

Bowdon Bulletin



Bowdon Preparatory
School for Girls

18 October 2024

Headteacher's Message – Mrs Makepeace-Taylor



As we come to the end of this first half-term, how wonderful it is to reflect on all the fantastic learning opportunities and activities that have taken place. The visit to the **House of Lords** on Monday, to celebrate with Isabella as she was awarded the **Maxwell Prize**, was one such event - what a joyous and wondrous experience! We hope you enjoy hearing from Isabella, and her younger sister Annabel (5P), on pages 3-4.

We also hope you have enjoyed hearing from Mrs Oakley, Mrs Delf and Miss Powell in the previous Bulletins. Today, please take a moment to look at the message from Mr Powell about the **Bowdon Prep Learning Hub**. We are so fortunate to have such a fabulous staff team, who constantly strive to make BPS an amazing place to learn and work! Thank you to all!

Today, we have all enjoyed taking part in our Celebration Assemblies, where we have presented four pupils with the **Headteacher's Award**. This half-term, we have focused on our value of ***Working Together - fostering positive and respectful relationships which are based on compassion, kindness and integrity***. At the start of the term, we explained to the girls that we would be looking out for pupils who were consistently kind and respectful to *everyone* within our BPS family. We then invited the office, catering, lunchtime, premises and Activate teams to be involved in this decision-making process, to ensure that the recipients of the award could independently make positive choices which reflected this half-term's important value...



Whilst there are many, many pupils who demonstrate kindness and respect every day (and have been praised accordingly!), please join us in congratulating the following pupils, who have gone above and beyond, on this occasion: Ruby Cheers – EYFS, Amelia Snedden – Pre-Prep, Theia Contractor – Lower Prep and Saoirse Maguire – Upper Prep.

Next half-term we will be thinking about our second value, ***Commitment to excellence – challenging ourselves to pursue excellence... across all areas of school life.*** We are sure that all our girls will continue to aim for excellence in all they do, after all, Bowdon Prep pupils always work hard and do their best, but we wonder who will shine especially brightly during our next half-term? Remember, excellence can be shown in any area of the curriculum...

Our staff team have enjoyed meeting with you at Parents Evening this week; we hope you found the sessions useful and that as a result, together, we can continue to support your daughters effectively, during the second half of the autumn term and beyond. Thank you for your time. If you have any feedback about Parents Evenings at BPS, please contact your Class Rep.

May we take this opportunity to wish everyone a happy autumn break and thank you for your on-going support. 😊

Our 2024 leaver - Isabella Ng was named the winner of ISA Maxwell Prize. Just when we thought we couldn't be prouder, she made us even more so by attending the award ceremony at the House of Lords, accompanied by her parents, sister Annabel, and Mrs. Makepeace-Taylor, to collect her prize. Please enjoy photos from the day, along with a report by Isabella and Annabel, on the following page.



It was an absolute honour to be invited into the **House of Lords to receive the Maxwell Prize 2024**. The prize is named after Lord Stanley Maxwell, who was the Chair of Independent School Association (ISA) between 1909 and 1939 and was a driving force behind the association.

The surrounding of the House of Lords are impressive. It has the iconic Big Ben besides it. *Even **Bella Bear** came along to witness this special day.* Upon arrival at the Palace of Parliament, we were greeted by the Chief Executive Officer of ISA Mr Lockhart and by Lord Lexden OBE, the President of ISA who gave us a brief tour.

After the tour, we were then escorted to the Lords Chamber by Lord Lexden and were taken to our seats inside the Chamber. The Lords' Chamber is lavishly decorated and we were lucky enough to witness two Baronesses (Baroness Liang of Elderslie and Baroness Cass) being introduced to the House of Lords.

I was then presented with the Maxwell Prize glass trophy, a certificate and a gift voucher and after the ceremony, we were invited for an afternoon tea in the Peer's dining room – the cakes and scones were delicious. They also served us hot chocolate. I will never forget this remarkable experience.

Visiting the House of Lords was such a memorable day for us as a family. I feel so privileged to have been awarded the Maxwell Prize 2024 to celebrate my holistic approach to school and community life through my extra-curricular activities. But I could not have done this alone. I am forever grateful to my parents and my sister Annabel who always stand by my side. I am also extremely thankful to all the staff and fellow pupils at BPS who have supported me throughout my Bowdon journey. BPS will always hold a special place in my heart. Believe in yourself – perseverance and determination do lead to success!

Isabella (Year 6 leaver 2024)

I was very proud to accompany my sister Isabella to the House of Lords to collect her well-deserved Maxwell Prize.

The visit was amazing, and Parliament was enormous. I think we would have easily got lost if Lord Lexden was not there to guide us. The Chambers debate was new to me. Although I did not understand all the things said in the discussion, I noticed that all the peers are all very confident in public speaking and debating.

Lord Lexden was very generous as he took us to the dining room for the afternoon tea. He looked after us well. I was feeling full after a warm scone with delicious clotted cream and jam, and the hot chocolate!

I am delighted to see Isabella winning the Maxwell Prize. She is an excellent role model to me and other people. **Annabel (Year 5)**





Headteacher's Award

Well done to all the pupils who have been awarded Merits and House Points for their commitment to and demonstration of our core values.

A further congratulations to the following girls who have received the Headteacher's Award. The award for this half term is given to those pupils who show commitment to our value of...

Working Together - fostering positive and respectful relationships which are based on compassion, kindness and integrity

Ruby Cheers
EYFS

Amelia Snedden
Pre Prep

Theia Contractor
Lower Prep

Saoirse Maguire
Upper Prep



Congratulations!





We are excited to introduce parents to the **BPS Learning Hub** (www.bpslearninghub.org) This resource is designed to enhance your child's learning experience. Having been actively utilised with the upper prep pupils since the beginning of the academic year, this platform has already proven to be a valuable tool for our pupils. We're eager for you to explore its many benefits.

Highlights of the BPS Learning Hub:

- **Comprehensive Quick Links:** Navigate a carefully curated selection of websites and resources that support learning both at home and in school, providing a seamless connection to your child's educational journey.
- **Accessible Anytime, Anywhere:** Pupils can easily access the hub on tablets, laptops, and desktops during school hours. Additionally, you can explore the hub from home, empowering you to engage with your child's learning and discover valuable resources together.
- **Ongoing Development:** We will be expanding our collection of Pre-Prep learning links after the half-term break, ensuring our youngest learners have access to targeted resources that cater to their needs.

We value your input! If you have any recommendations for useful resources to include, please don't hesitate to share your suggestions through the form available on the home page of the BPS Learning Hub - our girls have contributed ideas for the site, and we would love your feedback too.

Thank you for your continued support as we strive to enhance our pupils' learning experiences. **Warm regards, Mr Powell**

Parents' Information Board

- **Monday 4 November – Return to school open, all clubs start**
- **Y5 8am Study Sessions begin**
- **Y6 review meetings**
- **Y3 Friendships Festival - Tuesday**
- **Y2 Trip - Wednesday**
- **Go Explore – Year 2**

Remembrance Day 2024



We will be holding our annual Remembrance Day commemoration on Monday 11th November. On their return from the half-term break, pupils will have the opportunity to purchase Remembrance Day items to support this important event. Our Year 6 charity captains kindly request a donation of £1 or £2 for the items. Further details about the commemoration and available items will be shared on Monday, 4 November. Thank you for your support.

In English for the last few weeks, Year 6 have been focussing on National Poetry Day and Black History Month. Exploring the works of the poets Grace Nichols, Benjamin Zephaniah and James Berry, we chose our favourite poem and answered a series of questions connected with it.

Next, we further explored the Children's Poetry Archive and learnt a poem by heart of our choice. Popular poets were Michael Rosen, Grace Nichols and Joan Poulson.

In class, we have also been focussing on Baroness Floella Benjamin's childhood memoir *Coming to England*, which tells the fascinating story of her own journey from Trinidad to The House of Lords as part of the Windrush generation. After two weeks alone on a ship aged just ten years old, Floella arrived into a cold and rather unforgiving London. But, as her new life began, she was shocked and distressed by the rejection she experienced. She soon realized that the only way to survive was to work twice as hard and be twice as good as anyone else.

We were amazed to hear that Mrs Makepeace-Taylor met Baroness Benjamin in person in the House of Lords! What a busy few weeks!

Amelia T and Sophie G Y6M



B: M2024

DIG DEEPER, LOOK CLOSER, THINK BIGGER



Click on
the logos



On Wednesday, our Y5 girls and their 'matrons' were transported back in time to 1857. Having fallen on bad times, these unfortunate street urchins were taken into **Weaverhall Workhouse for The Poor and Infirm** where they were schooled in the basics of the three R's; reading, writing and arithmetic. They were also taught how to make butter, clean clothes using a dolly and tub, grind flour from wheat, and make a rag-rug.

On our return, the majority of girls, and staff, were pleased to be back in the 21st century, however a few were intrigued by life in Victorian Britain despite it being very tiring and rather grim.



On Monday, Y6C welcomed Rabbi Dovid from the Bowdon Shul to share our reflections on Yom Kippur. Y6C and Rabbi Dovid shared lots of information with the Prep girls and even heard the shofar being blown! A huge thanks to 6C and to the Rabbi Dovid for making it both fun and informative!



A thought
TO START
YOUR WEEK

Don't let anyone dull
your sparkle

A cartoon illustration of a smiling yellow flower with arms and legs, growing out of a brown pot. The pot has the words "HAPPY HEALTHY & SAFE" written on it.

Happy,
Healthy,
Safe School:
Firework
Safety

Wednesday 9th October signalled the beginning of baby loss awareness week. If you would like to find out more, please click [here](#).



Please click
donate

Sports Board



Results

Year 6 A team v Cheadle Hulme won 17-14 POTM - Anastasia

Year 6 B team v Cheadle Hulme won 14-10 POTM - Jessie



Fixtures for the week back after half term

Tuesday - Y6 C&Y 6D Netball v Broadheath 3.45pm

Uniform Notice Board

- Following the Class Reps meeting with Mrs Makepeace-Taylor, further consideration will be given to the Winter Uniform /Summer Uniform change over dates. More details will be shared in due course.
- Pupils are required to wear full school uniform, with either a blazer or the blue jacker (fleece stays in school) each day unless it is a PE or Go Explore Day when they can arrive in their PE kit. Stud earrings should be covered with tape before your daughter arrives at school.
- Uniform can be ordered online www.pascoeandwillis.com/bowdon-preparatory-school - Password: BPS24 Uniform Shop opening hours at BPS:
 Mon 4th Nov: 8.10am – 9am
 Wed 6th Nov: 8.10am – 9am



Required	K/Garten	Pre-Prep	Prep	Optional	
Winter					
BPS navy coat or blazer	✓	✓	✓		
BPS navy pinafore	✓	✓	✓	BPS navy skirt	Y5/6
BPS long sleeve striped blouse	✓	✓	✓	BPS short sleeve striped blouse	
BPS felt hat		✓	✓ Y3/4	BPS hat and scarf	
Navy tights or BPS socks	✓	✓	✓	Navy gloves	
BPS cardigan	✓	✓	✓		

HALLOWEEN DISCO

By BPS PTA

18TH OCTOBER

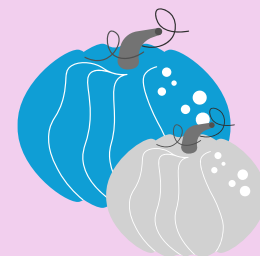
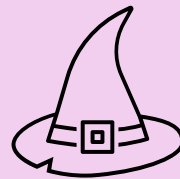
4-5PM YEAR 1 & 2

5.30PM- 7PM YEAR 3 -6

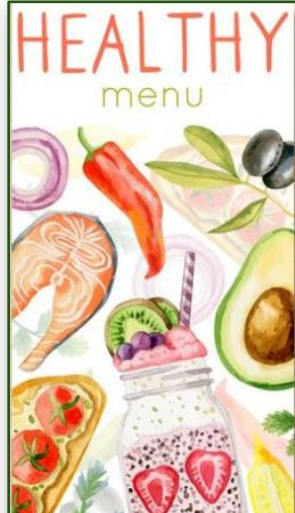
TICKETS ON PARENT PAY FOR £15



COSTUME CONTEST - AWARD
FOR BEST DRESSED



Mrs Abbey's - Menu for the WC 4 November



Monday	Chicken or Paneer Curry Naan Bread, Samosas and Rice	Broccoli	Diwali Celebration Cakes
Tuesday	Beef or Veggie Lasagne Garlic Bread	Green Bean	Fresh Fruit or Yoghurt
Wednesday	Jacket Potatoes	Chilli, Cheese, Baked Beans, Tuna and Salmon Fillet	Carrot Cake
Thursday	Pork and Veggie Meatballs Pasta	Carrots	Mango and Orange Sorbet
Friday	Quorn or Chicken Strips Panini	Sweetcorn	Lemon Drizzle Cake



We are a nut and sesame free school

BPS is a nut and sesame seed free school.

However, due to manufacturing processes, some products used in the school kitchen state that they 'may contain nuts/sesame'.

Vegetarian options, salad bar, fruit and yoghurts are available daily.

All our food is made using the finest quality produce. Suppliers include Taylor's of Sale (butchers) and 'Bettaveg'.

If you use grapes as a school snack, for Health and Safety reasons - PLEASE cut in half lengthways or in quarters

Parents' Information Board

- If you have any requests for absence, email the school office in the first instance. Please remember a non-medical related absence will also need authorisation.
- Please ensure that your daughter arrives in time for registration. Registers in Y1-6 are taken between 8.40- 8.50am; any pupil arriving after this time is marked as late. To access our attendance policy for further information, click [here](#).
- If you need to book your daughter into wraparound care (Activate), please contact the team directly - bpsactivate@bowdonprep.org.uk. The school office does not have access to the booking system. The team can also be contacted -07808 544994

