

19TH SEPTEMBER 2025

BOWDON

BULLETIN

ALL ARE WELCOME HERE

Celebrating kindness, respect,
and belonging at Bowdon Prep.

BOWDON PREP FLY THE FLAG AT ALTRINCHAM GIRLS GRAMMAR SCHOOL

A proud milestone for
our Year 6 girls.

KINDERGARTEN'S AUTUMN ADVENTURES BEGIN...

Little learners embracing
the magic of autumn.

BELIEVE PERSEVERE SUCCEED



www.bowdonprep.org.uk



office@bowdonprep.org.uk



COMMUNICATION. CURRICULUM. CARE.



Thought for the week

All are welcome here.

Creating a welcoming, inclusive, and positive environment has been the focus for this week. Our theme has been 'All are welcome here.'

At Bowdon Prep School, we believe that every one of our girls deserves to feel a strong sense of belonging from the moment they walk through our doors. Feeling welcomed, valued, and included is the foundation for a happy and successful learning journey from Kindergarten to Year 6. When children know they are part of a caring community, a school family, they become more confident, resilient, and ready to engage and succeed in their learning.

Belonging isn't just about being present; it's about being seen, heard, and celebrated for who we are. We work hard to create an environment where every child feels safe, respected, and connected to peers and the adults around them. This includes nurturing friendships, encouraging teamwork, and recognising each child's unique and varied strengths and contributions.

Inclusion is at the heart of everything we do. We celebrate diversity and ensure that every child, regardless of background, ability, or need, has equitable access to opportunities and feels valued. We actively promote the Fundamental British Values of: Democracy, Rule of Law, Individual Liberty, Mutual Respect, and Tolerance of Different Faiths and Beliefs.



"These values help children grow into respectful, responsible citizens and are embedded in our curriculum, enrichment activities, and daily school life."



Mrs. Delf





We know that routines help children feel secure and ready to learn. Predictable structures, such as morning greetings, consistent expectations, and regular transitions, support emotional well-being and help children manage their time, responsibilities, and relationships more effectively. As such, we prepare special activities every morning, between 8:40 am and 9 am in every classroom, to promote the best start to the day. In the Early Years, stories are shared to ensure everyone starts calmly and positively. In Pre-Prep, the girls have starter tasks to develop key literacy and numeracy skills.

Throughout the Prep department, daily tasks follow shared notices and key information about the day ahead. This offers the girls time to settle, deepen thinking skills, and sharpen independent and collaborative skills. In year 6, each day has a special focus: Monday Memes, Time to Teach Tuesday, Wednesday Word Puzzles, Thursday Riddle Time, and Fun Fact Friday. Sharing this time means that learning is underway from the minute the big, red door opens.

We value strong partnerships with families, which are key to helping children thrive.

When parents feel welcomed and involved, children benefit from a consistent message of support and encouragement at home and at school. Together, we can build a school where every child feels they truly belong—and where they can grow, learn, and shine.

Tips to help our girls feel they belong.

- Celebrate their uniqueness – praise their efforts and interests
- Create routines – consistency helps children feel safe
- Talk about school – ask your daughter to tell you about their day
- Display their work – show pride in what they create
- Use positive language – encourage and affirm their identity
- Connect with teachers – build a team around your child
- Encourage friendships – invite classmates for playdates
- Model inclusion – speak kindly about others and differences



Mrs. Delf
Deputy Head

Looking Ahead: Next Week

Thought of the Week

Be Resilient

Happy school, Healthy school, Safe school

Focus on: Allergies



Communication

Key Dates





NEXT WEEK

At a glance...

**WB 22ND
SEPTEMBER**

Please note: Y5 Reviews will take place throughout the week

CANCELLED

*After School Clubs
cancellations.*

MON

15

MONDAY

Y5 Netball
...

TUES

16

Nasal Flu Vaccinations

TUESDAY

...

WED

17

WEDNESDAY

THUR

18

THURSDAY

Y6 netball club
due to an away
fixture

FRI

19

World Space Day

FRIDAY

Autumn Term 1 - 2025

Key Dates at a glance

September



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

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
1 InSeT	2 InSeT	3 School opens Winter Uniform Y5 Study Skills Day	4	5
8	9	10	11	12
15 11+ Trafford Exam	16	17	18 Y3 Trip	19 Loreto Exam BPS Society meeting
22	23 <i>Rosh Hashanah</i> Nasal Flu Vaccinations	24	25	26 World Space Day
29 Harvest Donations into school	30 Y1-Y6 Harvest Festival - Pupils only			

MONDAY

Y1 & Y2 Dance
(Y5 Netball)
Y2 Art
Y3 Baking

TUESDAY

Y1 & Y2 Yoga
Y5 & Y6 Chamber Choir
Y3 Baking

WEDNESDAY

Y3 - Y6 Multi Sports
Y3 - Y6 Choir
Y3 - Y6 Art
Rock Band

THURSDAY

(Y6 Netball)
Y1 - Y6 Drama
Y3 - Y5 Street Dance
Y1 & Y2 Recorder Club

FRIDAY

Y3 - Y6 Yoga
Y3 - Y6 Full Orchestra
Y1 -Y6 Mandarin

October

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
		1	2 <i>Yom Kippur</i> EY Harvest - 9am parents invited	3
6	7	8	9 Individual school photos	10
13	14 Parents' Evening Book Fair	15 Y5 trip Book Fair	16 Parents' Evening Book Fair	17 <i>Diwali</i> School closes for Half Term

FOLLOW US



SUPPORTING SOUTH TRAFFORD FOODBANK THIS HARVEST

We are delighted to let you know that our school will soon be celebrating our annual Harvest Festival. This is always a special time of year when we come together as a community to give thanks for the food we enjoy and to remember those who may be in need.

As part of our celebration, we are once again supporting South Trafford Foodbank, who are extremely grateful for the continued generosity of our BPS families. Your donations will help provide essential supplies for local families who rely on this service.

This year, we kindly ask each year group to contribute the following items:

- **Kindergarten:** Toothbrushes and toothpaste
- **Reception:** Biscuits (no nuts) or a box of chocolates (no nuts)
- **Year 1:** Toilet rolls
- **Year 2:** Instant mash or tinned ham
- **Year 3:** Shower gel and shampoo
- **Year 4:** Washing capsules (for clothes), washing powder, cleaning cloths
- **Year 5:** Tins of fruit, custard, rice pudding
- **Year 6:** Jars of coffee or plastic bottles of squash/cordial

Please send donations into school in a labelled bag (with your child's year group and type of items) on **Monday 29th September**, or by **Tuesday 30th September** at the latest.

All contributions will be displayed during our Harvest Festival Assemblies on Tuesday 30th September and Thursday 2nd October, before being delivered to South Trafford Foodbank on Friday 3rd October.

Thank you, as always, for your kindness and generosity.





POLITE REMINDER - MAINTAINING A TIDY AND COMPLIANT SCHOOL ENVIRONMENT.

We kindly ask parents to refrain from using the school's bins, situated in the staff car park for personal rubbish.

We work with a designated waste disposal company and, unfortunately, we incur fines when bins are misused or contaminated with inappropriate waste. We respectfully ask that you take your litter home with you, if this is not possible and you need to dispose of litter while on site, please use the waste bins located by the pupil entrance.

Thank you for your understanding and cooperation in helping us keep our school environment tidy and compliant.

BPS SOCIETY NEWS

My name is Mirian Cunningham (mum to Ariya in Year 7, Nova in Year 4, and baby Ava!) and I'm delighted to be the new Chair of our BPS Society. As a working parent, I once thought there was no way I could offer anything to our community, but I've learned that even a little help goes a long way in enriching our children's school life.

Together, we recently funded a brand-new school bus! This year, our big goal is to raise £10,000 towards a new playground. We'll be running events like the Halloween Disco, Christmas Fair, Easter Egg Hunt, and preloved uniform sales. I am delighted to announce that we made over £500 from this week's sale - an exceptional fundraising start to the year!!

Whether you can give time, skills, ideas, or donations - big or small, your help makes a difference.

Please scan the QR code

(<https://forms.office.com/e/wmNMkdBx4m>) to complete the short form to see how you can get involved.

Thank you for your continued support!

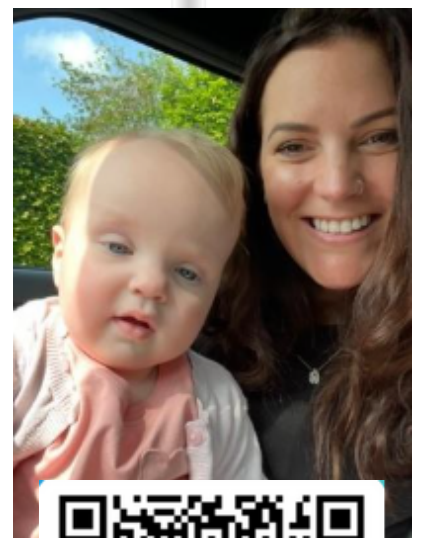
SCAFFOLDING INFORMATION

You may also have noticed the scaffolding outside the pupil entrance is still here, all is well with our wonderful building and it should be dismantled next week.

Thank you for your patience.

SUPERVISION OF YOUR CHILDREN

Children **must be supervised** at all times by parents before school, until the doors are opened by staff, and also when children are dismissed into your care at the end of the School day.



Reminder

Donations Needed: Help Build Our Costume Bank!

The BPS Society is building a costume bank for school events. First, we need Victorian Day costumes for Year 5 by **Friday 26th September**.

After this, we will also ask for donations for the Nativity, Y3 Waxworks & World Book Day.

Please leave clean, labelled donations in Bella Bench. Thank you!



BPS UNIFORM

Our wonderful BPS Society sell pre-loved uniform throughout the academic year and all funds raised go towards our school. Please contact the School Office for contact details.

If you would like to **purchase new uniform** item during the summer holidays, then please email victoria@pwschoolwear.com to arrange a fitting appointment at a convenient time. You can also purchase your uniform as usual online – local delivery is free.

<https://www.pascoeandwillis.com/bowdon-preparatory-school>
Password: BPS24

The BPS uniform shop will be open:
Monday 22 Sept 8.10–9am and 3–4pm
Thursday 24 Sept 8.10–9am



UNLEASH YOUR CREATIVITY!

Showcase your talent in this year's **ISA Art Competition**

We are delighted to launch this year's ISA Art Competition, open to all children from Kindergarten to Year 6! **For the first time, pupils are encouraged to enter pieces created not only in school but also at home** – a fantastic chance to showcase creativity beyond the classroom.

Categories include:

- 2D (painting, oil pastel, drawing)
- 3D
- Drawing
- Photography
- Textiles & Fashion

How to enter:

All entries should be handed to Mrs Chapman in the Art Room by **Monday 29th September**. Please make sure your child's name and form are clearly written on the back of the work.

This is a wonderful opportunity for our young artists to demonstrate their imagination and skills across a wide range of mediums.

"I would love to see as many of you as possible take part in this year's ISA Art Competition. Whether it's a drawing, painting, photograph, or something you've created at home, this is your chance to share your creativity and shine. I can't wait to see all of your wonderful ideas come to life!" – **Mrs Chapman**



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



WB 22.09.25

MONDAY



*Pasta
Broccoli
Cookies*

TUESDAY



*Quorn or Chicken Roast Dinner
Carrots and Cauliflower Cheese
Fruit or Yoghurt*

WEDNESDAY



*Pizza with various toppings
Baked Beans and Sweetcorn
Sorbet*

THURSDAY



*Quorn or Chicken Escalope
Peas
Gingerbread Biscuits*

FRIDAY



*Pork or Veggie Sausages
Green Beans
Chocolate Cupcakes*

Salad Bar available each day



BPS is a nut and sesame seed free school, including hummus and pesto

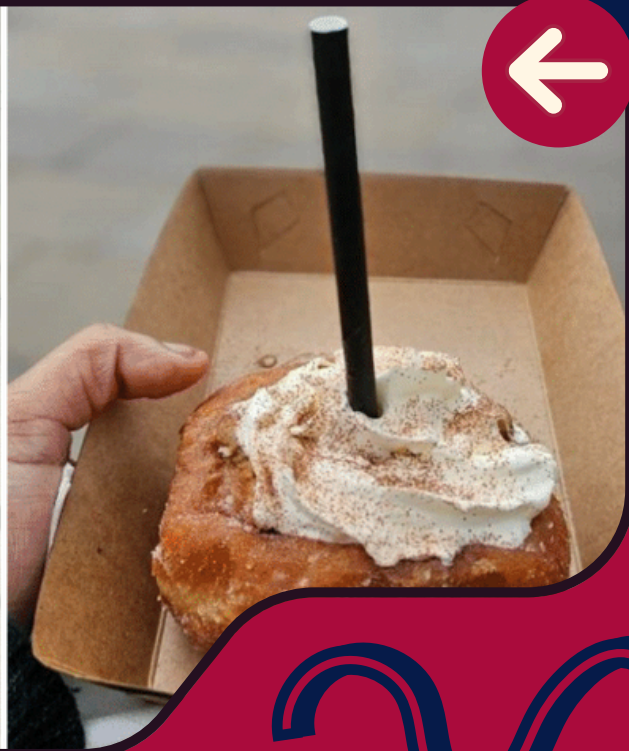
However, due to manufacturing processes, some products used in the school kitchen state that they 'may contain nuts/sesame'. Vegetarian options, salad bar, fruit and yoghurts are available daily. All our food is made using the finest quality produce.

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



Bowdon Prep fly the flag at Altrincham Girls and Loreto Grammar School

On an autumnal Monday morning, our Year 6 girls arrived looking super smart and ready to sit the Trafford Consortium 11+ entrance exams at Altrincham Girls Grammar. Thanks to the support, guidance and expertise of our Upper Prep team, the girls approached the day with confidence and determination.

Mrs McGrath reflected on the morning: "We were so proud to see our girls walk into the exams with such self-belief. Their hard work, resilience and commitment have been inspiring, and they truly embody the values we hold dear at BPS."

Alongside Mrs Delf, Mrs Hughes and, of course, Bella Bear, the team were on hand to meet the girls and their parents, reminding them how proud we are of their efforts and encouraging them to believe in themselves.

Mrs Hughes added: "It was wonderful to see the girls' positivity and calmness as they faced such an important milestone. They have worked incredibly hard, and we know that whatever the outcome, they have already achieved so much."



On their return, the girls were treated to a well-deserved pizza lunch, followed by engaging leadership activities to help prepare them for the new responsibilities and roles that will be announced later this half term.

We are immensely proud of all our Year 6 girls. Since returning in September, they have consistently demonstrated belief, perseverance and success in everything they do, continuing to be outstanding role models and ambassadors for our school.



Kindergarten's Autumn Adventures Begin...

Kindergarten's Autumn Adventures Begin! Kindergarten have made a fantastic start to their new topic all about the seasons, and with Autumn just around the corner, the girls have jumped right in with great enthusiasm!

From the very first day, they've shown a real curiosity about the changes happening in the world around them, and we've already uncovered some fascinating facts together. We began our seasonal exploration by looking closely at the trees in our playground and surrounding fields. The girls noticed that the leaves are beginning to change colour, turning beautiful shades of red, yellow, and orange.

We discovered that this magical transformation happens because there isn't enough sunlight in Autumn to keep the leaves green – a fact that really captured the children's imaginations. As our discussions grew, so did our vocabulary! We've been learning some impressive new words, like deciduous, which describes trees that lose their leaves in the colder months.

The girls were very proud to share this new knowledge with Mrs Makepeace-Taylor when she popped into our classroom for a visit – and she was certainly impressed! We also started talking about some of the special festivals that take place during this time of year, such as Rosh Hashanah, the Jewish New Year, and Diwali, the Hindu festival of lights, which we'll be learning more about as the term unfolds.



Bowdon Bulletin

Our learning has extended beyond the classroom walls too. During our nature walks around the school grounds and sports field, we've been collecting autumn treasures like acorns, conkers, and colourful leaves. These natural materials have become part of our classroom activities – we've used them for counting, sorting, pattern-making, and even creating our very own leaf people!

The girls have absolutely loved bringing the outdoors in, and it's been wonderful to see how engaged they are in hands-on learning. Even in their imaginative play, the girls have been using their new seasonal vocabulary confidently, which has delighted Mrs Ward, who's been listening carefully throughout the week. It's clear that our Kindergarten learners are not only absorbing knowledge but also applying it in creative and meaningful ways. We're so excited for all the adventures and discoveries that the rest of the term will bring. Autumn is just getting started, and so are we!



*"It has been such a joy to see the girls embracing the **magic of Autumn** with such curiosity and creativity. They are not only learning new facts but also applying their knowledge in imaginative ways **every single day.**"*

Mrs Ward
KG Teacher



The BPS Learning Hub

Quick Links.

Smart Learning.

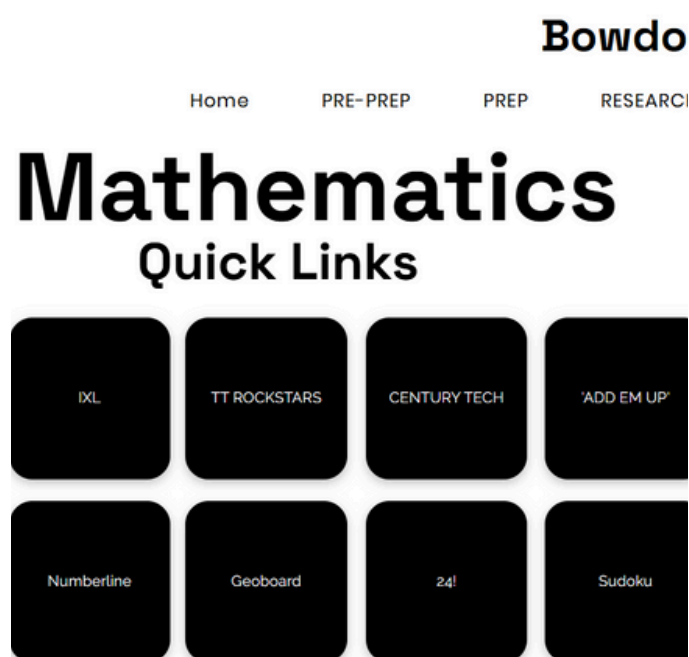
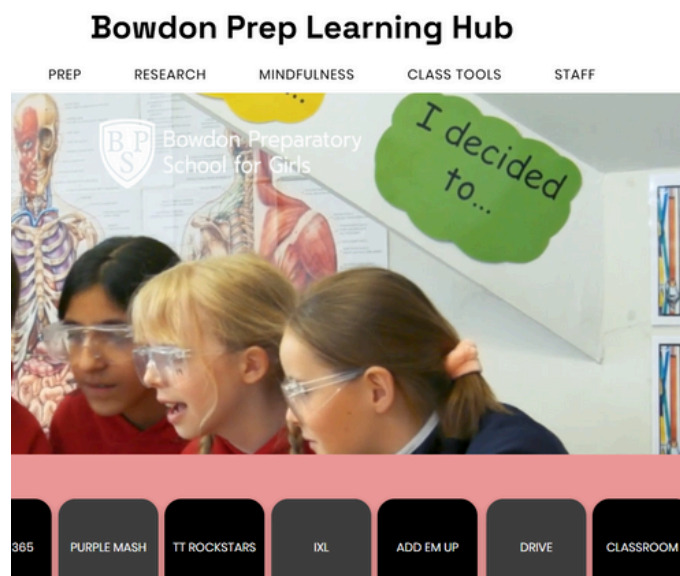
Whenever the girls open a browser in school, they are prompted to visit the BPS Learning Hub. Built in-house, this one-stop site provides quick and easy access to the resources we use most often, both in school and at home.

The Hub includes links to Century Learning, IXL, and TTRockstars, as well as safe search engines, maths games, NVR videos (visit the Prep section for these), and even calming meditation clips. In short, if we use it in school, you'll find it on the Hub!

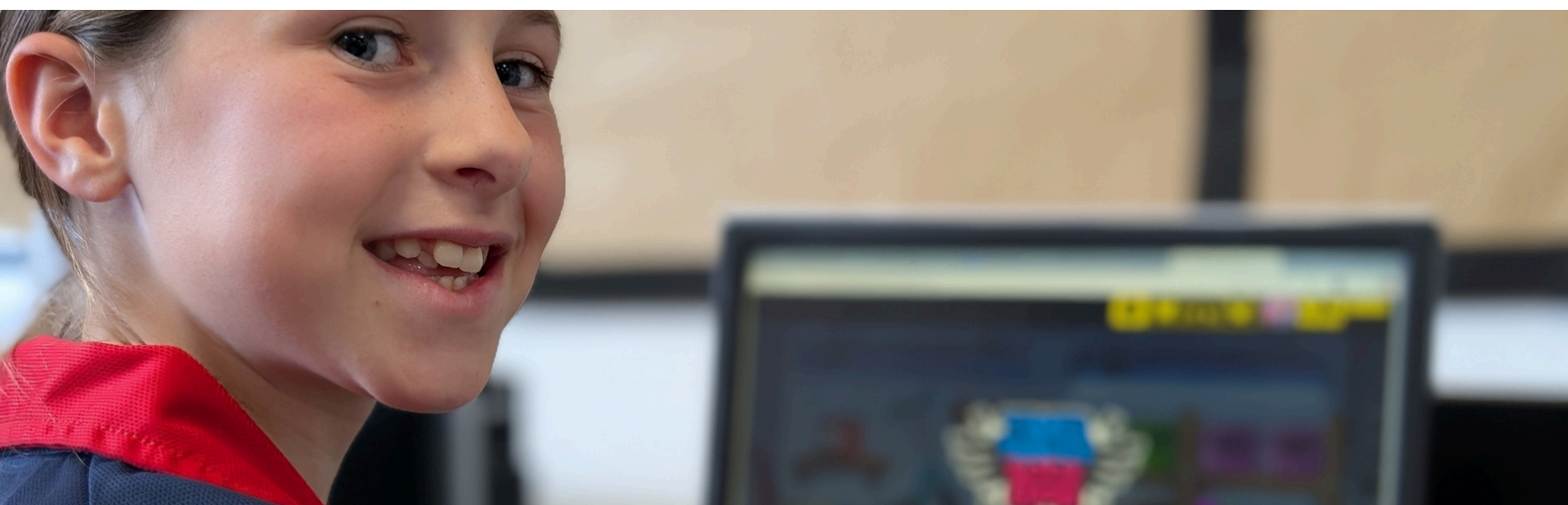
Why not add the Hub to your child's device at home? It's a fantastic way to encourage independence with homework and is especially useful for pupils who are new to BPS.

We'll continue to develop the Hub throughout the year, and we'd love your input. If there are resources you feel would benefit our girls, please do get in touch with us.

www.bpslearninghub.org



Maths Bot - Qu





**Sport
@BPS**

BOWDON SPORT

BPS SHINE IN SEASON OPENER

Impressive wins, strong teamwork.

Our netball season began in style with an exciting away trip to Alderley Edge School for Girls – also marking the first outing of the year for our school minibus. The atmosphere was buzzing as the teams stepped onto court for their opening games, full of anticipation and determination.

From the very first whistle, both Year 5 and Year 6 displayed superb teamwork, excellent passing, and a positive spirit. There were some lovely passages of play to enjoy, with confident shooting up front and strong, well-organised defending at the back.

Year 5 worked tirelessly and were rewarded with a fantastic 5–2 win, while Year 6 impressed with their energy and precision, securing an outstanding 9–0 victory. Beyond the scores, it was heartening to see the girls supporting one another, celebrating every goal, and demonstrating true sportsmanship throughout the afternoon.

Reflecting on the matches, Mrs. Hughes said: “I was so proud of the way the girls played together – their encouragement for each other and determination on court were wonderful to see. These results are a great foundation for what promises to be an exciting season ahead.”



UPCOMING FIXTURES

MONDAY 22ND SEPTEMBER
YEAR 5/6 INTER YEAR NETBALL
MATCH (HOME)

THURSDAY 25TH SEPTEMBER
YEAR 5A AND YEAR 6 A VS
CHEADLE - AWAY



***BELIEVE. PERSEVERE.
SUCCEED.***

Staff of the Week

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



Mrs Herbert

Mrs Herbert, what a wonderful and enthusiastic teacher you are. You care for us so much and we love how kind you are to us everyday.

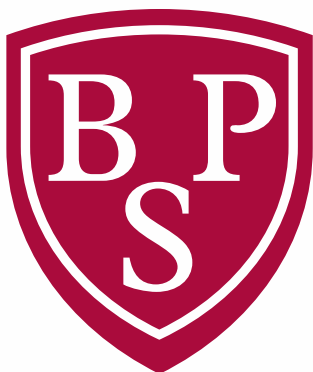


Mrs McCallum

Mrs McCallum, thank you so much for all of your amazing and exciting lessons, we learn so much from you every single day! Thank you.



BOWDON PREP SCHOOL



**BELIEVE
PERSEVERE
SUCCEED**



ASHLEY RD, ALTRINCHAM, WA14 2LT