



BANANA ISLAND SCHOOL

FEB 7TH

ISSUE 4



WELCOME TO OUR Weekly Newsletter

This week was packed with hands-on learning, exciting activities and a whole lot of festive cheer! From creative classroom projects to engaging experiments, students enjoyed interactive lessons that made learning come alive. Meanwhile, the school is buzzing with excitement as we gear up for Sports Day 2025. The athletes are stretching and prepping in anticipation and so are we as we look forward to a fun and eventful sports day.

In this newsletter you will find:



Class activities & photos for the week, SOTW, after school updates, reminders and many more. Keep reading!

THIS WEEK IN EYFS..

TODDLERS

This week, our little learners brought nursery rhymes to life while exploring household items and numbers—imagine the joy of "Hickory Dickory Dock" echoing through our maths lessons! Creativity flourished as they built houses from shape collages, carefully placing squares, triangles and circles in just the right spots. The excitement of Chinese New Year filled the air as they listened to the legendary tale behind the zodiac animals and crafted beautiful hand-fans with vibrant paint colours. Their fine motor skills got a boost with fun challenges like using chopsticks to scoop "noodles" (yarn) and pouring "tea" with precision. From teapots to teacups, their colourful heart-filled art pieces were a true celebration of creativity. Another fantastic week of learning, laughter and discovery! 🎉🏠🍵



"All round development"

Enhancing fine motor skills; Building vocabulary; Encouraging creativity through shape collages.



Fiyin

PLAYGROUP

This week in **Playgroup** was all about feet, fun and fantastic learning! Our little ones giggled through The Elves and the Shoemaker, took off their shoes and even practised tying shoelaces—No mean feat that! From making shoe collages to learning about different shoe sizes, they tapped, stomped and explored the sounds their shoes make. Maths got an exciting twist outdoors, with number and shape -hopping games, sock sorting and pattern matching. Kindness was a key lesson as we practised using "magic words" and learned why it's important to respect others. The highlight? A vibrant Chinese New Year celebration! Dressed in colourful outfits, the children explored red lanterns and soaked in the beauty of a different culture. Another joyful week of discovery—we can't wait for the next adventure! 🎉🏠🍵



"Learning through play"

Understanding cultural festivals; Identifying shapes by hopping; Improving fine motor through shoelace tying activity.



Ronnie

This week, our **Nursery** children made a big splash as they explored the wonders of the deep blue sea! 🌊 They discovered fun facts about sea creatures—did you know squids have 10 legs while octopuses have only 8? Singing along to *"The Sailor Went to Sea"* made learning even more exciting! In Personal, Social and Emotional Development (PSED), *The Rainbow Fish* taught us all about sharing and asking for help when needed—just like the wise octopus in the story. Outdoor exploration brought even more excitement as the children watched live turtles swimming and marvelled at how they tucked their heads into their shells. What a magical experience! 🐢🌟 In Numeracy, we continued recognising and forming numbers, using fun objects to quantify and exploring shapes. Phonics lessons had us blending letter sounds into simple words, while little hands practised neat colouring and perfect pencil grip. Another week of learning and discovery—well done, Nursery!



"Dive into the deep blue"

Developing vocabulary; Improving phonics skills and grammar; Exploring sea animals.



Ayman

RECEPTION

This week, our **Reception** pupils were full of energy as they explored new concepts through hands-on learning! In Maths, they practised using a number line to understand 'more' and 'less', had fun with outdoor play to grasp number progression and cracked the mystery of odd and even numbers—learning that odd numbers always have one left out, while even numbers pair up perfectly! In Literacy, they continued writing short sentences with their phonics knowledge, focusing on neat handwriting and leaving finger spaces between words. The excitement didn't stop there! To celebrate Chinese New Year, the children dressed in red and gold, wrote special wishes for the wish tree and discovered fascinating facts about this vibrant tradition in preparation for their Friday assembly presentation. 🎉🌟 Well done Reception class, for another fun-filled and productive week of learning! 🌟👏



'Busy Bees'

Understanding number progression with number line; Grasping maths concepts; Celebrating festivals; Improving writing skills.



Michael

THIS WEEK IN KEYSTAGE 1..

YEAR 1

This week in **Year 1**, our young learners took a big step forward in reading comprehension, tackling questions independently and deepening their understanding of texts. Their growing confidence is inspiring to see! They embarked on a vibrant journey into Chinese New Year celebrations! After watching an engaging clip on the significance of this festival, the children embraced the festive spirit by dressing in stunning shades of red and gold. To make the celebration even more exciting, they got hands-on and crafted their very own rattle drums. In preparation for Safer Internet Day, our little digital citizens participated in an exciting quiz, testing their knowledge of staying safe online. Their enthusiasm and awareness were truly commendable! To top it all off, creativity was in full swing as the children explored finger painting, letting their imaginations run wild with vibrant colours and artistic expression. The classroom was buzzing with excitement, happy smiles and a whole lot of fun! Well done, Year 1! 🌟



"World of Discovery II"

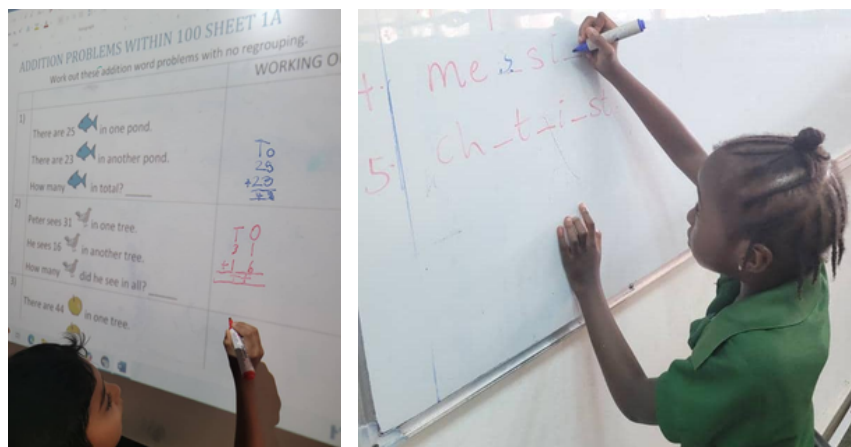
Improve reading and comprehension skills; Celebrating cultural traditions through art craft; Developing a sense for internet safety.



Oluwafisayomi

YEAR 2

This week in Mathematics, our pupils sharpened their problem-solving skills by learning to apply addition, multiplication and division to real-life word problems. Their growing confidence in choosing the right mathematical operations was fantastic to see! In Literacy, they explored the beauty of poetry! They learnt to identify and write poems with lines, stanzas and rhyming words. Their spelling skills also levelled up as they mastered words ending in "-ier" and "-iest." Our History lessons took us on an inspiring journey into the life and achievements of Mary Seacole -her determination, bravery and unique methods of caring for people- drawing valuable lessons from her incredible story. Art class was especially exciting as we celebrated Chinese New Year with creative crafts! The children made beautiful paper lamps and snakes, adding a splash of colour and tradition to our learning space. In Science, we explored reversible and irreversible changes in materials with hands-on experiments and sorted them into the two categories—making for a fascinating and interactive learning experience! Well done, everyone!



"Getting busy"

Strengthening understanding of maths concepts; Improving grammar and vocabulary.



Joshua

SCIENCE

This week, **Year 3** explored magnetic forces, hunting for magnetic items indoors and outdoors. **Year 4** wrapped up their human digestion topic, preparing for their assessment. In **Year 5**, students tested electrical conductivity, experimenting with circuits to identify conductors and insulators. **Year 7** investigated seed germination, setting up an experiment to observe the conditions needed for growth. Meanwhile, **Year 8** learnt to measure voltage and current (amps) in circuits, deepening their understanding of electricity. A hands-on and exciting week of science all around! ⚡🌱



MATHS

This week, our young mathematicians have been sharpening their skills as they explore measurement, perimeter and division across different year groups. Each level builds on the last, deepening their understanding and problem-solving abilities.

Year 3 focused on measuring and calculating lengths, learning how to use centimeters and meters confidently. They practised converting between these units and applied their knowledge by adding and subtracting lengths in real-world scenarios. This foundational work prepares them for more complex measurements in the years ahead. Building on these skills, **Year 4** took their understanding a step further by exploring perimeter. They mastered calculating the perimeter of rectilinear shapes such as squares and rectangles, before tackling trickier problems involving missing side lengths. As they progressed, they discovered how to find the perimeter of regular polygons, strengthening their grasp of shape properties and spatial awareness. Taking mathematical reasoning even further, **Year 5** honed their division skills. They explored division with remainders, understanding how to interpret and apply them in different situations. They also experimented with efficient division strategies, including chunking and short division, to find quicker and more effective solutions. To round off the week, they put their knowledge to the test by solving complex word problems, enhancing their confidence and problem-solving abilities. It's been an exciting and enriching week across all year groups, with each stage building towards greater mathematical fluency. Well done to all our students for their hard work and enthusiasm—keep up the great effort! ✨ $\frac{1}{3} \times \frac{2}{4}$

Let's test your problem solving skills ...

A library has 3,489 non-fiction books, 8,617 fiction books and 1,240 reference books.

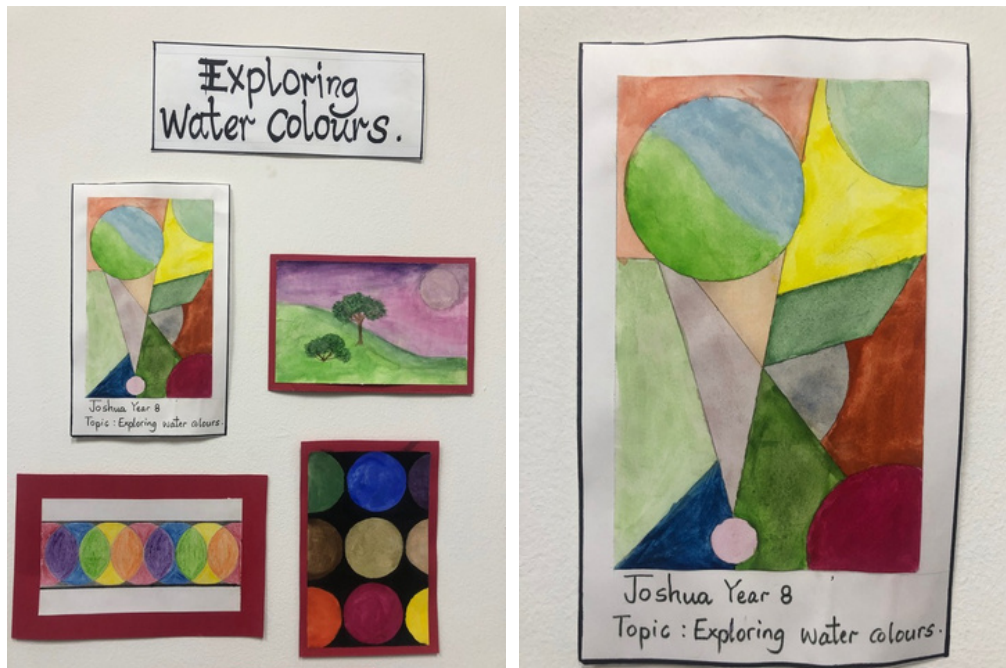
1. All books, except the reference books, are available for loan. How many books are available for loan?
2. Reference books are for use in the library. There are 16 bookshelves for the reference books. After use, they need to be returned to a special collection box for shelving. If 128 reference books are in use and 84 reference books are in the collection box, how many reference books are on the shelf?
3. Each patron pays an annual fee of \$36 to the library. If the library collects \$20,304 from the annual fee, how many patrons are there?
4. Each patron can borrow up to 6 books. If all the patrons are currently holding on to 6 books each, how many books are left in the library?
5. Each patron can borrow the books for 2 weeks and renew the loan twice. What is the maximum number of days can a patron keep the books he borrowed from the library?



SALUT! This week, **Year 3** explored household furniture, naming items in each room and forming sentences to describe their locations. **Year 4** focused on conjugating "avoir", understanding its different uses and practising through roleplay. In **Year 5**, students learnt about seasons and weather, asking and answering questions about their preferences. **Year 7** tackled ER verb conjugation, mastering present tense endings for different pronouns. **Year 8** honed their listening skills in preparation for DELF A2. A fantastic week of French learning! 🇫🇷🌟

ART/MUSIC

Year 8 art lessons saw students explore water colours and complete their water colour landscape pictures. We are now discussing how patterns can be used in art and where they can be commonly found around us.



STARS OF THE WEEK

TODDLERS

Fiyin Filani: for participating actively during class activities with great enthusiasm.

PLAYGROUP

Ronnie Slade: for showing great effort in group activities.

NURSERY

Ayman Obanikoro: for wonderful progress in his number and letter formation.

RECEPTION

Michael Ogundeyi: for consistently presenting high-quality work and for a secure grasp of even and odd numbers.

YEAR 1

Oluwafisayomi Peters: for remarkable improvement in reading and her consistent achievement of a perfect 10/10 in all her spelling tests.

YEAR 2

Joshua Fernandes: for critical thinking skills and scoring 100% in his maths test.

Head Teacher's Commendations

YEAR 3

Macario Nobei: for scoring 87% in maths assessment.

YEAR 4

TaydanAlex-Eyitene: for composing insightful stories with engaging and effective writing techniques.

YEAR 8

Joshua Powell: for his hardwork on an Art ICT project.

SCHOOL NEWS

MEMORABLE MUM'S HANGOUT

What an unforgettable evening! The BIIS Mums' Hangout was nothing short of spectacular, filled with laughter, connection and pure joy. From the moment we set sail on the breathtaking boat cruise, the night became a perfect blend of relaxation and excitement. The cool breeze, stunning views and wonderful company made for an experience that will be cherished for a long time. Beyond the cruise, every moment was a celebration—great conversations, shared laughter and the simple joy of unwinding together. It was a night that reminded us all of the power of community and the importance of taking time to enjoy the journey of motherhood with like-minded friends.

And now, we can't wait for the next one! If this was anything to go by, the next BIIS Mums' Hangout promises to be even more special. Stay tuned for details—you won't want to miss it!

Until then, here's to the memories we made and the friendships we continue to build. Cheers to the BIIS mums! 💙🍷🌟



SPORTS DAY 2025: THE COUNTDOWN BEGINS! 🏆

Get ready, everyone. It's almost time to lace up those sneakers and bring the energy because Sports Day 2025 is just around the corner. **Friday, 14th February** is the date!

This year promises to be bigger, bolder and more action-packed than ever. With thrilling races, team challenges and plenty of surprises in store. We are gearing up for a day full of fun, sportsmanship and unforgettable memories.

Who will take home the ultimate bragging rights? Which house will reign supreme? The excitement is building and we can't wait to see the spirit, teamwork and determination on full display.

UPCOMING EVENTS

14th February - Valentine's Day


14th February - BIIS Sports Day

17th - 21st February - Half term break


PLEASE SEE PAGE 10 FOR KEY DATES

REMINDER

- Follow us on social media to get up to date content about the school. Also get some fresh pictures/videos of class activities as they happen! What are you waiting for? find us

 @bananaislandsch

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 Banana Island School

READ MORE AT

www.bananaislandschool.com

COUNTDOWN

BIIS

SPORTS DAY



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DAYS

BANANA ISLAND SCHOOL

LENT 2024/25 TERM KEY DATES



6th January	-	School resumption for Michaelmas
20th January	-	Martin Luther King Day
24th January	-	Dads' Hangout
29th January	-	Chinese New Year
31st January	-	Parent Workshop (Academic Rigour - Core Subjects)
31st January	-	Mums' Hangout
13th February	-	Celebration Assembly @ 8:30am by invitation
14th February	-	Valentine's Day
14th February	-	Sports Day
17th - 21st February	-	Half-term break
27th February	-	Nursery Circle Time with Parents
28th February	-	Father's Hangout 2
4th March	-	Shrove Tuesday – pancakes cooked in school (volunteers required)
5th March	-	Ash Wednesday (No requirements)
6th March	-	World Book Day – dress up theme 'Book an Adventure'
7th March	-	Celebration Assembly @ 8:30am by invitation
7th March	-	Mother's Hangout 2
8th March	-	International Women's Day (No requirements)
8th March	-	Open Day (9.00 – 11.00) – Year 3 – 8 . Some students are required in school.
13th March	-	Toddlers Circle Time with Parents
14th March	-	Holi Festival (Artwork in class)
17th March	-	St. Patrick's Day (No requirements)
17th-21st March	-	Assessment Week
21st March	-	Celebration Assembly @ 8:30am by invitation
28th March	-	Father's Hangout 3
31 March– 4th April	-	Art/Music Week
4th April	-	Celebration Assembly @ 8:30am by invitation
4th April	-	Art/Music Exhibition
11th April	-	Easter Hat Parade (Dress Up theme – Easter Bonnets)
11th April	-	End of Lent term

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