WHAT'S NEW AT BANANA ISLAND INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL

HALF-TERM ISSUE



Welcome to our Half-Term Newsletter!

Learning is in full swing and the excitement continues to grow! Our pupils have settled into their new classes, embraced new routines and are building friendships while diving into exciting learning experiences. From busy classrooms to engaging outdoor activities, pupils and staff are making the most of every opportunity to explore, create and discover. With the school buzzing with energy, laughter and curiosity, we look forward to a term filled with meaningful progress, new discoveries and wonderful achievements!

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

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

SPOTLIGHT ON

Exciting developments are underway as work begins on our new school building!

This is another step towards creating inspiring spaces that support learning, creativity and discovery. We look forward to watching the project take shape and sharing more updates as we continue to build for the future!

UPCOMING DATES

6th November- Bonfire Night
6th- 10th November - Diwali
16thNovember - Odd Socks Day
23th November- Prep Assessments

Key term dates on page 12

SCHOOL NEWS

TEACH WELCOMES TRCN



During the half-term break, Banana Island School welcomed an inspection team from the Teachers Registration Council of Nigeria (TRCN) in connection with Banana Island School TEACH, our Teaching Excellence and Coaching Hub.

The visit marked a significant step in TEACH's work towards accreditation as a provider of Mandatory Continuing Professional Development (MCPD) for teachers.

Through TEACH, we aim to support educators in strengthening their knowledge, developing their classroom practice and continuing to grow professionally. This reflects our wider commitment to high expectations and quality teaching.

OUR SCHOOL VAN IS HERE!





🚐🎉 **THE WAIT IS OVER... OUR SCHOOL VAN IS HERE!** 🥳

New wheels, new adventures, more exciting journeys ahead! Here's to safer rides, happy faces and many miles of wonderful memories.

SCHOOL NEWS

GET INVOLVED!



BIIS PARENT REPRESENTATIVES 2026–2027 ACADEMIC YEAR!

A warm welcome to our new Parent Representatives, and a big thank you for volunteering to support our school community! We look forward to a fantastic year of teamwork and collaboration.

Parents, you are always welcome to get involved whether by reading with the children, supporting special events or contributing your ideas. Simply liaise with your respective reps to find out how you can participate.

Please join your respective WhatsApp groups using the links provided to stay updated on social news, events and reminders.

MEET YOUR REPRESENTATIVES

Toddlers & Playgroup - Joy Grindle and Anita Ramani

Nursery 1&2 -Angela Aigbon-Ifo

Reception -Maria Andrews and Nkem Winifred

Year 1 - Toluwani Laval and Patima Smithson

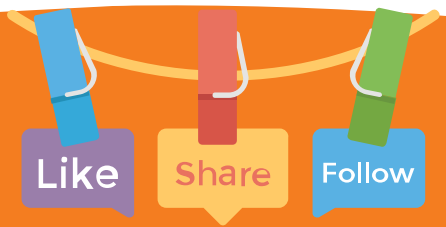
Year 2- Ade Hassan-Hayles and Yewande Alabi

Year 3- Abimbola Sulaiman

Year 4 - Rupali Sunil and Nike Okeowo

Year 5&6 - Bolanle Christopher-Ayeni and Katherine Fernandes

Year 7&8- Bunmi Oleah



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

@bananaislandsch

@bananaislandsch

Banana Island School

IN EYES...

TODDLERS






Toddlers are learning to stay healthy. Focusing on hygiene, hand-washing and nutritious eating to help them build lifelong wellness habits. Brushing teeth became an engaging activity where children learned techniques and practiced by painting an oversized tooth, discovering the benefits of good dental hygiene. After reading 'THE VERY HUNGRY CATERPILLAR ' by Eric Carle. They went outdoors to look for caterpillars and leaves eaten by them.

This week, they also explored the concept of family. Through finger plays and storybooks, children connected with family themes. Sharing family photographs fostered inclusion and celebrated their unique backgrounds. Finally, the children teamed up for block building.

Working together to construct wooden structures allowed them to experience teamwork and creative expression.

Healthy Habits, Family Ties, and Teamwork:

PLAYGROUP

What a fantastic week in **Playgroup**! The children explored bikes, road safety and emergency vehicles through outdoor play, stories, songs and imaginative activities.

In Maths, they counted and sorted vehicles, matched helmets, identified circles and compared big and small bikes. In Physical Development, they practised balancing, turning, starting and stopping on bikes and explored zebra crossings.

For Art and Craft, they created shape bicycles and painted red fire engines. In Science, they learnt about firefighters and how they keep people safe through imaginative play.
We also enjoyed a lovely circle time with parents, sharing songs, learning and special moments together.

Thank you to our wonderful parents for your continued support. We look forward to another exciting week of learning and discovery!





Little Explorers

Our Green Learning Hub was full of creativity and excitement! The children enthusiastically explored nature art by using leaves, petals, stones and twigs to create beautiful patterns with different shapes and textures.

IN EYFS...

NURSERY

Nursery 2 continued exploring our exciting theme of Animals, learning about Arctic animals such as polar bears, narwhals, Arctic foxes and reindeer. They also explored sea animals through a story and enjoyed visiting the school turtles, discovering how their hard shells protect their bodies.

Our story of the week, The Rainbow Fish, introduced the importance of sharing and kindness. The children also created beautiful sea animals for their pretend aquarium.

In Phonics, they practised matching objects to their initial sounds, such as d-d-d duck and t-t-t turtle, and began blending sounds to read simple words using Fred Fingers, such as sat and dad.

In Mathematics, the children compared groups using more than, fewer than and the same. They also explored 2D and 3D shapes, including circles, rectangles, triangles and cuboids, describing their features using words such as sides, corners, straight, flat and round.

It has been another joyful week of exploration and discovery! We look forward to more exciting learning experiences as our Nursery 2 learners continue to grow and shine.







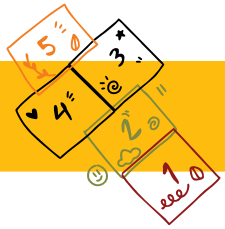




Tales, Tails and Tiny Discoveries

Exploring fairytales and animals through stories, play and hands-on activities; developing phonics, numeracy and communication skills; encouraging curiosity, creativity and scientific thig through imaginative play and simple experiments.

RECEPTION



It has been another fantastic few weeks in Reception, filled with curiosity, laughter and wonderful learning! The children have been highly engaged and counting to thrive in all areas of their development. Our theme Me and My World has taken us on an exciting journey of discovery.

In **Math**s, we have been exploring the numbers 1, 2 and 3. The children have been busy counting, recognising and ordering numbers, and using practical objects ti represent each number and talk about one more and one less.

In **Literacy**, we enjoyed our focus story The Ugly Duckling. The children listened carefully to the story and worked on sequencing the main events.

In **PSED,** linked to our story, we talked about emotions and how to manage big feelings. The children shared thoughtful ideas about being kind and understanding how others feel, and what to do when we feel upset or sad.

In **Expressive Art and Desgn,** we made our own Ugly Duckling using cardboards and googly eyes, showing creativity and imagination.

What a joyful and inspiring few weeks it has been. We are so proud of all the children and their super learning in reception!





Me and My World!

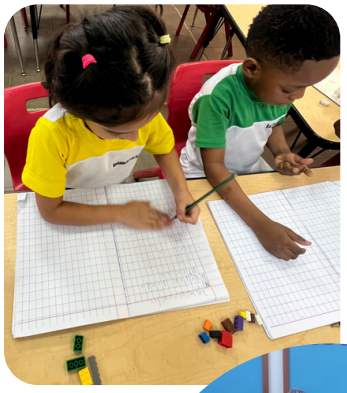
Exploring self, family, feelings and individuality; Developing communication, literacy and numeracy skills through meaningful activities; Strengthening fine and gross motor skills while encouraging creativity, kindness, sharing and confidence.

IN KS 1...

YEAR 1

Year 1 have enjoyed another action-packed week of exploring, discovering and learning by doing! Daily phonics, PE and swimming continue to build essential skills and confidence. In Maths, we explored number sentences and fact families, while Science introduced us to the parts of a flower and what plants need to grow. History came alive during our visit to the new Learning Hub building site, where we compared modern construction with traditional mud houses. We also explored our local area in Geography and developed our descriptive writing in English.
Our Nigeria Independence Day celebration was a highlight, with the children dressed in colourful traditional attire, performing a poem and Yoruba song celebrating education, culture and our nation's journey since independence.

Year 1 continues to flourish through active learning, creativity and discovery!



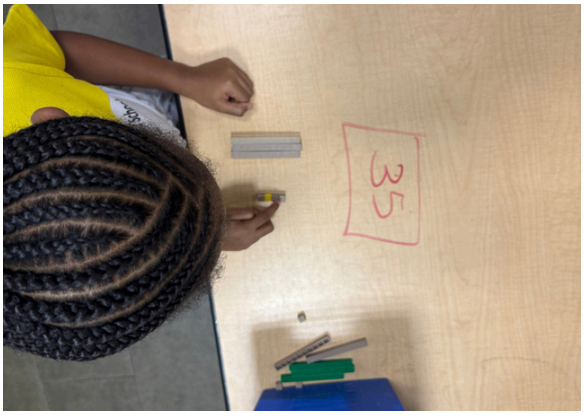




Learning, Discovering and Growing

Maths: Developing numeracy skills using concrete objects to explore and represent number bonds.
History & Science: Exploring the Learning Hub building site to compare modern construction methods and materials with those used in traditional houses of the past.
Independence Day: Year 1 celebrating Nigeria's Independence Day in style through colourful traditional attire, poetry and song!

YEAR 2



Building Knowledge, Exploring the World!

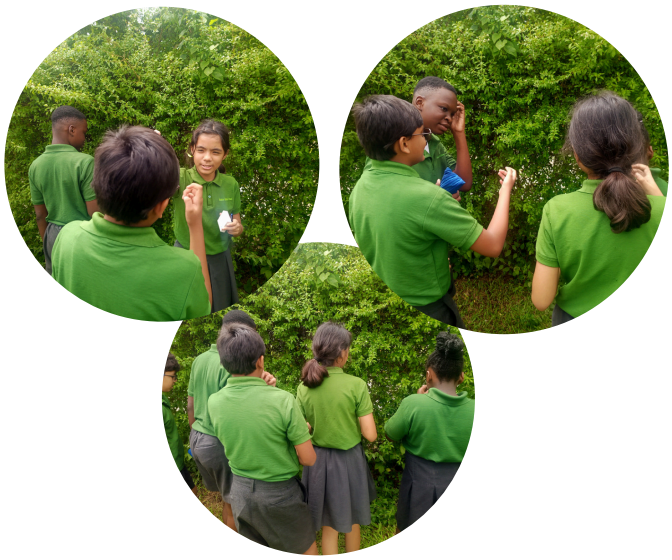
Developing place value and descriptive language skills; Exploring the characteristics of living things and changes between the past and present; Building geographical knowledge and numeracy skills through world maps and French activities.

What an exciting week we have had in Year 2!
The children have been busy learning, exploring and developing new skills across a range of subjects.
In Maths, they explored place value and numbers to 100, using practical resources to understand tens and ones. In Grammar, they identified nouns and adjectives, using descriptive words to make their sentences more interesting. Science introduced them to the MRSGREN life processes as they explored what qualifies something as living.
In History, the children compared schools and homes in the past and present and created personal timelines.
In Geography, they explored the continents and developed their map skills, while in French, they practised addition and subtraction using numbers in French.
It has been a wonderful week of curiosity, creativity and discovery. Well done, Year 2!

IN KS 2&3...

SCIENCE

Our learners continued to explore the wonders of science through exciting investigations and real-world connections.
Year 3 investigated fertilisation and seed dispersal, discovering how fruits and seeds form. Year 4 explored food webs, interdependence and survival strategies within different ecosystems.
Year 5 investigated the properties of materials, including hardness, solubility, flexibility and transparency, while exploring conductors and insulators.
Year 6 took their learning outdoors, observing how organisms adapt to their habitats and connecting Darwin's theory of evolution to real-life examples.
From plants to ecosystems, our learners continue to build their understanding of the natural world through active exploration and discovery!



Year 6 exploring how organisms adapt to their habitats, observing survival features and linking their findings to Darwin's theory of evolution.

MATHS



Maths in Action: Learning Through Exploration and Collaboration!

Our learners continued to strengthen their mathematical skills through interactive activities, collaborative learning and peer teaching.
Year 3 explored place value, counting in tens and ones, writing numbers in standard and expanded forms, and ordering and comparing numbers. **Year 4** built on these skills by working with numbers up to 1,000, focusing on ordering, comparing and rounding. **Year 5** extended their understanding to numbers up to 100,000, while **Year 6** tackled numbers up to 10 million, developing confidence in writing, ordering, comparing and rounding large numbers.
Meanwhile, **Years 7 and 8** explored factors and multiples alongside the properties of 2D shapes. Through practical and field-based activities, they investigated sides, angles and symmetry, connecting mathematical concepts to the world around them.

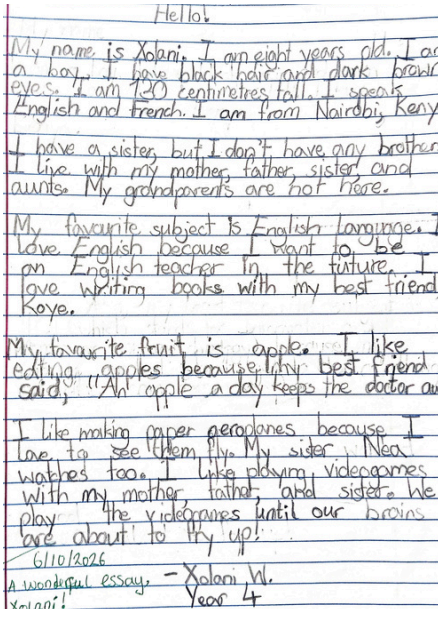
Across the year groups, pupils learnt from one another, tackled misconceptions and developed greater confidence in applying their mathematical knowledge.

ENGLISH

Our English lessons have been filled with **creativity, exploration and confidence-building!** Over the past two weeks, learners have strengthened their reading, writing and communication skills through engaging activities.

Year 3 explored articles, clauses and conjunctions, practising sentence construction. **Year 4** developed skills in distinguishing facts from opinions and retrieving information from non-fiction texts. **Years 5 and 6** explored newspaper reports, crafting headlines and organising their writing, while **Years 7 and 8** planned purposeful, engaging and persuasive articles.

It has been a rewarding few weeks of **learning, creativity and finding our voices** through English!



Hello!

My name is Xolani. I am eight years old. I am a boy. I have black hair and dark brown eyes. I am 120 centimetres tall. I speak English and French. I am from Nairobi, Kenya.

I have a sister but I don't have any brother. I live with my mother, father, sister and aunts. My grandparents are not here.

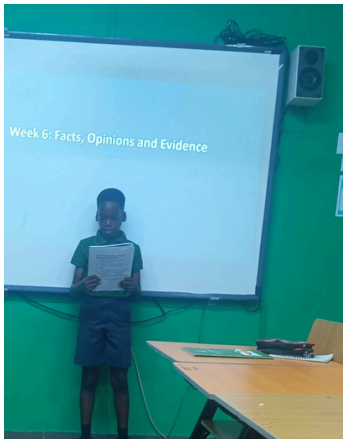
My favourite subject is English language. I love English because I want to be an English teacher in the future. I love writing books with my best friend Koye.

My favourite fruit is apple. I like eating apples because my best friend said, "An apple a day keeps the doctor away."

I like making paper aeroplanes because I love to see them fly. My sister Nea wishes too. I like playing videogames with my mother, father and sister. We play the videogames until our brains are about to fly up!

6/10/2026

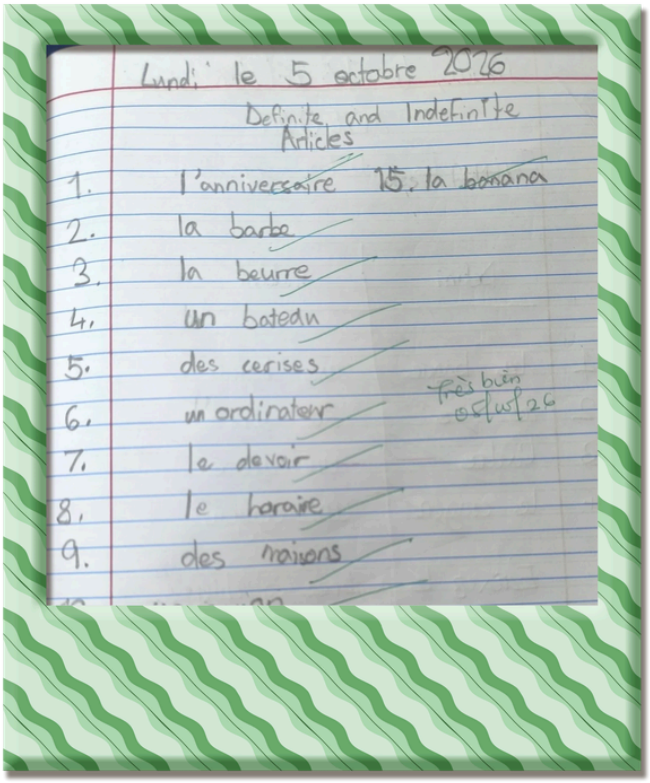
A wonderful essay. - Xolani M.
Year 4

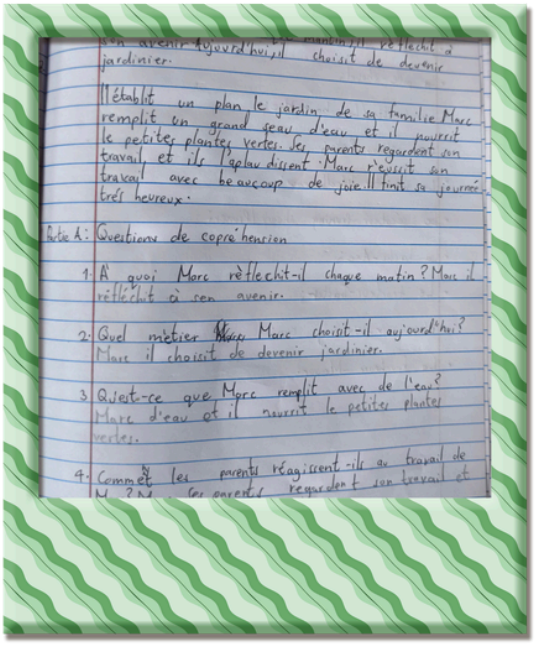


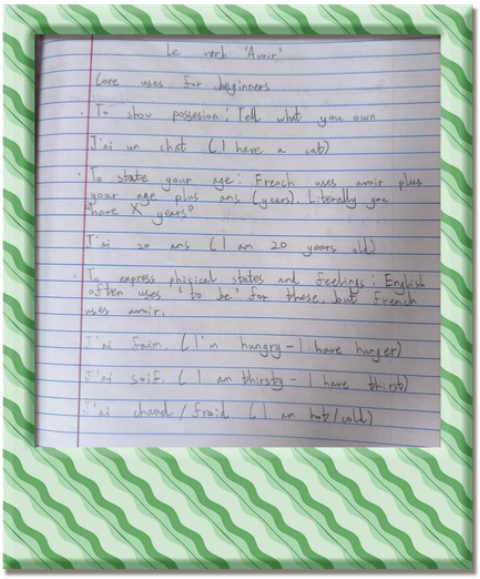
FRENCH

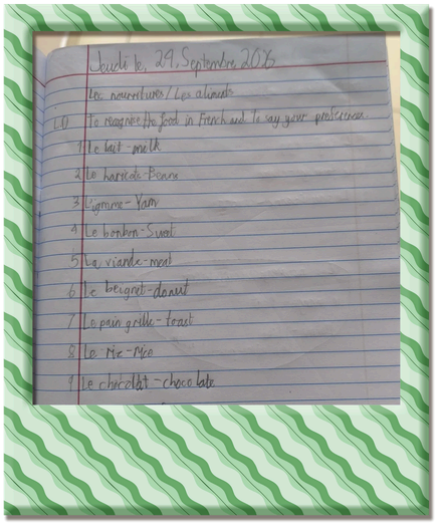
Our pupils have been making exciting progress in French, developing their vocabulary, grammar and communication skills through engaging activities, speaking practice and written exercises.

Year 3 explored Les aliments (Food), practising new vocabulary and pronunciation. **Year 4** focused on Les articles définis et indéfinis (Definite and Indefinite Articles), learning to use le, la, les, un, une and des with growing confidence.
Year 5 strengthened their understanding of le verbe avoir (to have) through speaking, sentence-building and writing activities, while **Year 6** explored -IR verbs in comprehension passages, improving their ability to understand texts and answer questions accurately.
Meanwhile, **Years 7 and 8** explored Moi-même (About Myself), practising how to introduce themselves and share personal information, interests and preferences in French.
From learning new words to expressing themselves in full sentences, our pupils are steadily growing into more confident French speakers!









IN KS 2&3.....

GEOGRAPHY

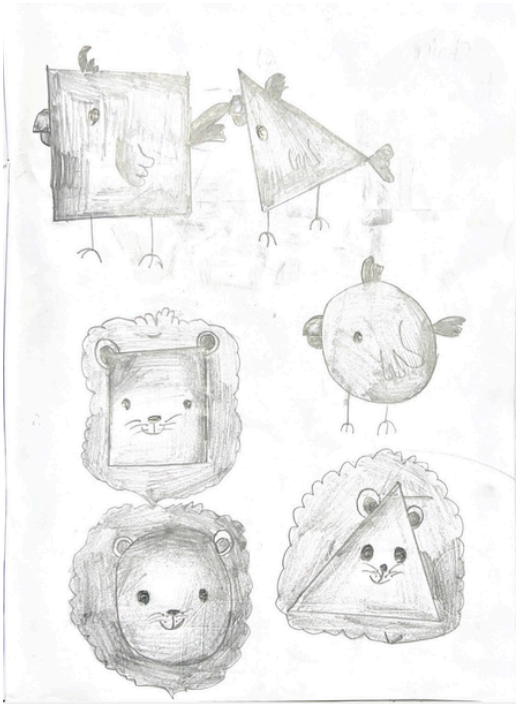
From Continents to Communities

Where is the world's busiest trade happening, and why do some countries develop differently from others? These are some of the questions our pupils have been exploring in Geography.

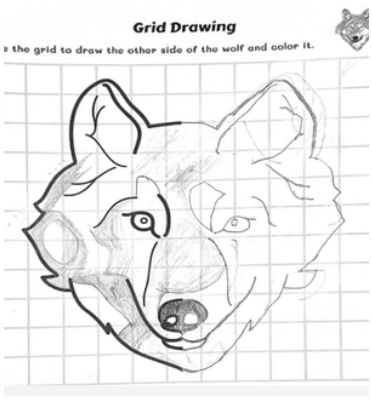
Year 3 examined the difference between physical and human geography, learning about the world's oceans and continents. **Year 4** explored the capital cities of Africa and Europe, discovering how they differ from commercial and other major cities.
Year 5 investigated how landscapes, climate and vegetation influence how people shape their environments.
Year 6 explored development indicators, comparing countries and examining global inequalities and ways to improve living standards.
Meanwhile, **Years 7 and 8** focused on Nigeria and West Africa, investigating how location and vegetation influence trade, weather and travel.

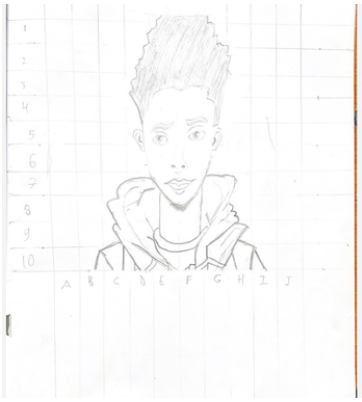
From understanding our planet's physical features to examining the factors that shape societies, pupils are learning to look beyond maps and ask bigger questions about the world.

ART



Years 1 and 2 are exploring shapes and colour, while **Year 3** are combining simple shapes to create animal drawings. **Years 4, 5 and 6** are refining proportion and accuracy using grid lines, while **Years 7 and 8** are mastering tonal values, light and shadow to bring their observational and life drawings to life. Across the year groups, creativity and technical skills continue to flourish!





Year 3: Using shapes to draw animals, **Year 4:** Using grid lines to achieve proportion, **Year 6:** Using grid lines to draw portraits.

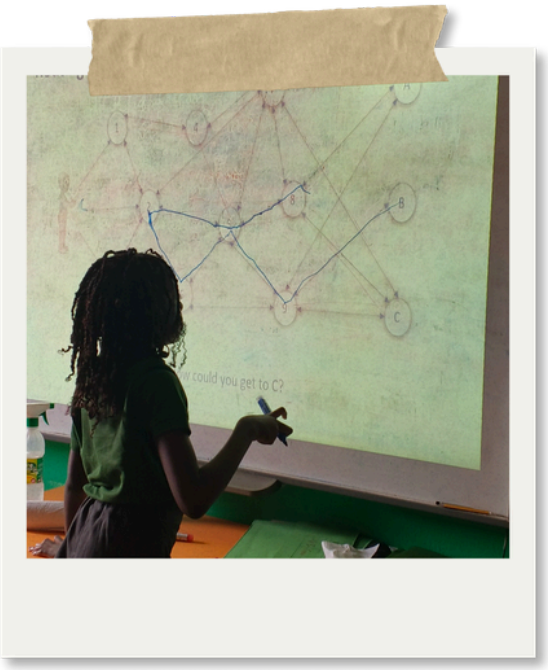
IN KS 2&3...

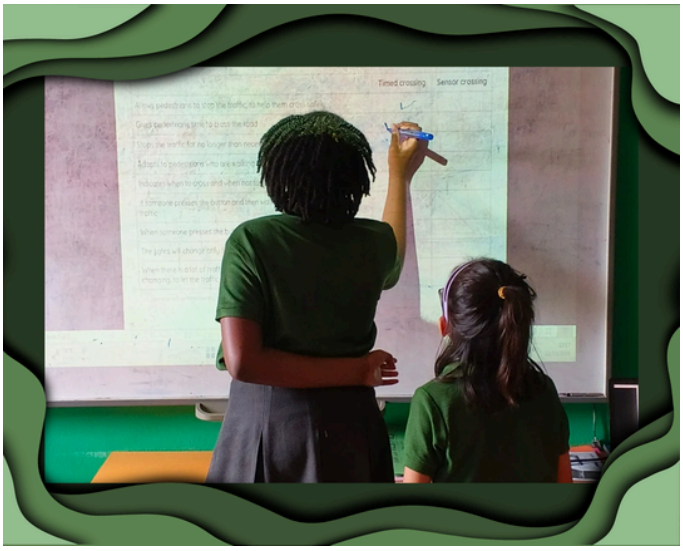
ICT

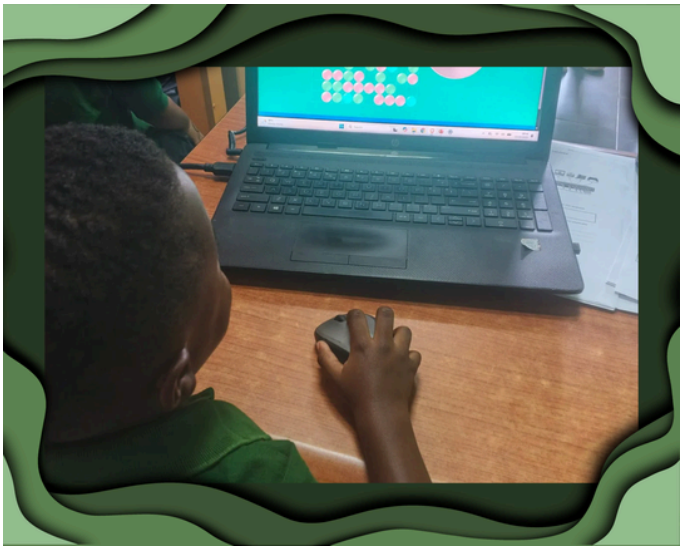
Computing: From First Clicks to Game Design!

Our Computing lessons have taken pupils from mastering basic computer skills to exploring the technology behind the internet. **Year 1** practised using the keyboard, mouse and word processor, while **Year 2** explored digital creativity by drawing with Paint. **Year 3** investigated computer networks and the internet, and **Year 4** explored website content and online ownership.
Year 5 discovered how search engines work and how SEO influences website rankings. **Year 6** stepped into game design with Scratch, experimenting with variables, scores and timers. Meanwhile, **Years 7 and 8** explored the networks and protocols that enable browsers and web servers to communicate.

From creating simple drawings to understanding the technology powering websites, our pupils are building digital skills one discovery at a time!







Year 4: Tracing the route through which data travels on a network, **Year 5:** Comparing timed and sensor pedestrian crossings, **Reception:** Learning mouse control by bursting bubbles on a screen.

FIRST HALF OF TERM IN PICTURES

The first half of term has been buzzing with activity and excitement! From celebrating Nigeria's Independence Day to enjoying a spooktacular Halloween dress-up day, our pupils have had plenty of opportunities to learn, celebrate and have fun together. We also hosted an engaging Phonics Workshop to strengthen the home-school partnership in supporting early reading, while our Mums' Hangout brought mothers together for a fun-filled karaoke session. Our mornings have equally been full of energy, with regular football squad and swimming practice sessions keeping our young athletes active, developing their skills and nurturing teamwork. It has certainly been a lively and memorable start to the school year!



























STARS OF THE WEEK

TODDLERS
Zane Okolo, Fadheel Olawuyi

PLAYGROUP
Ifechukwu Okonkwo, Mowariri Adedeji, Nitanshi Berry Ramani, Nanare Omenai, Thomas Kade, Dawson Oshadare.

NURSERY
Naheel Olawuyi, Maryam Mansour, Grace Andrews, Fareedah Salami, Ashira Obinna , Adesuwa Agbon-ifo

RECEPTION
Ihsane Rahou, Ronnie Slade, Gaurika Gupta, Pray Summer Okpe, Oshiotsenega Daniel-Etokhana

YEAR 1
Talia Fantodji, Adejolaoluwa Alabi, Quinn Smithson, River Amaso, Kamil Salami, Kyra Okafor,

YEAR 2.
Sophietou Sy Kine, Jamil Sulaimon, Malach Soile, Adeoluwa Alabi, Jeddidiah Obinna, Osedebamen Okojie,

HEADTEACHER'S COMMENDATIONS

YEAR 3
Mya Adanna Slade, Jiwoo Choi, Smanga Xulu, Tesia Rae Fantodji, Mayowa Adekoya, Anna Hu, Aisosa Agbon-ifo, Yasmin Sulaiman, Jacye Ikeji, Eiliyah Ojobaro.

YEAR 4
Ademide Disu, Shekinah Kimani, Adunoluwanimi Alabi, Mariah Okeowo, Xolani Wasani, Artharv Sunnil, Joshua Fernandes, Samuel Obuaya, Ogundeji Olukoye, Alexandre Datiashvili, Shekinah Kimani, Vihaan Jha

YEAR 5
Siu Choi, Tara Ayeni, Aleena Obalereko

YEAR 6
Jacob Fernandes, Izhaq Rahou, Rosellah Kimani, Dev Gupta, Husna Khan

YEAR 7 & 8
Insaf Rahou, Nwike Oleah, Elyssah Kimani,

UPCOMING KEY DATES

MICHAELMAS 2026/2027 TERM KEY DATES

- 7th September - School resumption for Michaelmas term
- 8th September - International Literacy Day
- 11th September - Welcome to BIIS Family Coffee Morning (9 am)
- 25th September - Parent Phonics Workshop
- 25th September - Dads' Hang Out
- 29th September - Toddlers' Class Open Morning/Circle time with parents
- 30th September - National Day Celebration (Mufti Day)
- 1st October - Independence Day (public holiday)
- 4th October - BIPORAL Cultural Festival (BIIS Stand)
- 5th October - World Teacher's Day
- 6th October - Year 1 Open Morning @ 8.30am
- 15th October - Playgroup open morning/Circle time with parents
- 16th October - World Food Day
- 22nd October - Nursery open morning/Circle time with parents
- 23rd October - Halloween Celebration (Costume Day)
- 26th – 30th October - Half-Term Break
- 4th November - Year 2 Open Morning
- 5th November - Guy Fawkes Day
- 6th November - Bonfire Night (5:45 pm)
- 6th – 10th November - Diwali
- 10th November - World Science Day
- 10th November - Reception Open Morning
- 16th November - Odd Socks Day
- 16th – 20th November - Anti-bullying week
- 20th November - UN World Children's Day
- 23rd – 27th November - Prep Assessment Week
- 25th November - Inter-house Mathematics Competition
- 27th November - Football Friendly Match
- 27th November - Mathemartist Contest
- 30th November – 1st Dec. - Swimming Gala
- 1st – 4th December - Parent Consultation Week (EYFS & KS 1)
- 7th – 8th December - Parent Consultation (KS 2 & 3 – Years 3 to 8)
- 11th December - Whole School Production/End of term

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