

27TH JUNE 2025

BOWDON

BULLETIN

YEAR 6 SPRINKLE STORYTIME MAGIC FOR KINDERGARTEN

Mrs. Waters delights at the
connections made through stories

KINDNESS AT THE HEART OF BOWDON PREP

Thought of the Week

www.bowdonprep.org.uk

office@bowdonprep.org.uk

**BELIEVE
PERSEVERE
SUCCEED**



COMMUNICATION. CURRICULUM. CARE.



Thought of the Week.

Leave a Little Kindness Wherever You Go

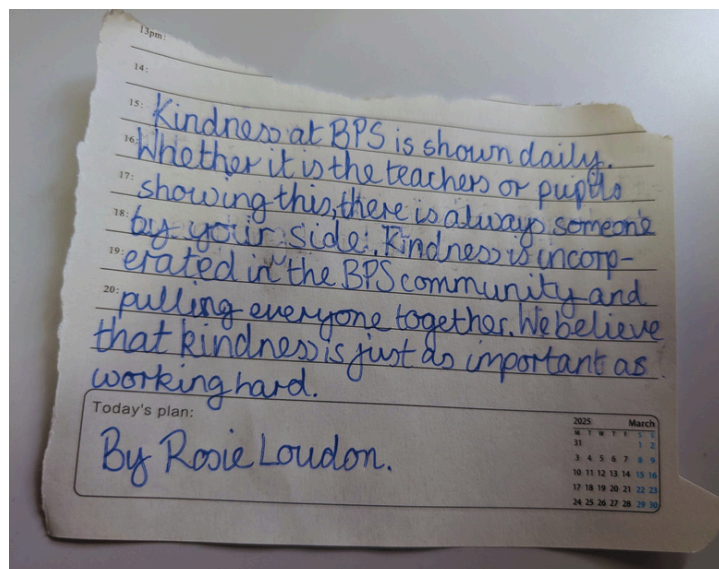
Kindness at the Heart of Bowdon Prep

As I reflected on our thought for the week—"Leave a little kindness wherever you go"—I was reminded of one of Bowdon Prep's core values: **Care for all**. It's a value that isn't simply displayed on posters or spoken of in assemblies—it is lived every day in every corner of our school.

Since joining Bowdon Prep three years ago, I've become increasingly aware of just how deeply embedded kindness is in our culture. Walking through school, I see it everywhere: a girl helping a friend tie her laces; an encouraging word during a tricky maths challenge; a comforting arm placed gently around a shoulder; doors held open; smiles exchanged; heartfelt "thank yous" at the end of every lesson. These small moments may seem simple, but they speak volumes.

What makes this kindness so powerful is that it isn't sporadic or performative—it's consistent, it's genuine, and it's woven into the fabric of daily life at BPS. Our big red door is more than just the entrance to a school—it's a gateway into an environment built on respect, empathy, and support. These gestures of kindness don't happen by accident; they occur because of the special atmosphere cultivated by staff, pupils, and parents alike.

Kindness begins at home, and we are so fortunate to partner with families who clearly nurture these values from the earliest years.



That foundation is strengthened every day at school, where the children see kindness modeled and are encouraged to share it themselves. We are truly lucky to work with such supportive, values-driven families.

"Kindness is incorporated in the BPS community. We believe (at BPS) that kindness is just as important as working hard."

Rosie Loudon, aged 11.

Kindness also extends far beyond our school walls. Two weeks ago, I shared my involvement with Manchester Sands and the amazing work of the Little Cloud charity, run by BPS parents Chris and Jenny Walsh - both charities supporting bereaved parents. I was deeply moved by the messages of support from our school community in response. It was a reminder that kindness can be expressed in words, gestures, and quiet encouragement—and sometimes in standing alongside one another in more difficult times.

Bowdon Bulletin

This year, our incredible Charity Captains have been outstanding ambassadors of our school values. Through their leadership and creativity, they've helped raise over £3,000 for causes beyond our school gates—showing that the compassion cultivated at Bowdon Prep reaches far beyond our own community.

Kindness has been especially evident in my own classroom in Year 5. Throughout the year, the girls have supported one another in so many meaningful ways—whether navigating the challenges of 11+ preparations, offering friendship during tougher moments, or conquering fears together on our residential trip. I find myself genuinely taken aback by the unwavering support the girls show for one another—they simply have each other's backs, and that sense of solidarity is something truly special. What has also stood out is how they celebrate each other's successes—they are genuinely delighted when a friend does well, and that kind of wholehearted joy for one another is rare, and very special.



Kindness, at BPS, is not a coincidence—it's a choice we make together, every single day. And in doing so, we really do give each of our pupils the **Best Possible Start** in life.

Bowdon Prep is more than a school. Bowdon Prep truly is a special place. It is a place where kindness thrives, where children learn that caring for others is one of the greatest strengths they can carry into the world.



Mr Powell
Year 5 Form Tutor

Looking Ahead: Next Week

Thought of the Week

Do what you love. Love what you do.

Happy school, Healthy school, Safe school

A break from screen time – back to nature!



S Makepeace-Taylor

Mrs S Makepeace-Taylor
Headteacher



Communication

Key Dates

NEXT WEEK

At a glance... **JUNE 30TH**

Reception Review Meetings are scheduled to take place across this week.

After School Club Cancellations

MON
30

Y4 Go Explore

TUES
1

*Y4 Go Explore
Y5 & Y6 performance of Matilda Jnr -
7.00pm*

WED
2

*Y4 Go Explore
Y5 & Y6 performance of Matilda Jnr -
1.00pm/7.00pm*

THUR
3

*Y4 Go Explore
Moving Up Day*

FRI
4

*Reports home to
parents*

MONDAY

...

TUESDAY

Chamber Choir

CANCELLED

WEDNESDAY

Y3 - Y6 Art Club

CANCELLED

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

Summer Term 2

Key Dates at a glance

June 2025



Why not print and add the Club/Activities that your child/children attend here...

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
9 Staff Inset Day	10 School Opens	11 Sports Day	12	13
16 Y6 Residential	17 Y6 Residential Open Morning	18 Y6 Residential Welcome Y1 Zoom Welcome Y2 Zoom	19 Y6 Residential Y1 & Y2 Show	20 Y6 Residential
23 Welcome Y5 Zoom Welcome Y6 Zoom	24 Whole Class Photo Welcome Y3 Zoom Welcome Y4 Zoom	25 Welcome KG Zoom	26 Welcome to Reception Zoom	27
30	1	2	3	4

MONDAY
 Y1 & Y2 Dance
 Y2 Art
 Y3 - Y6 Woodwind
 Y5 Rounders

TUESDAY
 Y1 & Y2 Yoga
 Y4 Rounders
 Y5 & Y6 Chamber Choir

WEDNESDAY
 Y1 & Y2 Recorder
 Y3 - Y6 Art
 Y3 - Y6 Multi Sports
 Y4 - Y6 Rock Band

THURSDAY
 Y1 & Y6 Drama
 Y3 - Y4 Street Dance
 Y3 - Y6 Recorder
 Y6 Rounders

FRIDAY
 Y3 & Y4 Lacrosse
 Y3 - Y6 Orchestra
 Y1 - Y6 Mandarin

July 2025

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
	1 Year 5 and 6 Show	2 Year 5 and 6 Show - matinee and evening	3 'Moving Up' Day	4 School Reports
7	8 Open School Event (end of day)	9 Modern Foreign Languages Day	10 Optional Parent Zoom Meetings	11 Year 3 Waxworks 2-3.15pm
14	15	16 Y6 leavers assembly School closes at 12pm	17	18



FOLLOW US ON
INSTAGRAM



**AT BPS, WE ARE GETTING VERY EXCITED FOR
THE MAGNIFICENT Y5 & Y6 PERFORMANCE OF**

MATILDA JR.



WATERSIDE ARTS CENTRE

TUESDAY 1ST JULY - 7:00PM

WEDNESDAY 2ND JULY - 1:00PM

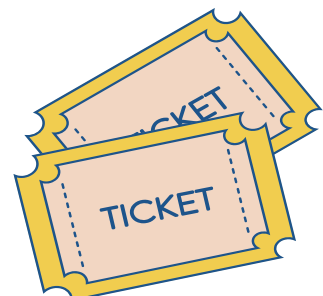
AND 7:00PM

**TICKETS ARE AVAILABLE FROM THE
WATERSIDE ARTS CENTRE AND VIA**

www.watersidearts.org/events/roald-dahls-matilda-the-musical-jr



**Bowdon Preparatory
School for Girls**



WHOLE SCHOOL LANGUAGES DAY @ BPS

WEDNESDAY 9 JULY

We will be celebrating the various mother tongues of our pupils and will also be learning key vocabulary in other languages. In addition, each class will be focusing on an in-depth study of the culture and traditions of a specific country.

**TO MARK THIS OCCASION, WE
WOULD LIKE TO INVITE ALL GIRLS TO
COME DRESSED IN THE COLOURS OF A
WORLD FLAG.**

THANK YOU

MISS ADAMS



YEAR THREE MUSEUM OF WAXWORKS

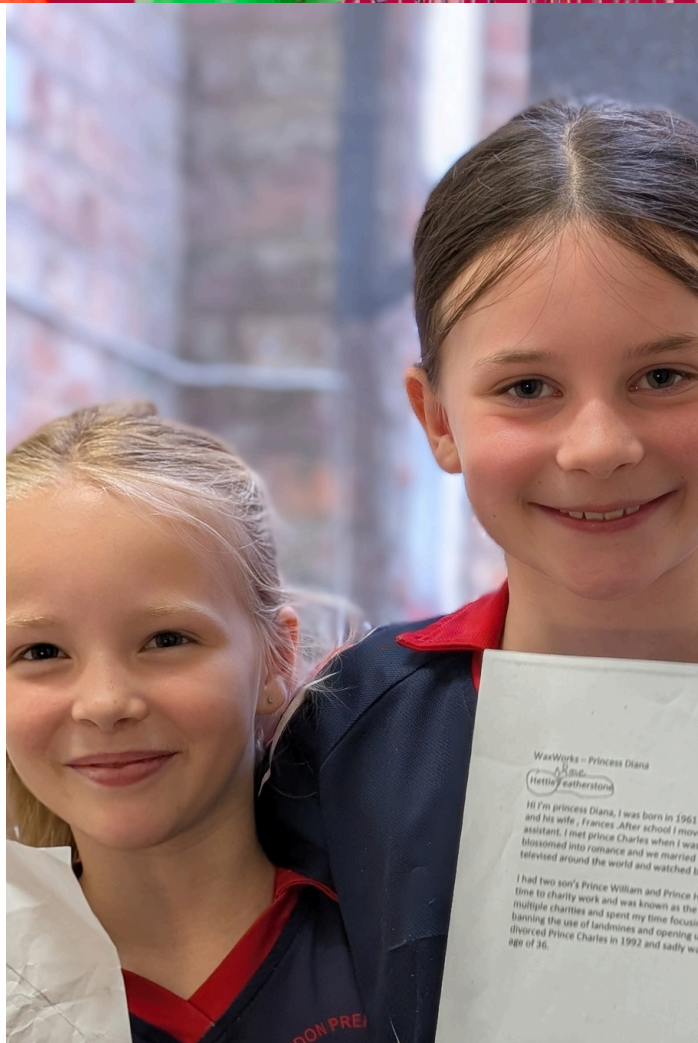


FRIDAY 11 JULY (2-3.15PM)

Our Year 3 girls are hard at work preparing for their upcoming Waxworks performance. They've been busy researching, writing, and putting the finishing touches on their costumes. Excitement is building as they now turn their attention to rehearsals! A reminder that Year 3 parents are warmly invited to attend the event, which will take place from 2:00 to 3:15pm on Friday, 11th July.

THANK YOU

MISS POWELL





BPS SOCIETY NEWS

An Open Letter to New Parents

Dear Parents and Carers,



A warm welcome from the Bowdon Preparatory School (BPS) Society! We are delighted that you and your daughter have joined our vibrant school community. As a parent or carer of a girl at BPS, you automatically become a member of the BPS Society.

Run entirely by parent volunteers with the support of Mrs Maxine Ashton (PA to Mrs Makepeace-Taylor), the Society plays a key role in school life—organising a variety of much-loved events such as the Halloween Disco and Christmas Fair. These events not only raise vital funds for the school but also offer wonderful opportunities for parents to connect and socialise. We're proud to support the school in meaningful ways.

Our goal is to raise £10,000 each year to fund additional services and experiences that enrich our daughters' time at BPS. Thanks to your support, we recently purchased a school minibus, which now transports the girls to sporting fixtures and other off-site activities.

We also champion sustainability through our preloved uniform shop and initiatives like drama costume recycling—helping to keep costs down for families while promoting eco-conscious values. Your involvement, no matter how big or small, makes a difference. Whether it's donating a raffle prize, sending in outgrown uniform, or lending a hand at an event, every contribution is appreciated.

Bowdon Bulletin

We understand that parents are busy and not everyone can commit time or money—your support in any form is valued. We'd love to meet you at our next meeting on **Friday 19th September 2025 at school**. It's a great chance to hear more about what we do and how you can get involved.

If you'd like to stay in the loop, please join our BPS Society WhatsApp group by messaging Mrs. Ashton at **headteacher@bowdonprep.org.uk**—we'd love to hear from you! We look forward to a fantastic year ahead and to welcoming you into our supportive and spirited community.

Warm regards,

BPS Society Co-Chairs



**Bowdon Preparatory
School for Girls**

NOTICE FOR PARENTS

Loom Bands – Friendship Friday

Loom bands have been a lovely friendship trend at BPS, with many girls enjoying making and sharing them. To keep things tidy and focused in class, loom band kits should not be brought into school, and bracelet-making should be done at home.

Instead, girls are welcome to wear a pre-made bracelet to school on Fridays as part of "Friendship Fridays" – a fun way to celebrate kindness and creativity!



Bowdon Bulletin

Miss Eleanor Recognised as Young Entrepreneur of the Year

We are thrilled to share that our dance teacher, Miss Eleanor, has been awarded the Young Entrepreneur Award for the North West 2025! This fantastic achievement recognises her dedication, passion, and the incredible impact she's made through Eleanor Grace Dance on Ashley Road.

The award was based on outstanding parent feedback, impressive growth within our school, and her wider contribution to the Altrincham community. Miss Eleanor is truly passionate about spreading the joy and benefits of dance. "



*Our wonderful BPS Society hold **pre-loved uniform sales** throughout the academic year.*

UNIFORM SHOP OPENING HOURS



TUES 1 JULY : 8.10AM – 9AM
THURS 3 JULY: 8.10AM – 9AM

Uniform can also be ordered online -
www.pascoeandwillis.com/bowdon-preparatory-school
Password: BPS24



A young girl with dark hair, wearing a red and white striped shirt under a dark blue vest, is shown from the side, focused on playing a piano. Her hands are positioned on the keys. The background is a soft-focus indoor setting.

SIGN UP!

INSTRUMENT LESSONS AT BOWDON PREP

We are very fortunate to have an exceptional team of peripatetic music staff. The school can offer lessons in a wide range of instruments, including piano, violin, cello, clarinet, flute, saxophone, guitar, drums, and various brass instruments. If you would like to sign your daughter up for instrumental lessons, please contact the school office and indicate which instrument she is interested in. For further queries or more information, feel free to contact Mrs. Stiles via the school office.





MRS. ABBEY'S LUNCH



WC 30 JUNE

MONDAY



*Pasta with Tomato, Cheese or Carbonara Sauce
Broccoli
Orange Cookies*

TUESDAY



*Roast Quorn or Chicken
Roast Potatoes, Carrots & Cauliflower
Cheese
Crispie Cakes*

WEDNESDAY



*Pizza with various toppings
Baked Beans and Sweetcorn
Sorbet*

THURSDAY



*Veggie or Chicken Escalope with Crispy Potatoes
Peas
Fruit or Yoghurt*

FRIDAY



*Veggie or Pork Sausages
Green Beans & Baked Beans
Chocolate Cupcakes*

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.

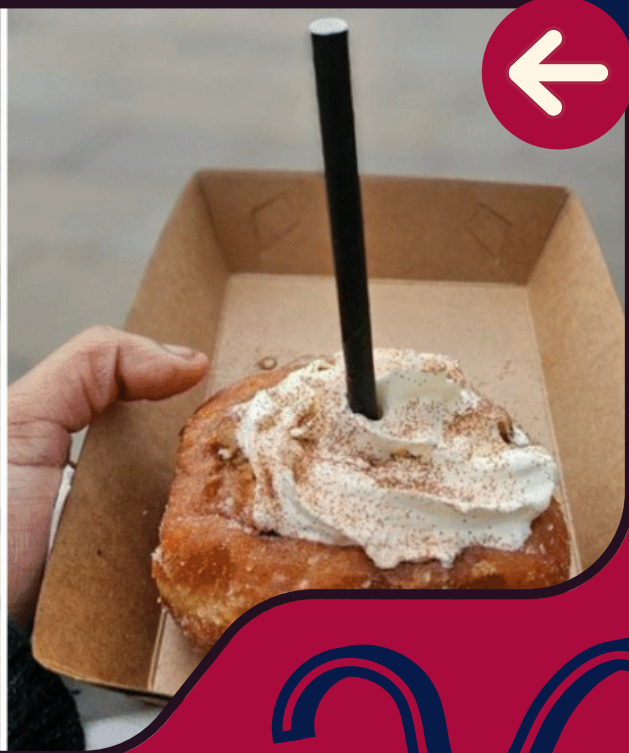
Suppliers include Taylor's of Sale (butchers) and 'Bettaveg'.

**If you provide grapes as a school snack, for health and safety -
PLEASE cut grapes in half lengthways or in quarters**



VANOFFEE

Every Wednesday
AT BPS 7.30-9.30AM



LOOK OUT FOR VANOFFEE ON SITE — COME ALONG, GRAB A COFFEE OR TREAT, AND SUPPORT THE BPS SOCIETY AT THE SAME TIME!

✕ 10% OF ALL PROFIT WILL BE
DONATED TO THE BPS SOCIETY. ✕



Curriculum

Reflecting on our week at BPS



Year Six Sprinkle Storytime Magic for Kindergarten and Reception

This term, a very special literacy project has brought together the oldest and youngest pupils at BPS in a heartwarming celebration of creativity, imagination, and friendship.

As part of their English lessons, the Year 6 girls were paired with a Kindergarten or Reception buddy and tasked with writing a story inspired by their younger friend's interests. From unicorns and dinosaurs to trips to the zoo and magical cupcakes, each handmade book was lovingly crafted to delight and engage its young reader.

Throughout the past term, the Year 6 girls worked incredibly hard to create original, illustrated stories that not only showcased their writing talents but also reflected the personalities of their buddies. Their determination to appeal to their audience was clear in every sentence and sketch.

The project culminated in a wonderful exchange. The Reception and Kindergarten girls were thrilled to receive a personal visit from the Year 6 authors, who hand-delivered their books and took the time to read them aloud. Classrooms were soon filled with the sound of laughter, lively chatter, and wide-eyed wonder as the younger girls were transported to magical realms and fantastic adventures.

"I am so proud of the Year 6 girls. The care, thought, and creativity they poured into these stories truly encapsulate what our school is all about. It's been a joy to see the connections formed and the joy it brought to the younger girls." Mrs. Waters, who facilitated the project.



This special initiative not only fostered literacy and creative writing skills but also strengthened relationships across the school, leaving behind treasured keepsakes and even more cherished memories.

What lucky little girls we have at BPS — and what incredible role models they have to look up to!



Epic Viking Day at Tatton Park

Year 2 Raid Tatton Park for a Day of Fun

On Wednesday, Year 2 travelled back in time to experience a thrilling Viking Day at Tatton Park. Upon arrival at the Viking encampment, we were warmly welcomed by our enthusiastic guides, Etta and Maud, who instantly brought history to life with an exciting announcement—the Anglo-Saxons were on the move, and battle could be imminent!

With no time to spare, we began our warrior training. Under expert guidance, we learned how to use shields to defend ourselves and protect our village, mastering the art of forming a formidable shield wall. We even practised our powerful (and very loud!) Viking battle cry—so convincing that we could have easily passed as true shield maidens and warriors!



Our Viking adventure continued with a fascinating exploration of Viking artefacts. We examined objects from daily life, discovering what they were made from and how they were used by Viking families. A highlight was weaving our very own Viking-style bracelets—a beautiful keepsake to remember the day.

In the afternoon, we got hands-on with Viking farming techniques. We began by threshing wheat before grinding the grain between two heavy stones to make flour. It was hard work, and while we didn't quite produce enough for a loaf of bread, we certainly gained a new appreciation for the effort involved in Viking life.

Later, the village gathered for an important meeting. To our great relief, Etta and Maud announced that the Anglo-Saxons—clearly intimidated by our new skills—had decided to retreat. Victory was ours!

As we made our way back to the coach, we enjoyed a final treat: a visit to the farm where we met four playful piglets enjoying a very muddy bath, along with cows, goats, sheep, donkeys, and chickens.

Bowdon Bulletin

It was an unexpected but delightful end to a truly memorable day.

Mrs. Hill reflected, "The children were completely immersed in the Viking world. It was a joy to see their excitement and curiosity sparked at every turn."

Mrs. Wood added, "The day brought history to life in such a magical and meaningful way. It's an experience they'll be talking about for a long time to come!"

We returned to school tired but buzzing with excitement. Our Viking Day at Tatton Park was a brilliant way to enrich our history learning—an unforgettable journey into the fearless and fascinating world of the Vikings.



Challenge, Courage, and Connection

Year 6 Look Back on Their Lake District Journey

A week ago today, our Year 6 pupils returned from their unforgettable Outward Bound adventure in the Lake District. They arrived home a little tired but full of smiles, stories, and a true sense of accomplishment after a beautiful week away, blessed with perfect sunshine and stunning scenery. Now that the dust has settled, we wanted to share some reflections from the children themselves about what this special experience meant to them.

Gabriella Minshall

Have you ever climbed to the top of a mountain or gone canoeing? Last week we had an experience that we might never do again and especially never forget. We faced challenges personally and physically such as climbing mountains, canoeing, forming new friendships, and creating new memories.

When we first got to the Lake District, everyone felt both excited and anxious about who would be in our dorm. I found out I was with two of my closest friends which I was overjoyed about but I didn't know the other three people in my dorm so I felt a little bit nervous. However, now that I think about it, I had no need to worry, because some of my favourite experiences were in my dorm with them!

On the first day, we did cliff jumping. As I fear heights, I was feeling worried, but my instructor Dan said it feels amazing when you get the first jump out of the way. When I did the jump, it felt like I was free from all that stress and straight after I wanted to go again and again!



When we went hiking, the scenery was beautiful; it's like nothing you will have ever seen before (especially at the top). Everywhere is vibrant with colour and surrounded by wildlife. Hiking was definitely one of my favourite experiences because after all that walking, we got to a waterfall and cooked hot dogs round the fire.

In the future, I will never forget this incredible experience and always remember the skills I developed and use them later in life.



Bowdon Bulletin

Isobel Bradbury

I loved going to Outward Bound; it was unbelievably exciting and a memorable experience. My favorite part of Outward Bound was doing all the activities. There were lots of water-based activities but also bonding and teamwork. We did something called jog and dip where you jumped in the lake with just your swimming costume on. It was cold but fun because you got to jump in with your friends, which was the best part.

We also had to do this long hike which I thought I couldn't do but my friends helped me to keep going. I got to learn about a lot of things about the lake because when we went canoeing you could see all the beautiful views, which was amazing. We also did gorge scrambling, in which you had to use a lot of your qualities like teamwork which made me come closer to my friends.

Over the week, friendship, teamwork and bravery counted for a lot, because during many of the activities, we had to do things we weren't familiar with and to help each other to succeed and keep going. I feel that Outward Bound made me get ready for the future because we had to do a lot of things on our own which made us more responsible for when we grow up. I was a bit nervous to go, but I really shouldn't have been because it was the best experience ever. The teachers were so fun, and I want to go back because I got to bond with my friends and learn more about their personalities. Outward Bound was one of the best ways to finish the year at BPS!

Nikki Eskandari

Before I first arrived in the Lake District, all the activities I had heard of seemed quite hard to achieve, but when the week had started, these activities appeared more real and exciting. On the first day, we went on a hike up Hallin Fell so that we could be prepared for the next



day. The hike was great preparation, as on the next day, we went on a 9-hour hike up: a very challenging and steep ascent. When I thought I couldn't possibly walk any further, I got that wave of motivation from my peers, and by seeing them do it, I thought that I should be able to do it too; that was one of the phrases that kept me going and made me realise what I could accomplish. I was also quite jittery when it came to water activities, but then I thought again, 'If others can do it, then I can do it too', and I ended up enjoying those experiences the most.

I think that along the way, I picked up more independence, such as when learning where to be at which time, and to be more organised. On the other hand, I also gained team-building skills, especially in the gorge walking, where we had to help each other up, keep everyone on the same stage and to make sure no one is struggling. I really loved these experiences, and I hope I will be able to try them again one day. Thank you to my teachers and friends who made the experience possible.

**Sport
@BPS**



BOWDON SPORT

TEE-RIFIC BPS GOLFING TALENT!

Isabella Swings into National Golfing Spotlight

Isabella in Year 5 has continued to excel with her golfing prowess, making impressive strides on the Ping Golf Junior Tour. Competing against talented 10–12-year-old girls from across the country, Isabella has worked her way steadily up the leaderboard and is now ranked third nationally in her category.

Her recent performance at the Ping Junior Golf Tournament in Lytham was a standout moment, where she secured a fantastic second-place finish, giving a significant boost to her overall standings. With the National Finals fast approaching in September, Isabella is training hard and demonstrating the same focus, dedication, and sportsmanship that have brought her this far.

We are incredibly proud of Isabella's golfing journey and wish her every success as she prepares to take on the very best in the country. Good luck, Isabella – your BPS family is cheering you on every step of the way!



Remarkable Rounders! Year 5 Shine Against St Vincent's

Our Year 5 rounders teams recently took on St Vincent's in an exciting afternoon of sport – once again facing teams made up largely of boys! Despite the challenge, both of our teams showed impressive determination, teamwork, and sportsmanship.

The B Team put up a strong fight in a closely contested game, narrowly losing 15½ to 19½. It was a highly respectable

performance and a true testament to their grit and perseverance.

The A Team delivered a fantastic performance, storming to victory with a score of 16 rounders to 7½! Their strategic play and excellent fielding were a joy to watch.

Well played to both teams – you represented Bowdon Prep brilliantly!

Year 3 Girls Celebrate a Winning Start to Their Rounders Journey

A huge congratulations to our Year 3 girls who took part in their very first rounders match this week! With boundless enthusiasm and team spirit, the girls showcased some excellent hitting and confident fielding throughout the game.

Facing Lady Barn House School, both teams rose to the occasion with energy, resilience, and determination. While they are still early in their rounders journey, it was wonderful to see such promise, positivity, and a clear eagerness to develop their skills further.

Best of all, their efforts were rewarded with a fantastic double win—an exciting and well-deserved start to their rounders careers. Well done, girls! We look forward to seeing your progress in the matches ahead.



Do you have a sporting story for our Bulletin? See Mrs. Hughes! You can email the story and photographs to...



photos@bowdonprep.org.uk



UPCOMING FIXTURES

WEDNESDAY 2 JULY

YEAR 3 ROUNDERS

V ALTRINCHAM PREP - 2.00PM
DURING THEIR PE LESSON - ALL
INVOLVED

THURSDAY 3 JULY

YEAR 4 ROUNDERS

V ST VINCENT'S - AWAY

YEAR 5/6 ROUNDERS
INTER-YEAR - HOME



**BELIEVE. PERSEVERE.
SUCCEED.**

Staff of the Week

Each week, the School Council presents this prestigious award during the Celebration Assemblies..



Mrs Wood

A huge well done to Mrs Wood for being selected as star staff of the week. The girls love all of her lessons and really enjoyed the Year 2 assembly this week that Mrs Wood produced. Thank you for always being so kind and caring.

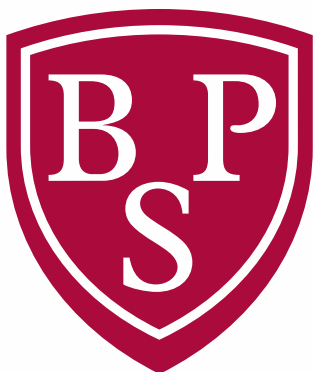


Mr Horridge

A huge thank you and well done to Mr Horridge, the Year 6 girls loved being on their residential with him and had lots of fun. Thank you for being a great teacher to all of the girls. We will miss you a lot.



BOWDON PREP SCHOOL



**BELIEVE
PERSEVERE
SUCCEED**



ASHLEY RD, ALTRINCHAM, WA14 2LT