



BHJ News Headlines

Academic Year 2023-24

Spring Term Update No.1

Spring Term

IN THIS ISSUE:

MONTHLY RECAP

SCHOOL NOTICES

LOCAL NEWS

UPCOMING DATES

HCC UPDATE

Monthly Recap

Let's start with the big one...the report! The staff and I have appreciated the feedback from parents – it was a report that truly encapsulates all the wonderful things we do. What has been the most heart-warming part is it reflection of the incredible staff and pupils we have.

Just because we have had Ofsted, school carries on! We never rest on our successes as we look to use it as a springboard to doing even more. It is an exciting time as we are looking at how we can continue to develop the curriculum, school grounds and further develop our community. During parents evening, these will be on display for parent to see some of the exciting plans we have.

Year 6 Young Voices

On Wednesday 17th January, year 6 took part in the annual Young Voices choir concert at the O2. It was a long day but all had great fun!



Report of the trip written by Nia S and Ethan C:

The day

Yr 6 went on a 1¹/₂ hour journey to the O2 in London. They had lunch outside the arena & then sat down very high up in the HUGE, crowded arena and got settled. After the rehearsals they had dinner and prepared for the evening concert.

The Evening

The performance was amazing. 6000 children all singing in unison is a once in a lifetime opportunity. There was the amazing band, Urban Strides (a street dance team) & the conductor, the one, the only, David Lawrence.



Guest Stars

There were three guest stars: Nandi Bushell, a thirteen year old drum sensation who played with the Foo Fighters, Natalie Williams, a renowned jazz singer & MC Grammar, aka Jacob Mitchell, from the London borough of Barnet.

Songs

The songs were : Walking Medley, Pop Medley 2024, Matilda Medley, In The Mood, River Deep Mountain High, The Moment, Arirang, Get On Board, Today Is Gonna Be A Great Day & Moana Mashup.

Summary

The concert was a complete success. The crowds (and the children) were screaming so loud that it hurt Year 6's ears. They got back to the school at midnight but got to sleep in until the end of break on the next day. Overall, most people really enjoyed the evening. For the people who didn't go, they still had a great time at school with no lessons.

If you want the concert video:

yv24film.co.uk & select O2 Arena, London, Then select Wednesday 17th January.



Arts Week - Monday 5th February - 9th February



Our theme for Arts week this year is the work of **Rana Begum** who is an ex pupil and is an Anglo-Bangladeshi contemporary artist who experiments with the boundaries between painting, design and architecture. Each afternoon the children will take part in activities linked to our theme. A few points to note:

- 1) The deadline for our **photography competition** is **Friday 2nd February**.
- 2) **Friday 2nd February**, Year 4 children will visit the exhibition of Rana Begum at the St. Albans Museum.
- 3) Please send your child in with an **art shirt** to wear. Do not buy one especially for this as we have some in school. The children can keep it in their bag for the week.
- 4) Please send your child in with a **glue stick**.
- 5) Children with **allergies** should keep an extra snack in their bag so they do not feel left out when the other children eat the Bangladeshi snacks.
- 6) On **Monday 5th February**, children can wear clothes with **geometric designs** but can also wear school uniform if they wish.
- 7) **Arts week assembly** is on **Friday 9th February at 2.30pm**. Parents are welcome to attend.
- 8) You can see up to date information about the work in Arts week on our Art X/Twitter, **ARTBHJS@ArtBhjs**
- 9) If you have not already, we would be very grateful for a voluntary contribution of **£4.00** which is on the **School Gateway** to support us with resources for the week. Thank you to the parents who have already paid!

Mrs Taylor would like to thank all parents who have supported the school in running this event. We hope the children will find it inspiring and enjoyable. Thank you!



We would like to encourage parents to take their families to visit the **Peace Doves at the St. Albans Cathedral** and the **Rana Begum Ordered Form exhibition** at the St. Albans Museum and Gallery. Also, we recommend a visit to the **Cha And Nasta** restaurant on Hatfield Road as it has a hidden piece of Bangladesh in a courtyard at the back!



Sport / PE Update

Netball

The school team played Skyswood in January and it was a 1-1 draw. Play was end to end and Mrs Dench was proud of the whole team. The next match is home to St Adrians on Monday 12th February.

Football

The boys football A team had a tough close game against Fleetville and lost 3-1 this term. The team also drew against St. Albans and St. Stevens in the cup 3-3 in an exciting game which will be replayed on Thursday to find out who goes through to the next round of the cup.

Sports Hall Athletics Qualifiers

On 25th January, 25 Year 6 children represented the school and took part in the indoor athletics qualifier event at Oaklands College. The children participated in a range of indoor activities including track events such as sprints, relays, and longer distance running. There was also field events involving vertical jump, long jump, triple jump, chest push, speed bounce, and javelin. The children performed a mixture of field and track events, they did incredibly well to finish **3rd overall** which qualifies Bernards Heath for the final at The University of Hertfordshire on Thursday 15th February. The children behaved really well and were a credit to the school.



School Notices

Nuts

We have a number of children with severe nut allergies. Please do not include nuts (or nut-based products) in your child's packed lunch or snacks.

Parking

We have had a report of dangerous parking outside of the school, which could have resulted in a child being hit by a car. **Please** be considerate and when parking outside the school and please do not park on any yellow lines or across any driveways. Our children's safety is our main priority and this includes their journey to and from school.

We encourage walking where possible, not only is it healthy but it also supports the local community with congestion and safety.

School Gardening Help!



We are looking for a team of parents to help develop our outside areas and work with our Eco Council! We would like to have a weekend gardening day at the school in the spring where families can come and help with clearing areas, planting and bug hotels! If you would like to get involved, please e-mail admin@bernardsheathjnr.herts.sch.uk.

Holiday Club

Challenge Sport and Education will be holding their 2nd holiday club here at BHJS for February half term. The club offers a variety of fun multi-sports for ages 5-11. For bookings and information click [here](#).

Local News

St. Albans Half Marathon

The St. Albans Half Marathon is Sunday 9th June. It would be fantastic to get as many children as possible taking part in the 1.5 mile fun run so that we can win the trophy back!! [Sign up here](#) and make sure you add the name of the school (school down the primary school challenge!). <https://www.stalbanshalfmarathon.com/on-the-day>.



Mrs Hall has signed up to run the half marathon this year and is raising money for the charity **Up and Downs**. Up and Downs is a small charity supporting families of those with Down syndrome in Hertfordshire. Up and Downs also have several free places if anyone else would like to join Mrs Hall and raise money for this charity! It would be great if Mrs Hall could have many supporters! Here is a link to sponsor Mrs Hall - <https://cafdonate.cafonline.org/25352#!/DonationDetails>

Bernards Heath Playground

There will be an opening ceremony for the new Bernards Heath playground on Saturday 3rd February at noon.

**OPENING CEREMONY...
SATURDAY 3RD FEBRUARY at NOON**

**WE DID IT!!
HELP US CELEBRATE AS WE
FINALLY OPEN THE GATES
TO THE NEW PLAYGROUND!**

**Thank you for helping us to
make this all possible...**
Come and see your engraved brick in
all its glory – a lasting reminder of
your support!

Bring the family along and
LET'S PLAY AT BERNARDS HEATH!!

www.letsplayatbernardsheath.org

Reg Charity No 1183825



Upcoming Events

Thursday 7th March – World Book Day / Theme 101 Dalmatians

All children to come to school dressed in black with white spots (cut out of paper & pinned to clothes) or white with black spots (cut out of paper and pinned to clothes). We will make ears at school and paint noses. There will be some dog-related activities in school on this day.

Tuesday 19th March - Poetry Slam Final

Children may work in groups or on their own to learn and perform a poem of their choice. Each class will hold its own heat. A finalist from each class will perform to the school on the 19th March.

Date	Item
Fri 2 nd Feb	Year 4 trip to Rana Begum exhibition at St. Albans Museum and Gallery.
Mon 5 th – Fri 9 th Feb	Arts Week. Fri 9 th Feb, Arts week Assembly at 2:30 (parents are welcome to attend).
Mon 12 th Feb	Lunar New Year Assembly
Tues 13 th Feb	Ash Wednesday Assembly with Father Corneil
Wed 14 th Feb	Rana Begum Assembly. Parents welcome to attend at 11:45.
Wed 14 th Feb	PTA – Cake Sale
Thurs 15 th Feb	Rabbi Adam and Imam Akhtar Joint Assembly
Thurs 15 th Feb	Parents Evening 1
Mon 19 th – 23 rd Feb	HALF TERM
Mon 26 th Feb – Fri 8 th Mar	Year 3 Swimming
Wed 28 th Feb	Parents Evening 2
Mon 4 th & Tues 5 th March	Year 6 Graffiti workshop at Abbey with Mr Ant Steele.
Thurs 7 th March	World Book Day / Theme 101 Dalmatians
Monday 11 th March	Parents RSE Information Evening at 7pm.
Tues 12 th – Thurs 14 th March	Year 5 Trip to Hudnell Park (class days TBC)
Tues 19 th March	Poetry Slam Final
Wed 20 th March	Instrument Assembly
Thurs 21 st March	Down Syndrome / World Poetry Daye
Tues 26 th March	Year 4 Production
Thurs 28 th March	End of Term at 1:30pm
Mon 15 th April	INSET DAY
Tues 16 th April	Summer Term Starts