WHAT'S NEW AT BANANA ISLAND INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL

ISSUE ONE



Welcome to our Weekly Newsletter!

Welcome back to a brand-new academic year! It has been such a joy to see our children settle into their new classes with enthusiasm and confidence. From making new friends to embracing daily routines, they have adjusted beautifully and are fully immersed in exicting learning experiences. The school is buzzing with energy, laughter and curiousity, we can't wait to see all the wondrful growth and achievements this year will bring!

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

SPOTLIGHT ON

Our classrooms have been freshly decorated, creating bright and welcoming spaces for learning. The new look adds warmth and exictement, making the environment even more inspiring for our children.

UPCOMING DATES

25th September- BIIS Dads Hangout
25th September- Phonics Workshop

Key term dates on page 9

SCHOOL NEWS

HEY DADS IT'S BACK

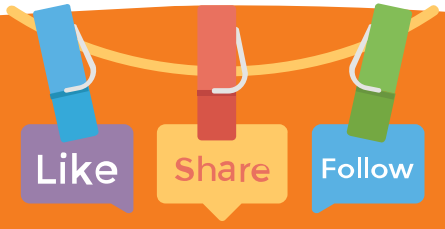


It's that time again!

A Chance to unwind, catch up and enjoy some good laughs outside the school run. Our next Dads Hangout is set and we can't wait to see you there!

📅 Friday, 25th September 2026
⏰ 5:00 p.m.
📍 Banana Island Boat Club

Think good food, great company and a relaxed evening just for the dads. Mark your calendars and come through; you deserve it!



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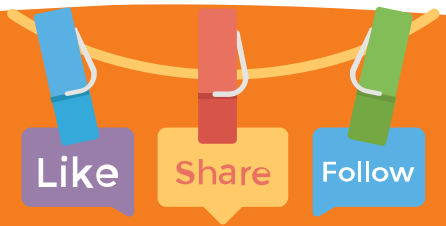
GET INVOLVED!



We're delighted to invite our Early Years & Key Stage 1 parents and guardians to an interactive Phonics Workshop designed to help you understand how phonics supports your child's reading journey — and how you can confidently support learning at home.

🗓️ Friday, 25th September 2026
⏰ 2:15pm – 2:55pm
📍 Year 1 Class

We look forward to seeing you there!



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IN EYES...

TODDLERS



Little Explorers, Big Body Discoveries!

Welcome back, little explorers! This term, our toddlers have been learning all about their bodies while developing their language, numeracy, physical, creative, and social skills.

Our Toddlers enjoyed an exciting journey of discovery as they learnt about their bodies. Through stories, songs, rhymes and flashcards, they developed vocabulary for body parts and facial features.

They practised counting, shape recognition and matching, while activities such as peg manipulation and tape peeling strengthened their fine motor skills.

Creative collages, group play, music and movement also supported their creativity, confidence, coordination and social skills.

PLAYGROUP

Our Playgroup children enjoyed an exciting journey exploring transportation and things that go.

Through stories, songs and role-play, they developed transport-related vocabulary and practised listening and communication skills.

They explored counting, sorting, matching and patterns in Mathematics, while physical activities such as train walks, balancing and obstacle courses strengthened their coordination and movement skills.

Creative activities, including car-wheel paintings and paper trains, encouraged imagination and fine motor development. It was a wonderful week of learning, laughter and exciting adventures!



Little Travellers

Developing transport-related vocabulary; building numeracy skills through counting, sorting and matching; strengthening coordination and fine motor skills; encouraging creativity, listening and cooperation through play and role-play.

STAR OF THE WEEK
Ifechukwu Okonkwo

IN EYFS...

NURSERY

The Nursery children have had a wonderful start to the new term, exploring Fairytales and Animals through stories, play and hands-on activities. In Phonics, they learnt the sounds /m/ and /a/ and enjoyed bringing stories such as The Three Little Pigs and Little Red Riding Hood to life through role-play.

In Numeracy, the children practised counting, number formation and one-to-one correspondence up to 30. They also explored farm animals, their sounds and baby names, while creating their own classroom farm. In Science, they investigated floating and sinking and enjoyed an exciting egg experiment with fresh and salty water.

It has been a joyful start to the term, filled with learning, creativity, discovery and lots of fun!

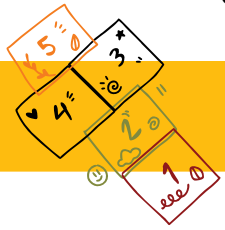


STARS OF THE WEEK
Naheel Olawuyi & Maryam Mansour

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 thinking through imaginative play and simple experiments.

RECEPTION



The Reception children have had a wonderful start to the new term as they explored the theme, "Me and My World." They enjoyed learning about themselves, their families, friends and the world around them.

Through stories such as Do You Like?, It's Okay To Be Different and Goldilocks and the Three Bears, the children explored likes, dislikes, families and what makes each person unique. They practised recognising initial sounds in their names, name writing, counting to 20, sorting and learning about body parts and family life.

The children also developed their fine and gross motor skills through sand writing, cutting, tweezers and obstacle courses, while enjoying creative activities such as self-portraits and handprint art. In PSED, they explored feelings, kindness, sharing, turn-taking and class rules.

It has been a joyful start to Reception, filled with learning, creativity, friendship and discovery!



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.

STAR OF THE WEEK
Ihsane Rahou

IN KS 1...

YEAR 1

What a fantastic start to the new academic year!
Year 1 have settled into their new routines with enthusiasm, curiosity and plenty of smiles whilst showing great resilience as they moved from 7 learning areas to 12 subject areas.
The children have enjoyed a busy week of learning and discovery. In Maths, they revisited counting, number sequences and number words before exploring parts and wholes. In Phonics, they recalled familiar sounds, learnt new ones and strengthened their blending skills, while Literacy introduced nouns through The Magic Porridge Pot. In Science, the children explored living, non-living and once-living things, putting their observation skills to the test around the school. They also began exploring Our Local Area in Geography and Past and Present in History, comparing homes, toys, technology and everyday items.
It has been a bright and brilliant start to Year 1, filled with learning, curiosity and discovery. Well done, Year 1!

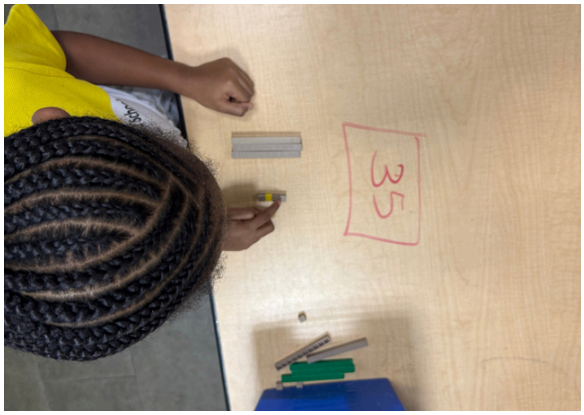
STARS OF THE WEEK
Talia Fantodji & Adejolaoluwa Alabi



Learning, Discovering and Growing

Developing numeracy and phonics skills through counting, number sequences, sound recognition and blending; Exploring living and non-living things through observation and investigation; Developing understanding of local areas, past and present through Geography and History.

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!

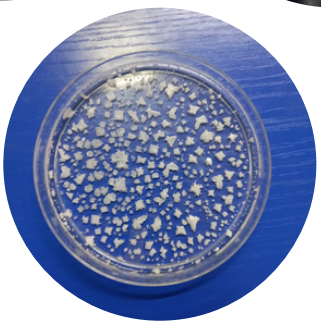
STARS OF THE WEEK
Sophietou Sy Kine & Jamil Sulaimon

IN KS 2&3...

SCIENCE







Year 3 pupils were introduced to Biology as they explored the different parts of a flower and their functions. They also observed flowers in their natural environment, connecting classroom learning with real-life examples. **Year 4** developed their understanding of classification by using classification keys to group plants and animals, with a live snail providing an exciting hands-on learning experience. **Year 5** explored the life cycles of frogs, butterflies and locusts, representing the different stages through detailed diagrams. **Year 6** investigated the circulatory and skeletal systems, learning how oxygen is transported around the body and what happens to the products of digestion after absorption. **Years 7 and 8** explored cells and their structures, learning about the additional structures found in plant cells and how different cell types are adapted to their functions.

MATHS



Year 3 developed their understanding of numbers by counting in tens and ones, writing numbers in standard and expanded forms, and ordering and comparing numbers. Interactive activities and peer teaching encouraged participation and helped build confidence.

Year 4 focused on writing, ordering, comparing and rounding numbers up to 1,000. Through collaborative activities and peer teaching, pupils strengthened their understanding and applied rounding rules confidently.

Year 5 explored numbers up to 100,000, practising how to write, order, compare and round numbers. Interactive learning and peer support helped reinforce key concepts and address misconceptions.

Year 6 worked with numbers up to 10 million, developing their skills in writing, ordering, comparing and rounding. Student-led activities encouraged collaboration and strengthened pupils' confidence in applying these skills.

Years 7 and 8 explored factors and multiples alongside the properties of 2D shapes. Through practical and field-based activities, pupils identified factors and multiples and investigated shape properties, including sides, angles and symmetry, connecting their learning to the world around them

ENGLISH

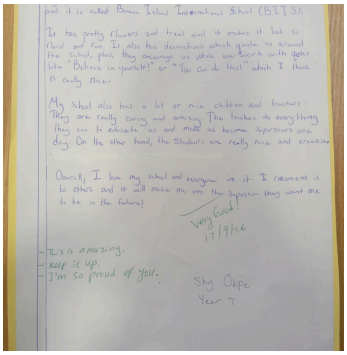
It has been an exciting start to the new school year in English, with learners across **Years 3 to 8** connecting classroom learning to the ongoing **school building project.**

Year 3 explored adventure story writing and confidently presented their creative stories. **Year 4** stepped into the role of young reporters, writing news reports inspired by their observations of the building site. **Years 5 and 6** explored information texts, using the project as a real-life context for factual writing.

Years 7 and 8 explored writers' techniques and descriptive writing, using imagery, similes, metaphors, and personification to bring their ideas to life. They also wrote descriptive essays titled My School, producing some thoughtful and engaging pieces.

It has been wonderful to see our learners' creativity, confidence and enthusiasm shine through their work. We look forward to an exciting year of powerful words, fresh ideas, and continued growth in English!





THIS WEEK IN KS 2&3

HISTORY

Year 3 began exploring Prehistory, investigating how early humans lived, developed tools and adapted to their environment across the Stone, Bronze and Iron Ages. They will also explore early Nigerian communities and the fascinating Nok Culture. **Year 4** stepped into the world of Ancient Greece, learning about Athens and Sparta, Greek society, culture, art and mythology, while considering the influence of ancient Greek ideas today. **Year 5** travelled back to the Roman world, exploring the Roman Empire, Roman Britain and the changes brought by Roman rule, including roads, towns, technology and Hadrian's Wall. **Year 6** began investigating Britain before World War II, using historical sources to explore life and the political, social and economic challenges of the period. **Years 7 and 8** explored Industrialisation and Revolution, examining technological developments, factories, growing cities and the experiences of different groups, alongside an introduction to the causes and consequences of the French Revolution.



ART



Years 7 & 8 students have worked diligently to create detailed pencil drawings, applying a range of shading techniques to enhance their work. They demonstrated great focus and effort, resulting in impressive final pieces that reflect their developing artistic skills.

STARS OF THE WEEK

PLAYGROUP
Ifechukwu Okonkwo: For his prompt conribution and increased vocabulary during circle time activities.

NURSERY
Naheel Olawuyi: Naheel resumed back to school enthusiastic, excited and more ready to learn. He has been helpful with tidying up and interacting with his friends
Maryam Mansour: Maryam resumed school curious, enthusiastic and energetic. She has approached new experiences with excitement and genuine eargeness to explore and learn.

RECEPTION
Ihsane Rahou: Ihsane has made a wonderful start to her time at school. She has settled into the classroom very well and has shown confidence, enthusiasm and a positive attitude towards learning.

YEAR 1
Talia Fantodji: Starting off the term with admirable focus and determination to present work of a high standard, consistently.
Adejolaoluwa Alabi: For a fantastic start. Quick grasp of concepts and active participation and confidence in French class.

YEAR 2.
Sophietou Sy Kine: For showing good listening skills and answering all questions appropraietly.
Jamil Sulaimon: For showing impressive determination to begin to work independently.

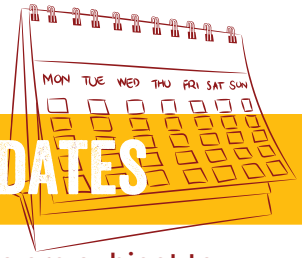
HEADTEACHER'S COMMENDATIONS

YEAR 3
Mya Adanna Slade: For being very engaging during English class. A creativ writer who takes careful notes.
Jiwoo: For showing determination to learn new skills in mathematics.

YEAR 4
Ademide Disu: For starting the term with high focus and ambition in our history lessons.
Shekinah Kimani: For showing remarkable improvement in French and showing keen interest in the subject

YEAR 6
Jacob Frenandes: For starting the term with more dedication and love for mathematics.
Izhaq Rahou: For an energetic start of term and his contributions in our PSHE lessons.

YEAR 7 & 8
Insaf Rahou: For contributing effectively in class. She shares good ideas, participates actively and supports group work.



UPCOMING KEY DATES

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