

13 FEBRUARY 2026

# BOWDON

BULLETIN

## WHAT MAKES YOUR HEART SING?

Nurturing Happy, Confident Pupils  
at BPS.

## YEAR 6 STEM PROJECT SHOWCASE

Inspiring Innovation and  
Confidence at Bowdon  
Preparatory School



[www.bowdonprep.org.uk](http://www.bowdonprep.org.uk)



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COMMUNICATION. CURRICULUM. CARE.



## AT A GLANCE: In this week's Bulletin

3	<b>Happy, Healthy, School</b> Supporting Wellbeing Across Our School Community	10	<b>Community</b> BPS and beyond
6	<b>Communication</b> Key dates, School information and Mrs Abbey's Menu	15	<b>Curriculum</b>
		20	<b>Sports News</b>
		22	<b>Staff of the Week</b>





# What Makes Your Heart Sing?

## *Nurturing Happy, Confident Pupils Who Discover Their Passions, Values and True Potential at Bowdon Prep*

**At Bowdon Prep, our goal is to nurture happy, confident pupils who believe in themselves and strive to achieve their true potential - academically, socially and emotionally.**

We want every pupil to feel valued, supported and inspired to discover who they are and what they can become. We often encourage the girls to think about what makes their heart sing – the activities that bring them joy, the interests that spark their curiosity and the values or beliefs that help guide their choices.

This might be a love of music, sport or art, a passion for helping others, enjoyment in learning new things, time spent with family and friends, or having the confidence to stand up for what they believe is right. Finding what makes your heart sing is important because it helps children to understand themselves better.

It builds confidence, resilience and self-belief. When children feel connected to something they care about, they are more motivated to try their best, to persevere when learning feels challenging, and to take pride in their achievements.

These passions and positive values can act like an inner compass, helping to guide choices, shape friendships and support emotional wellbeing. Reflection plays an important part in this journey. Taking time to pause and think about their experiences – what they enjoyed, what challenged them, and what made them feel proud - helps children to recognise what truly matters to them.



Through reflection, they learn that mistakes are part of learning and that growth comes from trying again. This develops resilience, emotional awareness and a positive attitude towards new challenges. When children feel happy and secure in who they are, they are also more likely to show kindness, empathy and respect to others.





Celebrating individuality helps them recognise that everyone has different talents, interests and dreams – and that these differences should be valued. We also see this joy reflected in the many special celebrations that take place throughout the year.

Religious festivals, cultural traditions and personal milestones all give us opportunities to pause, feel grateful, and come together as a community. Whether it is Eid, Diwali, Christmas, Hanukkah, birthdays, weddings or family achievements, these moments remind us of the importance of happiness, belonging and togetherness.

By sharing and learning about each other's celebrations, children develop curiosity and understanding of the world around them. It also nurtures kindness, respect and tolerance for all – values that sit at the heart of our country's Fundamental British Values.

They learn that while our traditions may be different, the feelings of joy, hope, love and pride behind them are very much the same. We encourage families to continue talking at home about what makes your child's heart sing and to celebrate the things that bring your family happiness.

Together, we can help our children grow into confident, compassionate individuals who feel proud of who they are and excited about who they are becoming.



**Mrs. Fiona McGrath**  
Prep Phase Leader (Ed Ops)  
Head of Science/ Senior Transition  
Year 6 Form Teacher (6M)



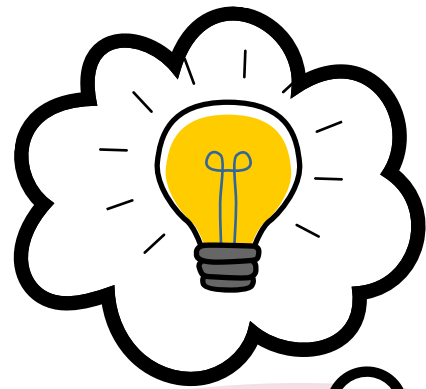
## Looking Ahead: After Half Term

### Thought of the Week

It doesn't matter what others are doing, it matters what YOU are doing (making good choices)

**Happy school, Healthy school, Safe school**

Road safety



**Mrs S Makepeace-Taylor**  
Headteacher



# Communication

## Key Dates



# AFTER HALF TERM

At a glance...

**WC 23 FEBRUARY 2026**

KG and Reception reviews commence

*After School Club*  
***cancellations***

**MON**

School closed - Staff Inset Day

**MONDAY**

**TUES**

School opens

**TUESDAY**

**WED**

**WEDNESDAY**

**THUR**

Y5 Trip

**THURSDAY**

**FRI**

**FRIDAY**

# Spring Term 2026

## Key dates at a glance

### February

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
2 February	3 Prospective Parents Open Day	4 Parent Meetings (2pm or 7pm)	5	6
9	10 Parents' Evening	11	12 Parents' Evening	13 <i>Lunar New Year</i> <b>School Closes</b>
16 <i>Half Term</i>	17 <i>Half Term</i>	18 <i>Half Term</i>	19 <i>Half Term</i>	20 <i>Half Term</i>
23 <b>Inset Day</b>	24 <b>School Opens</b>	25	26 Y5 Trip	27

#### MONDAY

Y1 & Y2 Dance  
Y5 Netball  
Y2 Art  
Y3 - Y6 Ukulele

#### TUESDAY

Y1 & Y2 Yoga  
Y5 & Y6 Chamber Choir  
Y3 & Y4 Recorder Club  
Y3 - Y6 Fencing  
Y3 & Y4 Science Club

#### WEDNESDAY

Y3 - Y6 Multi Sports  
Y3 - Y6 Art  
Prep Rock Band  
Y5 & Y6 Recorder Club

### March and April

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
2 March	3 Science Day	4	5 World Book Day	6
9	10	11	12	13 Y1 Mothers Day Assembly - 9am
16	17 Y4 Trip LAMDA Exams	18 LAMDA Exams	19	20
23	24	25	26 Y3 & Y4 Show 2pm and 6pm	27 Y1 Trip
30 BPSS Easter Egg Hunt	31 Y5 Residential	1 April Y5 Residential	2 Y5 Residential <b>School Closes</b>	

#### THURSDAY

Y6 Netball  
Y1 - Y6 Drama  
Pre Prep Recorder Club  
Y3 - Y5 Street Dance  
Y1 /Y2 & Y5/Y6 Football

#### FRIDAY

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



FOLLOW US







# Dates for your diary!

## World Book Day - Thursday 5 March

See poster on the next page for more information.

## Eid ul Fitr – Monday 20 March

Children who are celebrating Eid are warmly invited to come to school wearing traditional dress, should they wish to do so.



## SAVE THE DATE

### Easter celebration - Monday 30 March.

In addition, for our Easter celebrations on Monday 30 March, the whole school is invited to wear spring colours and, if they wish, an Easter bonnet. This will be a joyful way to welcome the new season and share in the festive spirit together.

We look forward to celebrating these important cultural and seasonal events as a school community and thank you for your continued support in helping us foster an inclusive and respectful environment for all.

## BPS UNIFORM

The BPS Society sell **pre-loved uniform** throughout the academic year with all funds raised going towards our School. Please contact the School Office if you have an enquiry

To **purchase new uniform**, the BPS Uniform Shop will be open this week on:

Thursday 8.10am - 9am

You can email [victoria@pwschoolwear.com](mailto:victoria@pwschoolwear.com) to arrange a fitting appointment or you can purchase online (local delivery is free)

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

Password: BPS24

**PLEASE ENSURE children wear only BPS hats/scarves and arrive each day with their BPS blue waterproof coat.**





Get Ready for...

WORLD  
BOOK  
DAY  
2026

# WORLD BOOK DAY

Dress Up as a

**HERO** or **VILLAIN**

FROM A BOOK!

5th March 2026

Who will  
you choose?



Prepare your  
costume!







# MRS ABBEY'S LUNCH



WC 23.2.26

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## MONDAY



*School closed - Staff Inset Day*

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## TUESDAY



*Pasta with various sauce options  
Broccoli  
Orange Cookies*

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## WEDNESDAY



*Homemade Pizza with various toppings  
Beans and Sweetcorn  
Sorbet*

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## THURSDAY



*Veggie or Chicken Escalope, Crispy Potatoes  
Peas  
Gingerbread men*

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## FRIDAY



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



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**Each day, a salad bar is available with fruit and yogurt  
as an alternative to desserts.**

### **Health and Safety Notice**

**BPS is a Allergy Aware School - nut-free and sesame seed-free**

**(Please be mindful when sending in any items into school, including birthday treats)**

Please note, due to manufacturing processes, some products used in the school kitchen state may contain  
nuts/sesame'. **Please cut grapes in half - length-ways or in quarters.**

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





# Young Artists' Summer Show – Enter Now!

*Your art could be shown at the Royal Academy.*

*Entries close 4 March 2026.*

**Do you love making art? Would you like to submit your art to be judged by the Royal Academy of Arts? If so, then read on! The Royal Academy of Arts is hosting their Young Artists' Summer Show and your art could feature!**

Here are the main details: The Young Artists' Summer Show is a free, open submission exhibition for young artists aged 4–18 years studying in the UK.

Each student can submit one artwork and there is no theme. When you enter, the Royal Academy of Arts will ask for an image of the artwork plus some information about the piece such as title, size, and some text written by you, the artist, which can include why you created the work and what it means to you.

Their panel of judges will see the artwork and the selected pieces will be shown in their online exhibition. Some of the artworks will also be shown at the Royal Academy of Arts.

We have registered BPS as a school and all submissions need to be in by Wednesday 4 March 2026, judging will then take place in



May 2026 with the online exhibition opening on 14th July 2026 and work is displayed at the RA from 14 July - 30 August 2026.

The RA has set some guidance on the kinds of artwork the judges are looking for when they review submissions (please see attached link: [Click here](#)).

The artwork can be made using any material; it can be a painting, sculpture, photograph, installation, video, drawing, or a combination.

There is no theme so artworks can be of any subject and we don't mind when you made the artwork as long as you are between 4-18 years old when you submit it. We also welcome collaborative pieces made by more than one student, a whole class, a whole year group or even a whole school!

We can't wait to see your amazing creations! Good luck!



Bowdon  
Preparatory School

# Soloists' Concert: A Celebration of Young Musicians

**We are delighted to announce that we will be holding a Soloists' Concert and are excited to offer this opportunity to any pupil who learns a musical instrument, either in school or outside of school, to take part in this special event.**

The concert will take place on Tuesday 10th March at 4.00pm. Parents and carers of those who are performing are warmly invited to arrive from 3.45pm in the playground and will then be welcomed into the sports hall for the performance.

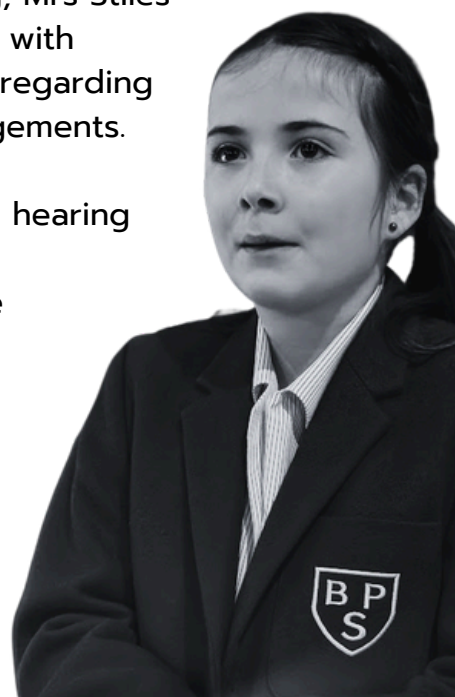
This concert will be free for audience members and will celebrate the musical achievements of our pupils and provide them with the opportunity to perform independently in a supportive and encouraging environment.

Pupils wishing to take part must be working at Grade 1 or above on their instrument. If your child is interested in performing, please complete the reply slip at the bottom of the information letter that is going home this week, no later than **FRIDAY 27th FEBRUARY** and return it to school with the required details.

Once we have received all reply slips and confirmed which pupils will be participating, Mrs Stiles will contact families with further information regarding performance arrangements.

We look forward to hearing from our young musicians and hope many pupils will take advantage of this exciting opportunity.

Mrs. Stiles





Bringing science & engineering to life

HubLab

# FunLab



Play, explore, and get hands-on with the wonders of science!

7 & 8

March

## FunLab Trafford Centre Takeover for British Science Week!

Join us to explore, play and discover in a free weekend of science and engineering fun.

Meet robots, handle dinosaur bones and get hands-on with experiments and activities to take home.



**TRAFFORD**  
MANCHESTER

Explore more >>>



B B C

13 FEB 2026  
– 3 JAN 2027  
BOOK NOW

# HORRIBLE SCIENCE

# COSMIC CHAOS

AN OUT-OF-THIS-WORLD  
PREMIERE EXHIBITION



MAJOR SPONSOR

CGI



# The Outdoors Project

Inspiring Adventure Clubs For Kids



**BOWDON PREP SCHOOL**

**FRIDAY**

**BOOK NOW - 4 WEEK BLOCK**

**LUNCH CLUB**



**BOWDON PREP SCHOOL**

Dates: 6th March - 27th March

Years 3-6 - 12:00 - 12:30 - £24 for 4 weeks





**HOLIDAY CLUB**

ALTRINCHAM PREP

**Choose Fun**

# HOLIDAY CLUB

**FOR CHILDREN AGED  
3 - 12 years**

- ★ OPEN FROM 7.30AM - 6.00PM
- ★ BREAKFAST INCLUDED
- ★ OFSTED REGISTERED

MARLBOROUGH RD, BOWDON,  
ALTRINCHAM WA14 2RR

[www.fun-fest.co.uk](http://www.fun-fest.co.uk)

**BOOKINGS OPEN NOW**



**HOLIDAY CLUB**  
ALTRINCHAM PREP

## February Half Term

**16<sup>th</sup> February - 20<sup>th</sup> February**

**Altrincham Prep School - Marlborough Road**

**7:30am - 6pm**

Ages 3 - 7	AM		PM	
Mon	Shapeshifters	Sports Action	Yoga	Football
Tues	Sand Fest	Tennis	Fun Fest Got Talent	Cricket
Weds	Messy Mayhem	Table Tennis	Down in the Jungle	Sports Action
Thurs	Under the Sea	Basketball	Great Outdoors	Sports Action
Fri	Bling!	Sports Action	Our 1 <sup>st</sup> Birthday Party!	

**FOLLOW OUR  
WHATSAPP CHANNEL  
FOR MORE INFO!**





# Curriculum

## Reflecting on our week at BPS







# Year 6 STEM Project Showcase

## Inspiring Innovation and Confidence at Bowdon Preparatory School

**This term, Year 6 pupils at Bowdon Preparatory School engaged in a five-week STEM project, exploring science, technology, engineering and mathematics. This initiative not only fostered their academic skills but also empowered them to take part in meaningful, hands-on learning experiences.**

In the first week, the pupils researched and selected projects from a range of Science Project Ideas, detailing their choices and carefully planning their approaches. The titles of their projects were diverse and imaginative, including topics such as: Understanding Rock Candy, How to Make Lip Balm, How to Make the Best Cookie, How to Make the Best Cat Toy, and Investigating Different Types of Bird Food. Each project provided valuable opportunities for hands-on exploration of scientific principles.

In week three, the pupils analysed their findings, reflecting thoughtfully on whether

their projects met expectations. While, in week four involved evaluating strengths and weaknesses, discussing successes and identifying areas for improvement. This reflective process encouraged critical thinking and allowed the pupils to assess the effectiveness of their experiments.

This week, the project culminated in presentations during Parents' Evening, where the pupils proudly exhibited their work with confidence and enthusiasm.

We commend all the Year 6 pupils for their dedication, creativity and perseverance throughout this initiative. The STEM project has not only strengthened their scientific understanding but has also nurtured confidence and a strong sense of accomplishment. We hope they will continue to pursue their interests in science and consider future pathways in STEM-related fields.

Well done to all the Year 6 pupils for their outstanding effort!







**Sport**  
**@BPS**





# Goal Fest at Stamford Park!

## *Year 4 A and B Teams Shine in Dominant Away Performances*

On Monday 9th February, the Year 4 A and B teams travelled to Stamford Park for an exciting away fixture—and what a performance it was! Both teams dominated from the first whistle, with BPS scoring an incredible 21 goals across the two matches.

The A team delivered a superb performance, securing a fantastic 10–1 victory. Congratulations to Fi Fi, who was deservedly voted Player of the Match. A special mention also goes to Roseanna, who scored an impressive four goals, and Scarlett, who added another three to the tally.

The B team were equally outstanding, celebrating a remarkable 11–0 win. Well done to Lilian, named Player of the Match, and to Isabel, who was the top goal scorer with an incredible six goals. A huge congratulations to both teams for their teamwork, determination and excellent sportsmanship—an outstanding achievement all round!



## **UPCOMING FIXTURES**

**TUESDAY 24 FEBRUARY:  
ISA U11 REGIONAL NETBALL  
TOURNAMENT @ HULME HALL**

**THURSDAY 26 FEBRUARY:  
Y5/6 NETBALL V CHEADLE HULME  
(HOME)**

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



# Staff of the Week

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



## **Mrs Makepeace-Taylor**

A huge congratulations to our amazing, thoughtful, kind and inspirational Mrs Makepeace-Taylor; we are so unbelievably lucky to have you guiding our school in the way you do, for the best years of our lives. You are so kind and caring to all of us and we love you!



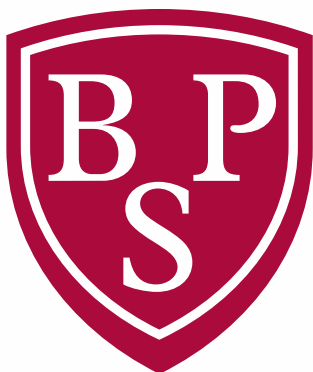
## **Mrs Baxter**

A huge congratulations to Mrs Baxter, your PE lessons are absolutely brilliant, you support us at all of our matches and make us feel so proud of ourselves. Well done and thank you!





# **BOWDON PREP SCHOOL**



**BELIEVE  
PERSEVERE  
SUCCEED**



**ASHLEY RD, ALTRINCHAM, WA14 2LT**