

# WHAT'S NEW AT BANANA ISLAND INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL

ISSUE NO. 1

ISSUE  
TWO



## Welcome to our Newsletter!

Learning truly came alive across the school as pupils engaged in a wide range of hands-on activities designed to deepen understanding and bring lessons to life. From practical investigations and creative projects to collaborative tasks and active learning, children across all classrooms explored, questioned and discovered through doing, reinforcing key skills while building confidence and a love for learning.

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

## SPOTLIGHT ON



Sports Day excitement is in the air! 🎉  
Our pupils are practising, cheering each other on and getting ready to run, jump and have lots of fun. It's going to be a day full of smiles, teamwork and school spirit — we can't wait! 🏃♂️☀️



## UPCOMING DATES

**9<sup>th</sup> Feb** - Year 1 Open Morning.

**10<sup>th</sup> Feb** - Toddlers Circle Time with Parents

*Key term dates on page 8*



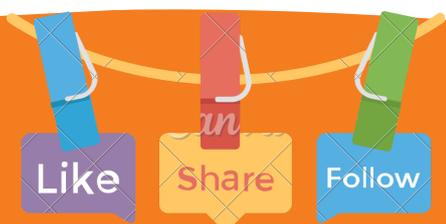
# SCHOOL NEWS

## TO OUR BIGGEST PARTNERS!

We want to extend our heartfelt thanks to our wonderful parents for their continued kindness and support of the school. Your generous contribution towards the new jungle gym has added so much excitement and joy to our playground, creating more opportunities for active play and physical development for our children. We are also truly grateful for the thoughtful provision of new tissue and sanitiser/soap dispensers, as well as additional trash bins, which support hygiene, cleanliness and the overall well-being of our school community. Your partnership and care make a meaningful difference and we sincerely appreciate your ongoing support.



THANK YOU SO MUCH ❤️



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 Banana Island School



## TODDLERS



### Growing Healthy Minds

Building vocabulary; Expressing creativity through art collage work.

Our **Toddlers** enjoyed an exciting learning journey exploring Fruits and Vegetables 🍎🥕. Through hands-on activities, they learnt about different fruits and vegetables, their colours, shapes and where they grow.

They discovered underground vegetables such as carrots, beetroot and turnips, while strengthening their muscles through sticky-tape activities in preparation for their first Sports Day. Fine motor skills were developed using pegs and masking tape. Vocabulary was expanded through naming fruits and vegetables with realistic models.

The children also engaged in a creative exercise with a colourful collage of underground vegetables and a sensory art activity using footprints and handprints. Learning was truly brought to life!



**STAR OF THE WEEK**  
Ifechukwu

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## PLAYGROUP

The **Playgroup** children explored the exciting world of Safari Animals. They shared ideas and worked together to create a lively safari scene in the sand tray using toy animals, trees and vehicles. They enjoyed listening to animal sounds, playing phonics games and singing safari songs filled with roaring, trumpeting and hissing. In Numeracy, they practised counting and positional language using animal models and completed a fingerprint counting activity by adding spots to leopards. Physical Development was supported through washing animal toys and moving like safari animals, while Circle Time encouraged confidence and imagination as the children shared what they would pack for a safari trip. Creative arts activities, including animal crafts, brought the week to a joyful close. Who knew learning could be so much fun!

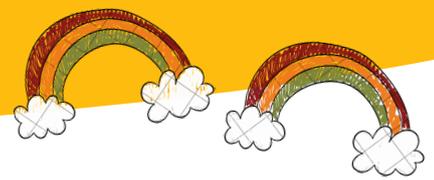


### Little Roaring Learners

Expressing creativity through hands-on activities;  
Strengthening gross motor skills and physical coordination;  
Developing early numeracy skills.



**STARS OF THE WEEK**  
Layla & Tito



## NURSERY

We continued with our theme "Building and Construction." As part of this theme, we explored different materials used in construction and thoroughly enjoyed creating crafts using building materials. The materials included: sticks, sand, cement, gravel and water. We also loved listening to the story *The Three Little Pigs*, where we learnt new vocabulary such as "cement," "brick," "sand," "metal," "wood," "nail," "bolt," "straw" and "sticks."

In Phonics, the Nursery 2 children continued blending sounds to read simple words such as c-o-t, k-i-t, m-a-d and p-a-t. Nursery 1 children focused on learning more phonics sounds, /a/, through songs, actions and fun, engaging activities.

In Numeracy, we continued to develop an understanding of numbers through counting, number formation and recognising quantities.

We had an amazing time rounding off the week with fun-filled swimming sessions! We enjoyed exciting dives and splashes in the pool, building confidence in the water while practising basic swimming and water-safety skills. It was a joyful, refreshing experience that had lots of smiles, laughter and enthusiasm all around!



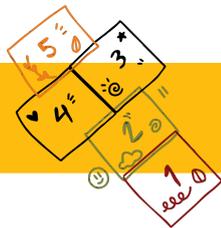
### Little Builders, Big Learning Adventures

Identifying different building materials through hands-on activities; Developing new vocabulary linked to construction; Strengthening early numeracy through counting and recognising quantities.



**STAR OF THE WEEK**  
Elaye & Jadesola.

## RECEPTION



### Numbers, Movement and Dino Discoveries II

Developing prepositions of position through hands-on exercise; Building essential number sense and visualising number relationships.

Learning came alive in **Reception** this week as pupils enjoyed a fun and purposeful week of discovery. In Mathematics, children explored different ways to make numbers 6, 7 and 8, building secure number bonds and finding one more and one less using number lines.

In Literacy, pupils learnt prepositions of position through an exciting dinosaur hunt, confidently using words such as "under," "behind," "next to" and "on top of" to describe where dinosaurs were found. Expressive Arts and Design saw children creating colourful dinosaur crafts using paint dabbing and joining in energetic movement and singing activities. The week ended with a joyful swimming session, where pupils showed growing confidence, resilience and teamwork in the water. A truly roar-tastic time in Reception class!

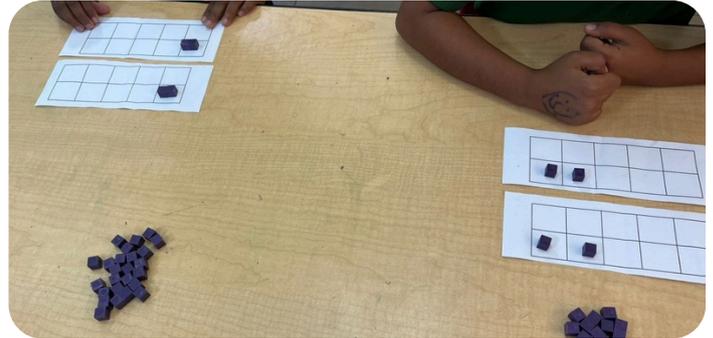
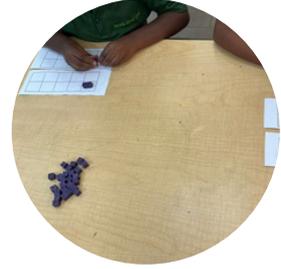


**STARS OF THE WEEK**  
Adejola, Chimamanda, River & Temidire

# IN KS 1...

## YEAR 1

The Year 1 Superstars have been working incredibly hard this term in literacy, the children revised number bonds to 10 and used this knowledge to explore addition, subtraction, doubling and double plus one, using ten frames and Cuisenaire to support their understanding. Literacy lessons were full of excitement as they continued with their focus on writing. The little Red Riding Hood, where they practised making predictions and thinking carefully about what might happen next. In Geography, they learnt about different continents and countries, while in Science, they explored animal classification with a focus on mammals. It has been a fantastic and productive time of learning all round!



### Learning to Grow

Building knowledge of the world; Strengthening understanding of number bonds.



**STARS OF THE WEEK**  
Daniel & Irene

## YEAR 2



### Knowledge Hunters

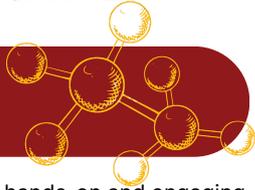
Fostering teamwork and collaboration through creative project.

In **Year 2**, the children made great progress across the curriculum. In Mathematics, they explored the relationship between multiplication and division using fact families and applied this understanding to solve word problems. In Science, they investigated different materials, identified their properties, and explained how these properties make materials suitable for everyday use. Geography lessons focused on drawing simple maps of familiar places, where children identified and labelled human and physical features. During Creative Art, the children worked collaboratively to design and build models of the Titanic and a playground, encouraging teamwork and creativity. In Grammar, they practised forming plural nouns using “-s,” “-es” and “-ies,” while Spelling focused on words with the ‘dge’ sound, using them accurately in sentences. In Religious Education, the children learnt about how people from different religions worship, exploring religious symbols and developing respect for different beliefs. A well-rounded time of learning in Year 2. A pat on the back for our busy bees!

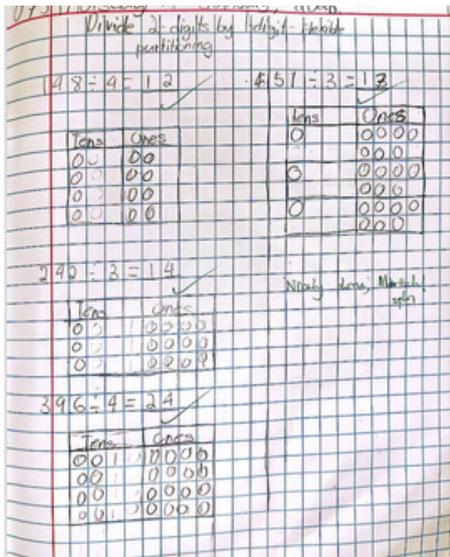


**STARS OF THE WEEK**  
Camila & Smangaliso

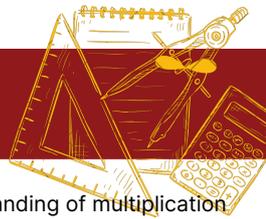
## SCIENCE



Science learning across the school was hands-on and engaging this week. **Year 3** explored gravity, carrying out experiments to understand how mass affects gravitational pull. **Year 4** investigated sound, learning how it travels and what affects volume, with plans to explore pitch using a ukulele. **Year 5** worked in the lab to build electrical circuits, comparing series and parallel circuits and drawing circuit diagrams. **Year 6** continued their study of acids and alkalis, exploring neutralisation reactions and the effects of acid rain on limestone buildings. **Year 8** revised forces through experiments on magnetism and gravity, examining how mass and gravity combine to produce weight. It was an exciting week of practical science that encouraged curiosity and deeper understanding across all year groups. BIIS is truly the hub for the brightest scientists!



## MATHS

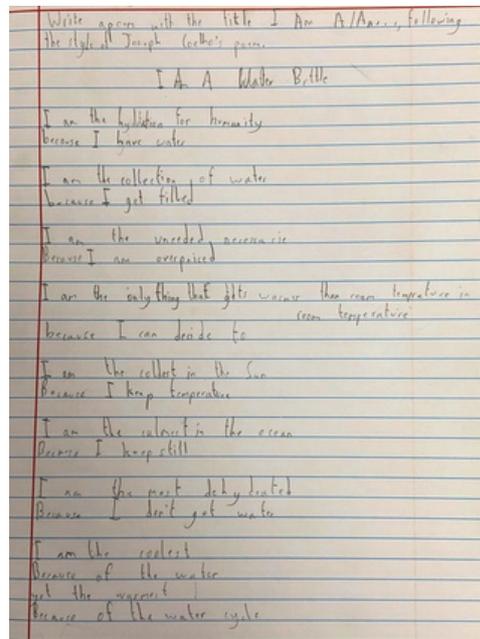


**Year 3** students deepened their understanding of multiplication and division through practical activities and games, exploring arrays, number lines and mental math strategies while recognising the link between the two operations. **Year 4** expanded on this by working with larger numbers, multi-digit multiplication and more complex word problems, using formal written methods and collaborative group work to enhance problem-solving skills. **Year 5** focused on multiplying and dividing decimals and fractions; applying critical thinking to real-world problems; and strengthening number relationships through diverse contexts. **Year 6** explored ratios, learning to simplify and apply them in scenarios like recipes and scaling, supported by projects and teamwork to boost comprehension. **Year 8** concentrated on algebra, mastering brackets, equations and inequalities through interactive lessons that developed logical reasoning and practical applications of algebraic concepts. These maths geniuses are on fire!

## ENGLISH



English lessons across the school have been engaging and purposeful, showing clear progress. **Year 3** pupils confidently completed their unit on dialogue writing, mastering speech marks, punctuation, capital letters and varied reporting verbs through a class assessment. **Year 4** built on this by enhancing dialogue with adverbs, action clauses and expanded noun phrases to add descriptive detail. **Year 5** explored poetry with Joseph Coelho's "I Am A Writer", analysing imagery, repetition, rhythm and tone before creating their own poems, deepening creativity and analysis. **Year 6** focused on revising grammar and writing skills like sentence structure, verb tenses, voice and formal vs. informal language, boosting clarity and confidence. Meanwhile, **Year 8** dived deeper into poetry, examining imagery, structure and the poet's intent through discussion and close analysis, developing strong interpretative responses. Across all years, pupils demonstrated enthusiasm, focus and growing confidence, committed to becoming expressive and thoughtful writers.

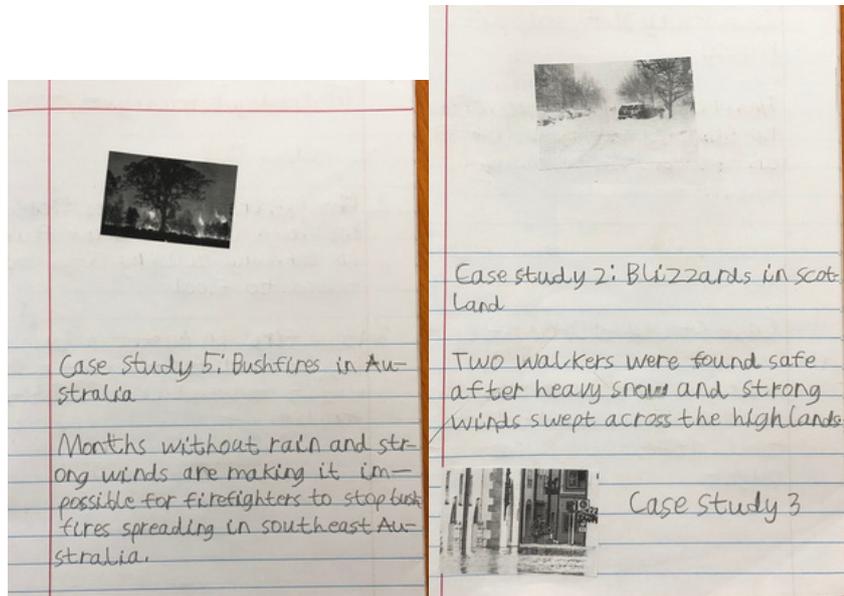


# THIS WEEK IN KS 2&3

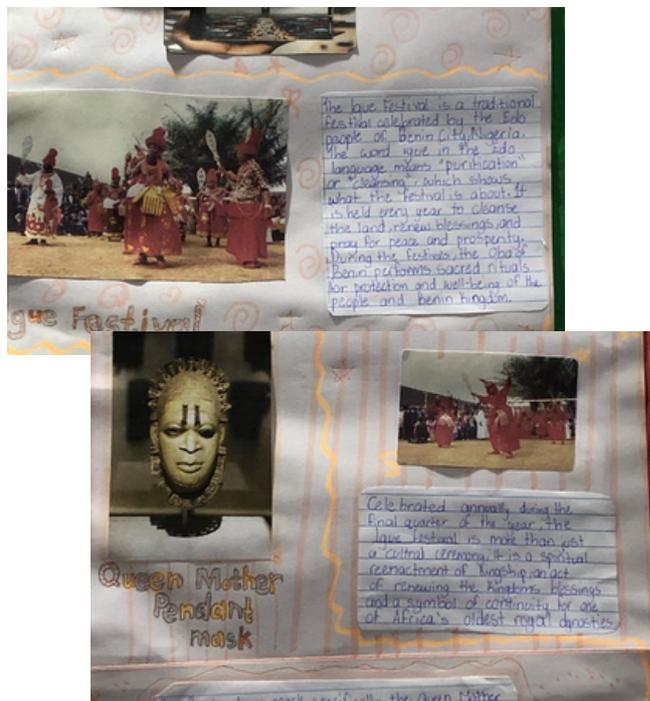
## GEOGRAPHY



The students continued their climate journey as the **Year 3** students were learning to measure rainfall, temperature, wind and understand how weather affects daily life. **Year 4** built on this with a study of extreme weather events like hurricanes and tornadoes, highlighting nature's power and the need for safety. In **Year 5**, pupils examined seasonal weather patterns, global winds and the influence of oceans, connecting daily changes to broader cycles. **Year 6** focused on micro-climates—local variations caused by buildings, vegetation and terrain—explored through hands-on investigations. Finally, **Year 8** applied this knowledge to human geography by studying settlements, their formation and the challenges of urban growth, linking natural forces to how communities develop and change.



## HISTORY



The **Year 3** historians explored Nigeria's story, focusing on the 1914 Amalgamation and 1960 Independence. **Year 4** stepped back to the Stone Age, discovering early humans' tools, fire and the start of settled life. **Year 5** travelled to Ancient Greece, learning about gods, the Olympic Games and the birth of democracy. **Year 6** studied the Benin Kingdom, its trade, art and the impact of the 1897 British Punitive Expedition. **Year 8** examined the Siege of Lucknow during the 1857 Indian Rebellion, exploring colonialism, resistance and its lasting effects. This journey built a broad and deep understanding of history across time and cultures. Hats off to our budding historians!

# 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!

### 9<sup>th</sup> February

Year 1 Open Morning (9 am)

### 10<sup>th</sup> February

Toddler Class Circle Time (9 am)

### 11<sup>th</sup> February

Reception Class Open Morning (8:45 am)

### 13<sup>th</sup> February

BIIS Sports Day

### 16<sup>th</sup> - 20<sup>th</sup> February

Half-term break

### 17<sup>th</sup> February

Chinese New Year

### 17<sup>th</sup> February

Shrove Tuesday (Pancake Day)

### 25<sup>th</sup> February

Parents Workshop: Outdoor Learning at BIIS

### 4<sup>th</sup> March

Holi Festival

### 5<sup>th</sup> March

World Book Day (UK/Ireland)

### 5<sup>th</sup> - 6<sup>th</sup> March

Prep Assessments

### 8<sup>th</sup> March

International Women's Day

### 12<sup>th</sup> March

Nursery Class - Circle Time with Parents

### 16<sup>th</sup> - 18<sup>th</sup> March

Art & Music Week

### 18<sup>th</sup> March

Art & Music Exhibition

### 20<sup>th</sup> March

International French Day

### 27<sup>th</sup> March

Easter Egg Hunt/Hat Parade

### 27<sup>th</sup> March

End of Lent Term

### TODDLERS

**Ifechukwu Okonkwo:** for positive participation in class activities.

### PLAYGROUP

**Layla Edoja:** for active participation during circle time activities.

**Titobiloluwa Fagbohunlu:** for impressive improvement in vocabulary and great recall of previously taught concepts.

### NURSERY

**Jadesole Oyekan:** for consistent improvement in blending phonics sounds.

**Elaye Amaso:** for fantastic improvement in his number and phonics sound recognition.

### RECEPTION

**Chimamanda Ezeonu:** for a commendable attitude to learning and active participation in class tasks.

**Temidire Adebayo:** for improved attitude to learning and staying on tasks.

**Adejolaoluwa Alabi:** for commendable progress in phonics and staying independent during writing tasks.

**River Amaso:** for consistent improvement during phonics sessions

### YEAR 1

**Irene Nobei:** for impressive recall of facts during History lessons.

**Daniel Obuaya:** for consistently demonstrating a positive attitude towards learning and completing tasks in good time

### YEAR 2

**Smangaliso Xulu:** for settling in quickly and showing great mental maths skills.

**Camila Mulya:** for improvement in her creative writing skills.

## HEADTEACHER'S COMMENDATIONS

### YEAR 3

**Samuel Obuaya:** for showing empathy and concern for other members of the class and for having a good grasp of concepts taught in class.

**Joshua Fernandes:** for answering a maths question above his age related expectation in three seconds.

**Ademide Disu:** for consistently demonstrating a positive attitude towards history lessons.

### YEAR 4

**Siu Choi:** for an improvement in her grammar and punctuation skills.

**Abigail Lee:** for active participation in History lessons.

### YEAR 5

**Amir Khan:** for contributing sensibly in Geography lessons.

### YEAR 6

**Sky Okpe:** for active participation during class activities.

**Catherine Malema:** for demonstrating a high sense of responsibility for school property and personal items.