



I hope you all had a wonderful half-term break. It has been lovely to see all the children back in school this week, and I'm delighted to share some positive news with you – our staff have noted that all the children have settled back incredibly well.

This half term always seems to fly by – we're already into November and before we know it, we'll be preparing for Christmas! Because this is such a quick half term, every moment counts. This is why it's as important as ever to ensure that attendance remains high for all of our children. Children being absent from education for prolonged periods and/or on repeat occasions can act as a vital warning sign to a range of safeguarding issues, and regular attendance ensures your child doesn't miss out on vital learning opportunities during this busy period.

This week, our Year 5 children took part in a fantastic Anglo-Saxon workshop where they learnt about life in those times and got hands-on with authentic artefacts. The children had a wonderful experience and learnt lots – their enthusiasm and engagement was brilliant to see!

Next week, we will be taking part in Anti-Bullying Week. The children will be taking part in lots of activities across the week, helping them understand the importance of kindness, respect and standing up against bullying. On Friday, we will be celebrating Children in Need so please do encourage your child to wear non-uniform with something yellow to help us support this important cause. Also next week, we will be observing Armistice Day and teaching the children about what it is and why we observe it. This is an important opportunity for our children to learn about remembrance and respect.

You will recall that I previously shared that the children would be creating artwork in school to be used as Christmas cards and gifts. These have now been sent home and orders can be made using the following link with the deadline being 25th November 2025.

APFS Projects <https://www.apfsorders.co.uk/>

Wishing you all an enjoyable weekend.

Mr Wade
Head of School

Diary Dates:
November

- W/C 10th – Anti-bullying Week
- 10th – Odd Sock Day
- 11th – Armistice Day
- 11th – Yr5/6 Football match v Ghyllgrove (A) (selected children)
- 13th – Trust maths challenge @ Fairhouse School (selected children)
- 14th – Children in Need (non uniform)
- W/C 17th – Book Fair in school
- 17th – Yr5/6 football match v Willows (H) (selected children)
- 18th – Parent consultations 3:30-6:30pm
- 20th – Parent consultations 3:30-5:30pm
- 21st – EYFS Christmas Carols to parents (KS1 Hall 9:15am & 2pm. Further details to follow)
- 21st – Yr5/6 Football match v Eversley (H) (selected children)
- 24th – Flu immunisations (pm)
- 27th – Yr5/6 Netball match v Great Berry (H) (selected children)
- 28th – Year 1 Christmas Production to parents (KS1 Hall 9:15am & 2pm. Further details to follow)

December

- 1st - Yr5/6 Football match v Phoenix (H) (selected children)
- 4th – Year 2 Christmas Production to parents (KS1 Hall 9:15am & 2pm. Further details to follow)
- 5th – Winter Workshop & Markey – after school
- 8th – Flu immunisations (pm)
- 8th – Yr3/4 Football match v Ryedene (H) (selected children)
- 11th – Nursery Carols to parents
- 12th – Christmas Dinner and Jumper Day
- 12th – Class parties (pm)
- 15th – Lower KS2 Carol Concert to parents
- 16th – Upper KS2 Carol Concert to parents
- 17th – Pantomime in school
- 19th – Last day of term

Inset Dates— 20th, 21st & 22nd May 2026



BERLESDUNA ACADEMY TRUST – VACANCIES

MERRYLANDS – SEND LEARNING SUPPORT ASSISTANTS – closing date 7th November
MERRYLANDS – MIDDAY ASSISTANT closing date 16th November
WHITMORE – HLTA closing date 18th November
WHITMORE – SEND LEARNING SUPPORT ASSISTANT closing date 24th November
WILLOWS – FIXED TERM EYFS CLASS TEACHER closing date 14th November

For more information and to apply for any of these exciting opportunities, please follow the link to our website [Vacancies - Berlesduna Academy Trust](#)

'Talk it' topics and British Values

'Talk it' topics are an opportunity for children to discuss an issue or idea throughout the week which is linked to the British Values. It encourages children's communication skills as well as debating skills and is fun. We cover a different topic in school each week. It would be fantastic if you could talk about it at home too. This week's topic will be—
Early Years—How can we help protect trees? This links to the British Value —Rule of Law.
KS1 & KS2—What would you tell world leaders if you were at COP30? This links to the British Value —Rule of Law.



Certificate of Achievement

Week of 3rd November 2025

Daffodil Class— Ayla-Kay L
Buttercup Class— Tommy M
Primrose Class— Teddy
Bluebell Class— Yasin
Rose Class – Whole Class
Tulip Class— Eva
Lavender Class— Tommy M-K
Orchid Class— Lily
Sunflower Class— Lucy C
Birch Class— Ben D
Hawthorn Class – Talia C
Pine Class—Aairah
Ash Class—Hunter H
Beech Class— Maisy D
Maple Class— Raphael
Olive Class— Tudor M
Sycamore Class— Roziie F
Willow Class—Bogdan
Elder Class— Annabelle B
Elm Class— Ellie C
Oak Class— Jessica P



Oracy Corner



Let's Talk



"What would happen if the Moon disappeared?" Discuss.

Build
Develop, add to or elaborate on an idea.

Start by saying:

- Building on X's idea...
- I agree and would like to add...
- X's idea made me think...

Build

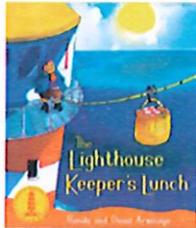
Challenge
Disagree or present an alternative argument

Start by saying:

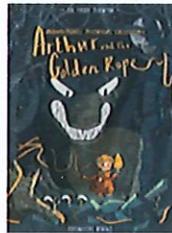
- I disagree because...
- To challenge you X, I think...
- I understand your point of view, but have you thought about...?

Challenge

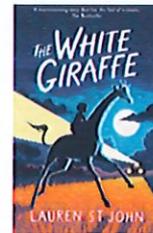
Recommended Reads



KS1



Lower KS2



Upper KS2

Times Table Rockstars and Numbots



TTR class of the week – Hawthorn Class – 30%.

Player of the week—
Lavender— Ziya
Orchid — Aarna
Sunflower - Iremide O
Birch— Phoebe B
Hawthorn—Victor D
Pine— Buddy
Ash— Lexi B
Beech—Lamia M-A
Maple— Mariam
Sycamore— Alfie F
Olive – Freya P
Willow— Sabrina
Elder— Vivien M
Elm— Harry M
Oak— Darius

Numbots class of the week - Tulip Class – 26%.

Player of the week—
Bluebell— Heidi S
Rose— Olivia R
Tulip— Zidan



Reading Corner

This week we will be reading.....

Nursery	Ava's Poppy by Marcus Pfister
Reception	Bringing the Rain to Kapiti Plain
Year 1	Supertato by Sue Hendra
Year 2	The bear under the stairs by Helen Cooper
Year 3	The boy who grew dragons by Andy Shepherd
Year 4	The Chronicles of Narnia by C.S.Lewis
Year 5	The boy at the back of the class by Onjali Rauf
Year 6	Windrush Child by Benjamin Zepaniah

Please scan the QR code or click the link to take you to the Little Wandle Parents page where you will find how we teach a new sound, how we teach children to read decodable words and tricky words. You will also find how to pronounce all GPCS your children learn.

<https://www.littlewandlelettersandsounds.org.uk/resources/for-parents/>



Reader of the week

Bluebell	Joella A
Rose	Harley
Tulip	Lexi
Lavender	Mckenzie
Orchid	Amelia
Sunflower	Shor T
Birch	Alice
Hawthorn	Ethan S
Pine	Ralph
Ash	Isaac O
Beech	Poppy C
Maple	Amaya
Olive	Olivia S
Sycamore	Amelia M
Willow	Faida
Elder	Harriett L
Elm	Ebi T
Oak	Alice

We're teaching every child to read with Little Wandle Letters and Sounds Revised

A complete SSP validated by the Department for Education



Reception	This week in Reception we have been learning the sounds:ff (puff)ll (bell)ss (mess)j (jellyfish)We have practiced the pronunciation, the formation of these letters and looking at words that end and begin with these sounds.
Year 1	We have learnt the new graphemes ir/ur/ie/igh/, ue/yoo/ and u/yoo/New tricky words their, people, oh, your
Year 2	This week, year 2 have started the Phase 5 review phonic lessons. They have been focusing on the following common graphemes - a-e ai ay a, the more unusual graphemes - eigh ea ey aigh and reviewing the tricky words - people, eye and whole. Please remember to practise their new, weekly spellings which they will be tested on during their phonics lesson on Friday 14th November. Thank you for your continued support.

Year 5 Anglo Saxon Workshop

On Tuesday, year 5 took part in an exciting Anglo-Saxon workshop, where they learnt about daily life in Anglo-Saxon times as well as the battles that took place and the armour worn for protection. They held a range of artefacts including a shield and chain mail and played traditional games. The children participated extremely well and were fully engaged with all activities throughout the day. It was a very enjoyable start to the history topic this term!



