

# WHAT'S NEW AT BANANA ISLAND INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL

ISSUE NO. 1

**ISSUE  
FOUR**



## Welcome to our Newsletter!

Welcome back, everyone! We hope you had a restful and fun-filled half-term break. The children have returned with bright smiles and bundles of energy, ready to discover new adventures. The past weeks have been bursting with creativity and excitement — from our colourful Halloween celebrations to Bonfire Night crafts and explorations of global festivals like Diwali. It's been wonderful seeing our pupils share laughter, curiosity and kindness as they learn together. This half term, we look forward to even more moments of discovery, growth and joy across all our classes!

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

## SPOTLIGHT ON



Our school was bursting with colour this Halloween as children arrived in the most spooktacular costumes! From friendly witches and brave superheroes to glowing pumpkins and mischievous ghosts, every outfit showed imagination and flair.

**See more on our gallery page.**



## UPCOMING DATES

**17<sup>th</sup> - 19<sup>th</sup> Nov** - BSO Inspection

**17<sup>th</sup> Nov** - Year 2 Open Morning

*Key term dates on page 9*

## BSO INSPECTION

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Please be informed that Banana Island International School will be undergoing its British Schools Overseas (BSO) inspection on the **17th, 18th** and **19th** of November 2025. This important process reflects our ongoing commitment to upholding the highest standards of British-style education here in Nigeria.

The BSO inspection, conducted by the UK Department for Education's approved inspectorate, evaluates schools against a comprehensive set of standards — including teaching and learning quality, leadership, student welfare and overall school ethos.

A positive outcome will not only reaffirm our standing as a leading international school but also ensure our learners continue to thrive in an environment that meets world-class standards.

We thank you for your continued support and partnership as we prepare for this milestone event.

## SECRET SANTA

Dear Parents and Guardians,

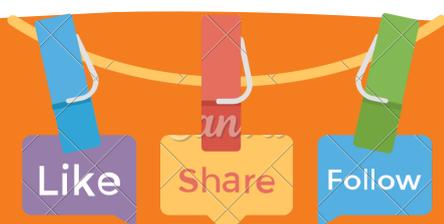
We are delighted to announce that our annual Christmas "Secret Santa" gift exchange will take place during the final week of term. Each child will be paired with a class or key-stage peer and will be responsible for purchasing a gift for their assigned buddy.

### **Key details**

- Spending range: N10,000 – N20,000 per gift
- Involvement: Encourage your child to help choose a gift that matches their classmate's interests and preferences
- Wrapping & labelling: Wrap the present and clearly mark it with the recipient's name
- Delivery: Drop the wrapped gift off at school on **Wednesday, 10 December 2025**

The name of each child's Secret Santa recipient will be shared with you in due course. We look forward to a festive and fun-filled gift exchange that will bring extra joy to the holiday season.

Thank you for your support and happy gifting!



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

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 Banana Island School



## TODDLERS



It's the start of another exciting half-term in **Toddlers**. Our new learning journey on Fairy Tales began with The Three Little Pigs and a fun Halloween celebration! In Understanding the World, children explored different building materials used by the pigs and compared them to real materials like bricks and wood during a nature walk. They even used palm leaves to make a roof in the sand area! Through Art, Craft and Role-play, the little ones created pig masks, built a small shed and acted out scenes from the story — imagining themselves as the pig who built a house of straw. Halloween added extra excitement as they dressed up in costumes and scooped out pumpkin seeds to make a glowing Jack-o'-lantern. In Numeracy, the children built towers with wooden blocks while singing number rhymes, strengthening both coordination and counting skills. In Literacy, the focus was on the memorable line, *"I'll huff, I'll puff and I'll blow your house down!"* and tested which materials could withstand the "wolf's" mighty breath. What a fun way of learning through this timeless fairy tale!

### Huff, Puff and Build Strong

Identifying and comparing building materials;  
Developing gross, fine motor and counting skills.



## PLAYGROUP

The **Playgroup** class has been joyfully exploring the theme of celebration, and a major highlight was our Halloween festivities! The children arrived in their spooky costumes, ready for a day filled with fun and laughter.

During circle time, we sang "Pumpkin Patch" and learnt about autumn, pumpkins and the excitement of carving them. The class also enjoyed a lively trick-or-treat game that brought lots of giggles!

For physical development, pupils rolled pumpkins to one another and scooped out pumpkin seeds during construction time — a wonderful exercise in coordination and teamwork. In numeracy, they counted seeds and traced numbers while adding a playful twist by clapping softly like raindrops. Through PSED, the children explored emotions, learning that there are no real monsters and talked about how to be brave. They also practised identifying their belongings and engaged in role-play, acting out fun family activities.

To wrap up, our little artists created colourful pumpkin crafts and decorated treat bags, showing off their creativity and excitement. It's been a fun-filled time of learning and confidence-building! Such budding stars in the Playgroup class!



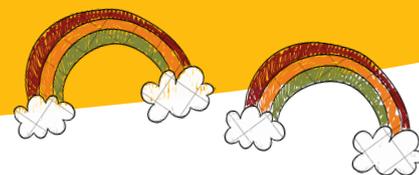
### Celebrating...One Pumpkin At A Time!

Developing counting and fine motor skills through hands-on pumpkin activities; Strengthen imagination and communication through role-play.



**STAR OF THE WEEK**  
Isabella





## NURSERY

Welcome to the second half term! Our **Nursery** children have kicked off their new theme, "Places in My Community," with lots of excitement and curiosity. They began with a story time featuring "Post Office Rush" and a delightful pretend visit to the Post Office with Omo Berry. The children learnt new vocabulary such as "mail carrier," "mailbox," "postcard" and "official stamp." They had fun writing pretend letters to their favourite people about the wonderful Halloween celebration before posting them in our classroom "Post Office." In Science, they conducted an engaging experiment to discover how to pick up ice using a string — a hands-on activity that encouraged observation and critical thinking. During Phonics, the focus was on the /n/ sound — n n n net, necklace, nap — with lots of listening, sound identification and letter formation practice. Mathematics lessons were filled with activities to strengthen number recognition, counting skills, and understanding of quantities. To end the week on a festive note, the children dressed up in spooky Halloween costumes, crafted their own pumpkin bags and enjoyed a lively trick-or-treat session. It was truly a pumpkintastic start to the half term — full of discovery and learning! 🎃



### Delivering smiles, sounds and spooky fun

Building early literacy and phonics awareness through sound recognition and writing practise; Developing number sense through counting and quantity activities; Encouraging curiosity and problem-solving through hands-on science exploration.



**STAR OF THE WEEK**  
Ronnie

## RECEPTION



### Celebrating families, fun, and fantastic learning every day

Strengthening shape recognition and creative use of 2D & 3D forms; Enhancing confidence through public speaking and presentation; Encouraging physical activity and fine motor development.

The **Reception** class returned from the half-term break full of energy, kicking off with their first Open Morning of the academic year. They confidently showcased all they had learnt through narrations and demonstrations, impressing everyone with their recall and enthusiasm. In Maths, the children explored circles and triangles, identifying them in their surroundings, drawing, labelling and using the shapes to create colourful 2D designs. In Literacy, the theme "All About Me" continued with a focus on Families, inspired by The Great Big Book of Families. The children discovered that families come in all shapes and sizes, united by love and care. They expressed this beautifully through drawings and art pieces of their own families. In Understanding the World, they celebrated Halloween and Bonfire Night with themed crafts and lively discussions. Daily phonics and handwriting sessions continue to strengthen their literacy foundation, while PE and swimming kept spirits high and bodies active. It's been a bright and joyful start to the half term — well done, Reception!



**STARS OF THE WEEK**  
Amira, Eghosa, Haris & Quinn

# IN KS 1...

## YEAR 1

The past two weeks in **Year 1** have been a wonderful blend of learning and celebration! Our young learners explored the festival of Diwali, crafting beautiful diyas and discovering its meaning. They also enjoyed the spooky excitement of Halloween, using their maths skills to colour cheerful pumpkins by following a times-table colour code — learning made festive and fun! In Literacy, pupils strengthened their grammar and comprehension by identifying five verbs and five nouns from their favourite storybooks. Geography took a playful twist as they learnt the cardinal directions — North, South, East and West — and used them in a lively treasure-hunt challenge around the classroom. They rounded up on a musical note, as the children began rehearsing Christmas songs with plenty of joy and festive cheer. 🎵🌟



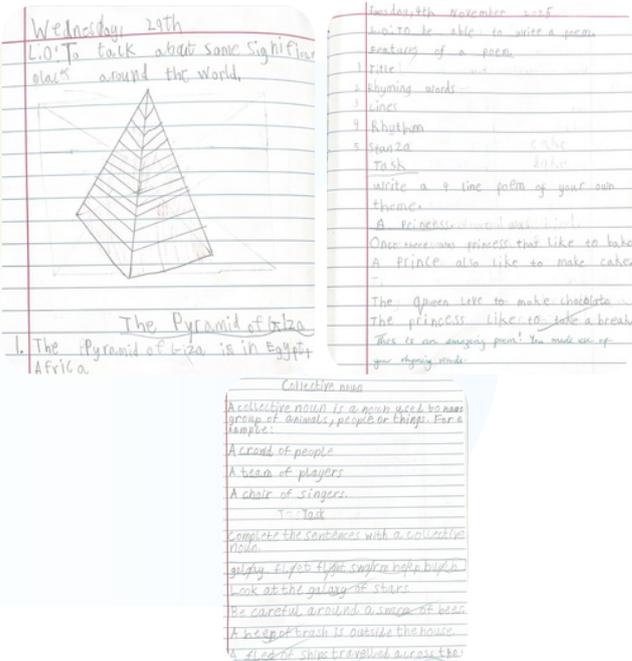
### Happy Hearts, Bright Minds II

Developing cultural awareness through festivals and traditions; Applying mathematical skills through themed activities; Understanding directional language in practical and interactive ways.



**STARS OF THE WEEK**  
Michael & Naia

## YEAR 2



The busy bees are back in! In Maths, we practised adding and subtracting 2-digit numbers, finding missing parts in models and solving sums with three 1-digit numbers — strengthening our problem-solving and number-sense skills. In Literacy, the children explored the features of poems, reading and writing their own imaginative verses filled with rhythm and feeling. Grammar lessons focused on using punctuation correctly and learning about collective nouns like a flock of birds or a bunch of grapes. For Spelling, we tackled the /n/ sound spelt with 'kn' and 'gn' in words like knife and gnaw. In History, we travelled to ancient Egypt to explore the fascinating Pyramid of Giza, while in Science, we studied the food chain and how energy flows between living things. It's been all full on learning and development at the hive!

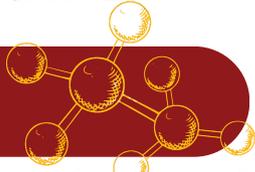
### Out To Discover

Strengthening number operations and logical reasoning; Exploring rhythm, expression and creativity through poetry; Understanding correct punctuation and grammar in writing.



**STARS OF THE WEEK**  
Aisosa & Yasmin

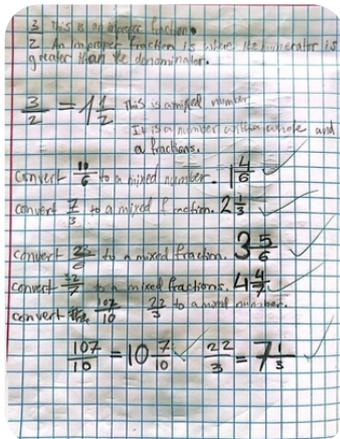
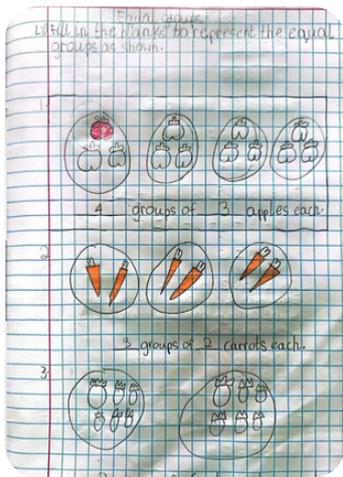
## SCIENCE



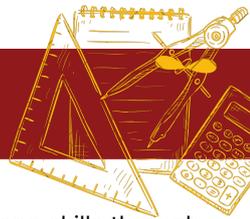
It's been a week of exciting discoveries in Science! **Year 3** explored infiltration rates by testing which soil types let water soak through fastest, repeating their experiment to ensure a fair test. In **Year 4**, pupils investigated the states of matter, timing how quickly different-sized ice cubes melted — learning that smaller ones melt faster!

**Year 5** became young chemists as they separated a mixture of salt, clay, and water through filtering and evaporation, proudly revealing sparkling salt crystals. **Year 6** explored elements and compounds, learning how atoms form molecules and taking their first steps into the world of the Periodic Table.

Meanwhile, **Years 7 and 8** revisited Solutions and Suspensions, preparing for practical experiments to separate mixtures in the lab. It has been truly hands-on for our young scientists! 🧪🌍

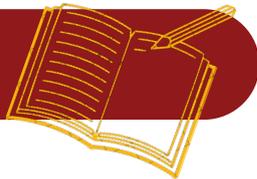


## MATHS

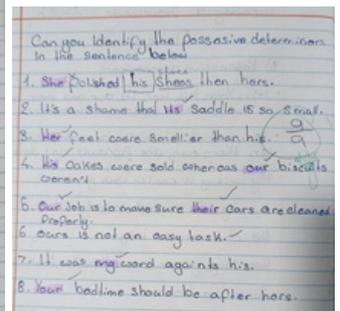
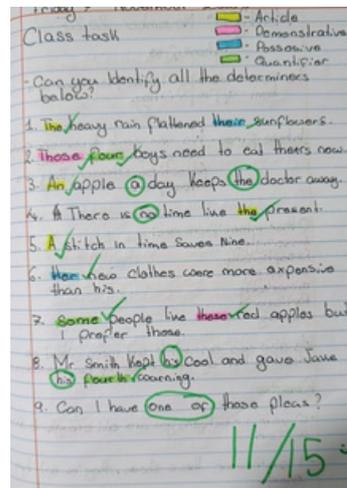


In Maths, our pupils have been building strong skills through fun and challenging lessons. **Year 3** mastered addition and subtraction, confidently solving problems with 2- and 3-digit numbers. **Year 4** became "Area Adventurers," learning to measure, create and compare 2D shapes. **Year 5** explored multiples, factors and special numbers like primes and squares while practising quick calculations with 10s, 100s and 1,000s. **Year 6** tackled fractions as they simplified, compared and calculated them with growing confidence. **Year 7** strengthened number fluency through rounding, comparing and ordering integers and decimals, while **Year 8** tackled complex fractions and algebra challenges — mastering the magic of reciprocals along the way. These maths geniuses are taking over the world, one number at a time!

## ENGLISH



It's been an exciting fortnight in English as pupils across all year groups strengthened their writing and language skills. **Year 3** explored prepositions and conjunctions, using words like "under," "between" 'and' and 'because' to build clearer, more interesting sentences. **Year 4** learnt how adverbials and verb tenses bring stories to life, confidently using time phrases such as "Before sunrise" and ensuring their writing stayed in the right tense. **Year 5** discovered adverbs of possibility like "probably" and "surely" while improving reading comprehension through discussion and inference. **Year 6** focused on vocabulary and perfect verb forms, polishing their grammar and comprehension skills in preparation for SATs. In **Years 7 and 8**, pupils worked on varying sentence starters and using determiners for precision, producing more engaging and well-structured writing.

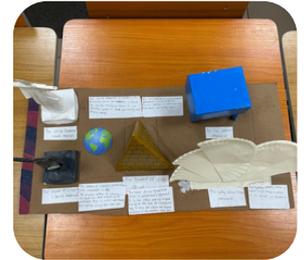
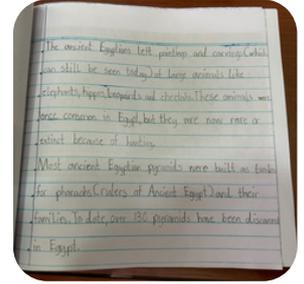


# THIS WEEK IN KS 2&3

## GEOGRAPHY



What a thrilling adventure around the world it has been! Our **Year 3** explorers packed their maps and magnifying glasses to journey through Ancient Egypt, discovering its bustling cities and sparkling seas. They have wandered through famous landmarks and uncovered the wonders of its unparalleled architecture. Meanwhile, **Year 4** climbed to new heights as Mountain Adventurers, scaling the mighty Himalayas and the rugged Rockies to learn how these giants were formed and why they're called the 'water towers' of the world. Not far behind, **Years 5** and **6** became true Global Experts, deeper into how landscapes shape lives. They compared deserts and rainforests, megacities and mountains, seeing how geography connects people, economies and the environment. Finally, our **Years 7** and **8** geographers headed to the coast, where the waves meet the land, to study how humans and nature clash and coexist. From peaks to ports, our young geographers have truly conquered the world!



## HISTORY



What an incredible journey through time it's been! Our **Year 3** explorers set sail for Ancient Greece, where they met powerful gods on Mount Olympus, witnessed the first Olympic Games and discovered the rival worlds of Athens and Sparta. From there, **Year 4** marched alongside the Romans, building straight roads, conquering lands and cheering at the Colosseum as the mighty empire rose and ruled. The adventure continued as **Year 5** stepped into the grand Tudor court, meeting the brilliant Queen Elizabeth I and witnessing the drama of her 'Golden Age' filled with voyages, theatre and triumph. Then came **Year 6**, transported to the tense days of World War II, where they stood strong on the Home Front, learning about courage, rationing and hope in the face of adversity. Finally, our **Years 7** and **8** historians journeyed back to Medieval times, uncovering the Feudal System—a world of kings, knights and peasants bound by loyalty and land. Wow! Our students have truly travelled the ages!



This term in

# HALLOWEEN GALLERY



# STARS OF THE WEEK



## PLAYGROUP

**Isabella Emavwoyan:** for showing creative ability and independence in carrying out class activities.



## NURSERY

**Ronnie Slade:** for showing remarkable confidence in his and great recall of class lessons.



## RECEPTION

**Amira Afkir:** for commendable effort in her communication and language, enabling her to express herself in English.

**Eghosa Dairo:** for improvement in communication, following instructions and showing overall independence in completing tasks.

**Quinn Smithson:** for noticeable improvement in his pencil grip and letter formation.

**Haris Obalereko:** for working on tasks independently and determination to meet set targets.



## YEAR 1

**Michael Ogundeyi** for great improvement in his comprehension skills.

**Naia Ojobaro:** for great improvement in her spelling skills and overall improvement in her learning.



## YEAR 2

**Yasmin Sulaiman:** for putting in extra effort in completing homework.

**Aisosa Agbon-Ifo:** for demonstrating exceptional skills in written and oral phonics.

# HEADTEACHER'S COMMENDATIONS

## YEAR 3

**Olukoye Ogundeyi:** for exceptional performance and in-depth knowledge of the History of ancient Egyptians.

**Mariah Okeowo:** for remarkable effort and achievements, both in written and oral French.

**Ademide Disu:** for showing enthusiasm to learn in Geography lessons.

## YEAR 4

**Abigail Lee:** for scoring 95% in a Science assessment on Ecology and 100% in a Maths assessment on Measurement.

**Siu Choi:** for showing remarkable understanding during Geography lessons and for scoring 100% in a Maths assessment on Measurement.

**Macario Nobei:** for excellent progress in oral French skills.

## YEAR 6

**Catherine Malema:** for her tremendous improvement in her written and oral skills in French.

**Kevin Mulya:** for active participation and willingness to always learn in Maths classes.

## YEAR 7

**Nmesoma Okonkwo:** for improvement in her work and class participation.

**Emeka Okonkwo:** for producing an insightful and impressive piece of work on his English Language project.

## YEAR 8

**Abayomi Oshinowo:** for outstanding effort in listening and written skills in French.

**Faramade Oshinowo:** for consistently maintaining a positive outlook in all her lessons

**Maya Ndiaye:** for an outstanding presentation during class activity and exhibiting a depth of understanding.

# UPCOMING KEY DATES

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

## 10 - 14<sup>th</sup> November

Anti Bullying week

## 17 - 19<sup>th</sup> November

BSO Inspection

## 17<sup>th</sup> November

Year 2 Open Morning

## 24 - 28<sup>th</sup> November

Prep Assessment Week

## 29<sup>th</sup> November

UN World's Children Day

## 1<sup>st</sup> - 4<sup>th</sup> December

Parent Consultation Week

## 12<sup>th</sup> December

Whole School Production/End of Term.