings.

Available programmes include -

✔ Specialist NPQs (12-month programmes):

- NPQ for Leading Teacher Development (NPQLTD)
- NPQ for Leading Teaching (NPQLT)
- NPQ for Leading Behaviour and Culture (NPQLBC)

✔ Leadership NPQs (18-month programmes):

- NPQ for Senior Leadership (NPQSL)
- NPQ for Headship (NPQH)
- NPQ for Executive Leadership (NPQEL)
- NPQ for Special Educational Needs Coordinators (NPQSENCO)

You'll be able to study around your teaching schedule, with expert-led training, 1:1 coaching, and global networking opportunities.

✉ For enquiries and applications:
training@bananaislandschool.com



National Professional Qualifications (NPQs) for international educators

Specialist NPQs - 12-month programmes

- NPQ for Leading Teacher Development (NPQLTD)
- NPQ for Leading Teaching (NPQLT)
- NPQ for Leading Behaviour and Culture (NPQLBC)

Leadership NPQs - 18-month programmes

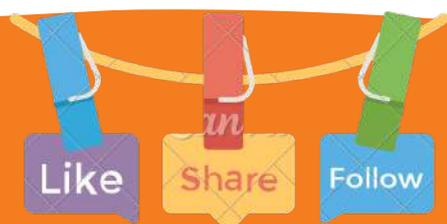
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A trusted provider of NPQs, supporting thousands of educators worldwide

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TODDLERS



Back To Business

Fostering teamwork and collaboration through working together on art collage work.

It has been an exciting and engaging half-term as our **Toddlers** explored the theme of Fruits and Vegetables. The children learnt about foods that grow underground and above the ground through discussions and hands-on activities, developing a better understanding of where food comes from. A special Show and Tell session with parents was a joyful highlight, giving children the chance to confidently share their learning while families joined in. As they prepared for their first Sports Day, the toddlers showed determination and enthusiasm, strengthening their gross motor skills through active play. Creativity flourished during art sessions, where children worked with parents to design a collaborative garden using okra stamp painting — a truly memorable end to the theme.



STAR OF THE WEEK
Toni

123

PLAYGROUP

Our **Playgroup** children have made a wonderful start to the second half of the term as they began exploring the theme “*Under the Sea.*” They eagerly learnt about the ocean, named different sea animals, identified body parts and created colourful paintings and crafts of sea creatures such as crabs and sharks. In Maths, children practised counting, number recognition, tracing lines and sorting colours, while fine motor skills were strengthened through beading, pegging, peeling and hands-on manipulation activities. Literacy was brought to life through the phonics game “*What’s in the Box?*”, where children identified the initial sounds of sea animals. Outdoor activities supported physical development as children walked on lines, kicked balls, jumped into circles and filled bottles, building coordination and confidence. It has been a joyful start to our ocean adventure and we look forward to more discoveries ahead!

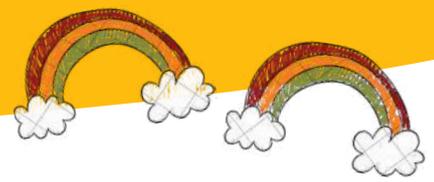


Under The Sea

Expanding knowledge of sea animals;
Strengthening early numeracy through counting;
Exploring creativity through hands-on art craft.



STAR OF THE WEEK
Rayyan



NURSERY

The half term ended on an exciting note with our Sports Day, where the children participated with enthusiasm, energy and wonderful team spirit. During the break, they deepened their learning on the theme "Building and Construction through a construction site visit, observing real-life builders, tools and equipment. Back in class, Show and Tell sessions allowed children to speak confidently about their experiences, supporting vocabulary and communication skills. Cultural learning added to the excitement as children celebrated the Chinese New Year in beautiful red and gold outfits while creating colourful crafts. In Phonics, Nursery 2 children continued blending sounds to read simple words, while Nursery 1 focused on learning the /d/ sound through songs and activities. Numeracy lessons strengthened counting, number formation and recognising quantities. This half term, there is excitement to explore the vibrant new theme, "Colours", where we will be discovering traffic lights, rainbows and stories about Elmer the Patchwork Elephant — promising a bright and creative learning journey ahead!



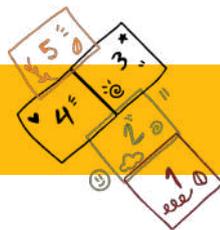
Big Minds, Big Dreams

Building essential social skills; Developing new vocabulary linked to construction; Boosting reading fluency.



STARS OF THE WEEK
Emiola & Ronnie.

RECEPTION



Blooming Babies!

Developing critical thinking and comparison skills; Building vocabulary through identifying animals and their offspring, Understanding cultural differences through cultural art activities.

This week marked a great start to the new half-term as the **Reception** children revisited numbers before and after and reviewed familiar phonics sounds. In Literacy, they began an exciting new unit on Spring, exploring seasonal changes and sequencing the story The Little Red Hen, confidently retelling it in the correct order. Numeracy lessons focused on comparing objects and animals by weight, identifying whether they were heavy or light. The children also learnt about animals and their offspring, naming baby animals with growing confidence. The week ended with a joyful celebration of Chinese New Year – the Year of the Horse – where children created colourful paintings and fans. A superb start to the half-term from this curious bunch!



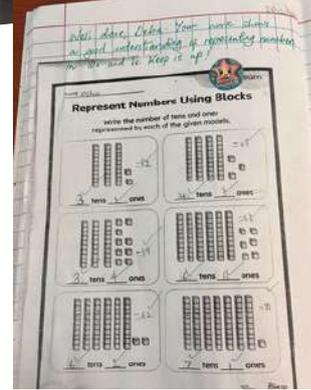
STARS OF THE WEEK
Adamekam, Chiemelie, Pearl & Suleman.

IN KS 1...

YEAR 1

Year 1 returned from half term full of energy and ready to learn, impressing us with strong recall across mental maths, sight words, number bonds, number sequences and grammar. In Phonics, pupils explored the suffix "-tion," confidently reading and understanding longer words, while Literacy lessons introduced adjectives to make sentences and stories more descriptive.

Numeracy focused on grouping numbers within 50 into tens and ones to strengthen place value. In Science, the children explored amphibians with a focus on frogs, and in Geography, they investigated their local area, identifying human and physical features. Swimming sessions and colourful Chinese New Year celebrations rounded off a brilliant start to the second half of term!



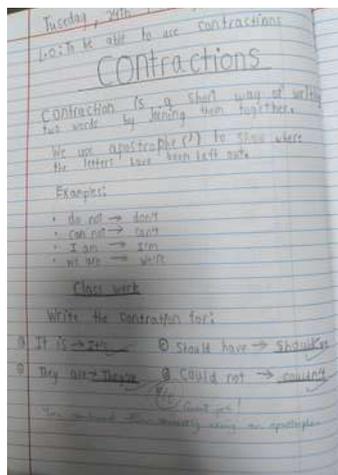
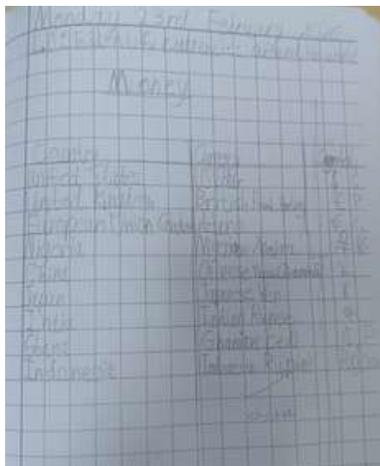
Growing Confident Learners, One Discovery at a Time!

Developing numeracy skills through grouping numbers into tens and ones.



STARS OF THE WEEK
Adelano & Aliyah

YEAR 2



Year 2 pupils enjoyed a week of engaging learning across the curriculum. In Mathematics, they explored money and different currencies, using their problem-solving skills to tackle word problems in Mental Maths. In English, pupils focused on spelling and grammar, learning how to use apostrophes to form contractions and applying this in their writing. Science lessons introduced the life cycle of animals, including humans, as children discussed stages of growth and animal offspring. In Geography, pupils strengthened their mapping skills by drawing simple maps and using symbols to represent key features. We are proud of the effort and growing confidence of BIIS busy bees!.

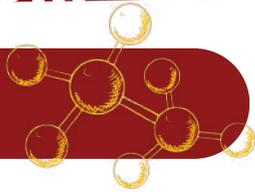
Busy Bees.

Developing understanding of the world and different currencies; Building writing skills.



STARS OF THE WEEK
Mya & Yasmin.

SCIENCE



Our pupils have been busy exploring the wonders of science through hands-on experiments. From discovering the effects of friction by testing how different surfaces affect movement to investigating power and electricity, building simple circuits and learning how energy flows to make devices work, these practical experiences not only deepen scientific understanding but also spark curiosity, teamwork and problem-solving skills that nurture the next generation of inquisitive thinkers. Science lessons have been truly alive at BISS!



MATHS



Mathematics lessons across the school have been focused and progressive. **Year 3** pupils explored fractions as equal parts of a whole, using diagrams and shapes to recognise and name simple fractions. **Year 4** built on this by identifying numerators and denominators, writing fractions to represent shaded parts of shapes and everyday objects. **Year 5** moved into multiplying fractions by integers, understanding multiplication as repeated addition and simplifying their answers confidently. **Year 6** developed their algebra skills by forming expressions and simple equations from real-life situations, translating everyday statements into mathematical language. Meanwhile, **Year 8** students tackled quadratic sequences, using first and second differences to determine the n-th term rule with accuracy and confidence. Well done to our maths geniuses!

ENGLISH



English lessons across the school have been rich and skill-building. **Year 3** pupils explored the present perfect tense, confidently describing experiences and completed actions, while **Year 4** focused on noun phrases and expanded noun phrases to make their writing more vivid and descriptive. In **Year 5**, poetry lessons inspired by "I Am a Writer" by Joseph Coelho helped pupils analyse literary devices such as imagery and repetition before crafting their own purposeful poems. **Year 6** strengthened key grammar knowledge through revision of adverbs of possibility, subordinate clauses, adverbials, word classes and articles, building greater accuracy and maturity in writing. Meanwhile, **Year 8** broadened their literary understanding by exploring different forms of poetry, identifying a writer's purpose and distinguishing between facts and opinions — developing thoughtful, analytical readers across the curriculum.

YEAR 8'S POWERPOINT PRESENTATION ON POETRY

Please click on the link to view the presentation work done by the year 8 class on Poetry.

[Abayomi's work on Poetry.](#)

[Faramade's work on Poetry.](#)

[Maya's work on Poetry.](#)

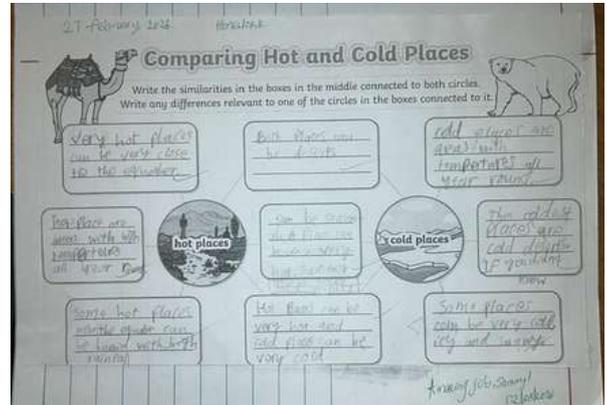
THIS WEEK IN KS 2&3

GEOGRAPHY

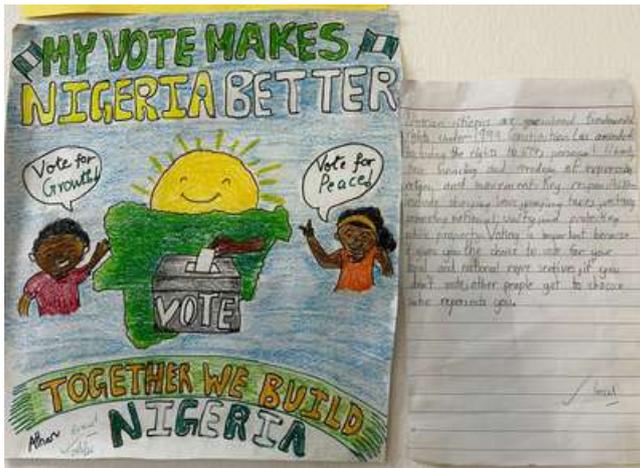


Year 3 pupils are comparing life in extreme environments, investigating cold deserts such as Antarctica and hot deserts like the Sahara, discovering how plants, animals and people adapt to survive.

Year 4 are stepping into the world of meteorology, learning how forecasts are created using weather maps, symbols, satellites and computer models. In **Year 5**, pupils are consolidating their understanding of how the Earth's tilt creates the seasons and influences weather, daylight hours and human activity around the globe. **Year 6** are exploring the vital theme of conservation, examining the importance of protecting natural environments, endangered species and understanding how individuals and organisations work to safeguard the planet. **Year 8** are learning about migration and population, analysing push and pull factors and considering the social and economic impacts of migration worldwide. Together, these topics are developing informed, thoughtful global citizens with a growing understanding of our changing world.



HISTORY



Welcome back! It has been wonderful to see students return refreshed, focused, and ready for an exciting term of historical discovery. **Year 3** pupils are exploring democracy in Nigeria, learning why voting matters, how leaders are chosen and the significance of national celebrations that highlight civic responsibility. **Year 4** continued their journey into the Iron Age, discovering how the use of iron transformed tools, farming and daily life, while thoughtfully comparing this period with earlier times. **Year 5** are concluding their study of Ancient Greece, reflecting on how its ideas about government, sport, theatre and education continue to shape the modern world. **Year 6** have begun with an inspiring focus on influential Nigerians such as Nnamdi Azikiwe, Obafemi Awolowo, Ahmadu Bello and Funmilayo Ransome-Kuti, examining their contributions to independence, leadership and national development. Meanwhile, **Year 8** students are studying conflict and change in South Africa, analysing causes, consequences and the impact of war on societies.

FRENCH



French lessons across the school were lively and progressive as the **Year 3** pupils learnt to name objects and rooms in the house, confidently pronouncing new vocabulary and forming simple sentences through interactive speaking activities. **Year 4** built grammatical understanding by exploring definite and indefinite articles, applying "le," "la," "les," "un," "une," and "des" correctly according to gender and number. **Year 5** expanded their vocabulary with airport-themed words, practising pronunciation and engaging in role-play conversations. **Year 6** moved into the near future tense (futur proche), using aller + verb to talk about plans in both spoken and written work. Meanwhile, **Year 8** students showcased creativity by writing and confidently presenting French poems, focusing on rhythm, rhyme, pronunciation and expressive language. Waouh! Ces étudiants sont très formidables!

STARS OF THE WEEK



UPCOMING KEY DATES

Please note that the dates are subject to change and any changes made would be communicated via mail/WhatsApp!

4th March

Holi Festival

5th March

World Book Day (UK/Ireland)

8th March

International Women's Day

9th - 10th March

Prep Assessments

13th March

BIIS vs. Greenwood House School Football Friendly

16th - 18th March

Art & Music Week

18th March

Art & Music Exhibition

18th March

Open Day

20th - 21st March

Eid al Fitr

20th March

International French Day

24th March

Nursery Class - Circle Time with Parents (8:45 am)

24th March

Parent Workshop : Outdoor Learning at BIIS

27th March

Easter Egg Hunt/Hat Parade

27th March

End of Lent Term

TODDLERS

Toni Afolahan: for active participation in class activities.

PLAYGROUP

Rayyan Abdul-Razaq: for active participation during group activities.

NURSERY

Emiola Ogundoyin for quick task completion time and good grasp of phonics sounds.

Ronnie Slade: for impressive improvement in his letter formation.

RECEPTION

Suleman Idakwo: for commendable effort in completing tasks.

Adamekam Okoye: for showing remarkable skills in all areas of learning and always being on her best behaviour

Chiemelie Ezeonu: for improved handwriting and independence in class.

Pearl Laval: for positive attitude to work and neat handwriting.

YEAR 1

Aliyah Afkir: for commendable effort in attempting tasks correctly and independently.

Adelano Hassan-Hayles: for great attitude towards reading new books and quick grasp of concepts.

YEAR 2

Mya Slade: for active participation in French class.

Yasmin Sulaiman: for demonstrating improved concentration and quick task completion.

HEADTEACHER'S COMMENDATIONS

YEAR 3

Atharv Sunil: for exceptional grasp of French concepts during French lessons.

YEAR 4

Siu Choi: for active participation and improvement in written and oral French skills and for working brilliantly without supervision in Maths lessons.

YEAR 5

Dahirou Ndiaye: for consistent demonstration of kindness and respect towards peers and staff.

Jacob Fernandes: for scoring 76% in his Science assessment on electrical circuits.

Taydan Alex-Eyitene: for always showing support to his peers.

YEAR 6

Sky Okpe: for outstanding effort and improvement in English lesson tasks.

Catherine Malema: for demonstrating a positive attitude to learning and for applying new vocabulary learnt in French.

Iyanuoluwa Odunlami: for scoring the highest mark in a science assessment in his class.

YEAR 8

Faramade Oshinowo: for being an exceptional role model who combines academic excellence with exemplary behaviour.