

13 MARCH 2026

BOWDON

BULLETIN

**SAME VALUES.
NEW CHAPTER.**

OUR BIG RED DOOR
OPENS **WIDER** THIS
SEPTEMBER TO
WELCOME BOTH
GIRLS AND BOYS



Bowdon
Preparatory
School



www.bowdonprep.org.uk



office@bowdonprep.org.uk



COMMUNICATION. CURRICULUM. CARE.



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

Happy, Healthy, School

Supporting Wellbeing Across Our
School Community

Communication

Key dates
School information
Mrs Abbey's Menu

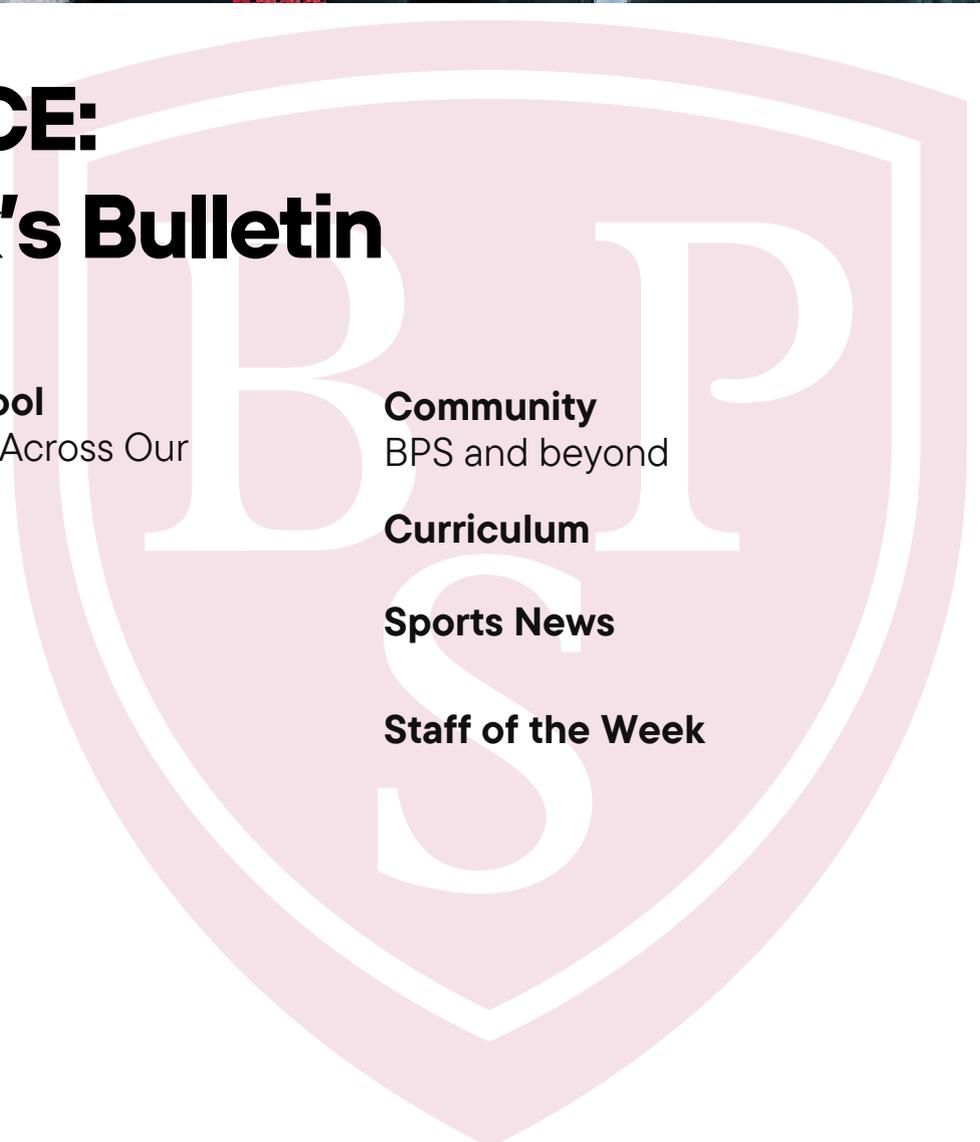
Community

BPS and beyond

Curriculum

Sports News

Staff of the Week

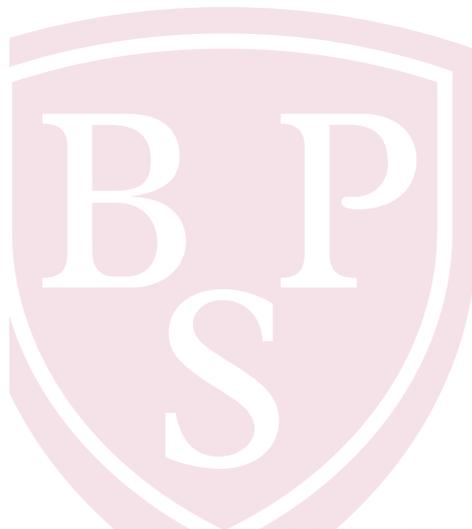




Important Announcement

Same Values. New Chapter.

Hear from our Headteacher, Mrs Makepeace-Taylor, on our Instagram and Reach More Parents pages as she shares more about this exciting step forward for Bowdon Prep.





Thought for the Week

Be the Game-Changer

This week's theme is Be the Game Changer – but what does that really mean? Being a game changer isn't always about standing in the spotlight.

Often, it's about doing the right thing when no one is watching. It's about having a strong moral compass, being the role model others want to follow, and showing kindness, honesty and courage in the small moments of everyday school life. A game changer is someone who makes a positive difference – sometimes in big ways, but often in small, everyday actions.

It might be being brave enough to ask for help when you need it, sharing your ideas in class, or challenging yourself with harder questions in maths. It could also be respectfully challenging an answer during a debate in PSHE.

Game changers are curious thinkers who are not afraid to speak up and contribute. A game changer also challenges stereotypes and pushes boundaries. It's realising you are capable of more than you thought, and being prepared to take that leap of faith – whether that's joining a new club, trying something different, or stepping onto the stage.

Sometimes it's about setting yourself a personal goal – perhaps aiming to earn more house points than last week – and showing determination to achieve it. And often, being a game changer is as simple as putting a smile on someone's face through a small act of kindness.



Game changers lead from the front, but they also lead from the back. They notice when someone needs encouragement, they include others, and they help create an environment where everyone feels valued and supported. Being a game changer also means having the confidence to be yourself and standing proudly behind your passions – even if they don't quite fit the mould. After all, we are all different, and that is something to celebrate. Just like a box of crayons, it is the many different colours that make the picture vibrant and complete.

This week Mrs Baxter and I had the privilege of attending the ISA U11 National Netball Finals at King's High School in Warwick, where Bowdon Prep proudly represented the North for the ninth consecutive year. We were thrilled to win the bronze medal, with all four schools from the North finishing in the top four out of 28 schools.



This remarkable achievement not only reflects the dedication, teamwork and resilience of our pupils, but also adds to the strong reputation Bowdon Prep has built in netball. Their commitment, courage, and determination on the court are a perfect example of what it means to be a game changer – inspiring others and setting a standard for excellence.

Recently, the Winter Olympic and Paralympic Games in Italy inspired our pupils as athletes from around the world showed what can be achieved through hard work, resilience and mutual support – pushing personal limits and lifting each other up.

That's being a game changer in action. So this week, challenge yourself to be a game changer. Encourage someone. Try something new. Stand up for what is right. Include others. Break stereotypes.

Take that leap of faith. Lead with kindness. You never know – your actions might inspire someone else to do the same.



Mrs S Hughes
Prep Phase Leader (Pastoral)
DSL / Head of Sports
Year 6 FT (6H)

Next Week

Thought of the Week

You must be the change you want to see in the world.

Happy school, Healthy school, Safe school

Screen Time





Happy, Healthy. Safe Schools

Previewing Neurodiversity Week

Hello, my name is Mrs Thomason and I'm part of the support team here at BPS. In my role, I work with pupils to support a range of learning needs and help create an environment where every child feels understood, supported and valued.

One of the things I am particularly passionate about is helping children understand that everyone's brain works differently - we are all part of the rich tapestry of human diversity. Next week we will be celebrating Neurodiversity Week in school.

This is an opportunity for us to recognise that our differences bring many strengths to our community. Throughout the week, the girls will take part in activities designed to help them understand and appreciate the many ways that we learn, think and experience the world. I love my role here at BPS and I know that our school works hard to promote understanding and acceptance of diversity in all its forms.

Every day, we teach about different strategies to problem solve, provide a range of resources, teach different techniques and approaches to ensure inclusion and celebrate strengths as well as supporting needs. We continuously encourage kindness and respect for diversity.

This is deeply embedded into the ethos of our school and I am proud to be part of it. During the week ahead we will highlight neurodiversity in different ways including discussions about our brains, stories featuring diverse strengths and different ways of experiencing the world, celebrating famous neurodivergent individuals and much more.



I hope you will join us in this celebration - I will add a link or two at the end so that you can access and find out more about neurodiversity in your own time. At BPS, supporting neurodiversity is something we do every day.

We aim to create classrooms where different ways of learning are understood, supported, and celebrated, and where pupils are encouraged to appreciate each other's unique strengths. If any parents or carers would like to know more or have a chat about neurodiversity I'm always happy to talk - please don't hesitate to get in touch.



Mrs. S Thomason
Bowdon Prep
Learning Support Team



SCAN HERE

Together for
Neurodiversity



SCAN HERE

UK Neuro
Guide

Communication Key Dates





NEXT WEEK

At a glance... WC 16 MARCH



After School Club
cancellations

Y5 reviews commence

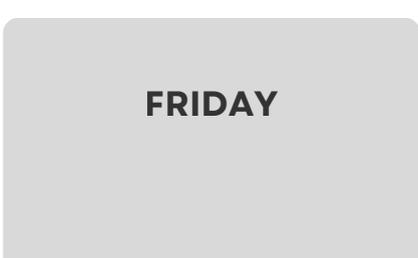
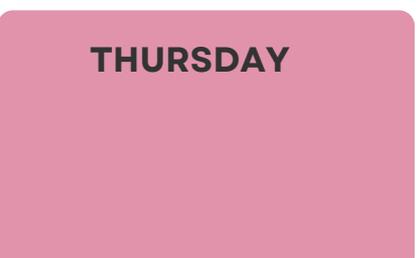


Y4 Trip
LAMDA Exams

LAMDA Exams

Open Morning for prospective parents

EID Celebrations



Key dates at a glance

March and April - Spring 2

FOLLOW US



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 Open Day for Prospectives	20 <i>Eid ul Fitr</i>
23 Walkathon	24	25	26 Y3 & Y4 Show 2pm	27 Y1 Trip
30 <i>Easter</i> BPSS Easter Egg Hunt & Easter Bonnet Parade	31 Y5 Residential	1 April Y5 Residential	2 Y5 Residential School Closes	

MONDAY

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

TUESDAY

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

WEDNESDAY

Y3 - Y6 Multi Sports
Y3 - Y6 Art
Prep Rock Band
Y5 & Y6 Recorder Club
Y4 Netball

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

April and May - Summer Term 1

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
20 April School Opens Summer Uniform	21 Alderley Edge Musical Festival	22 Alderley Edge Musical Festival	23 Whole School Photo School Uniform to be worn	24 Prep Quidditch Day
27	28	29	30	1 May Break the Rules Day
4 School closed for Bank Holiday	5 Y3 Residential	6 Y3 Residential Y4 Residential	7 Y4 Residential Y6 Stem Day	8 Y6 Stem Day
11	12 Lower School Mini B-Fest	13	14	15





WE ARE PLEASED TO ANNOUNCE A...

CHARITY WALKATHON!

— AT BPS —

23rd MARCH 2026

Supporting:

COMIC RELIEF &

The BPS SOCIETY'S
Playground Fund.

Prep: Walkathon laps
around the school & local area

(Number of laps equals the year group - e.g. Year 3 = 3 laps)

Pre-Prep Obstacle course
on the Sports Pitches!

Wear: PE kit and Red Nose Day accessories

THROW WET SPONGES
at the **TEACHERS!**

3 Sponges
for **£5!**

SPONSOR FORMS WILL BE SENT HOME SOON.

PLEASE BRING A **WATERPROOF JACKET** IN CASE OF RAIN.

- Charity & Sports Captains - ❤️



Dates for your diary!

Eid ul Fitr – Friday 20 March

Children celebrating Eid are warmly invited to come to school wearing traditional dress.



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:

Tuesday and Thursday 8.10am - 9am

Please email 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

**** Children should arrive each day with their BPS blue waterproof coat****

Summer Uniform will be worn after the Easter break

SAVE THE DATE

Easter celebration - Monday 30 March.

Our Easter celebrations take place on Monday 30 March and 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

EGM

Extraordinary General Meeting

★ Everyone is welcome! ★

Tuesday 21 April at 7.30pm, via Zoom.

Email bpsociety@bowdonprep.org.uk
to receive a calendar invite.

The EGM is all about approving the Society's
transition to registered charity status.





MRS ABBEY'S LUNCH



WC 16 MARCH 2026

MONDAY



*Pasta with various sauce options
Broccoli
Orange Cookies*

TUESDAY



*Roast Quorn or Chicken, Roast Potato
Cauliflower Cheese and Carrots
Fruit or Yogurt*

WEDNESDAY



*Pizza with various toppings,
Sweetcorn
Sorbet*

THURSDAY



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

FRIDAY



*Veggie or Pork Sausages
Green Beans and Baked Beans
Cupcake*



The salad bar with fruit and yogurt (as an alternative to desserts) is available each day

Health and Safety Notice

As an 'Allergy Aware School' - we are a nut and sesame seed free school
Please be mindful when sending items into school, including birthday treats.

Please cut grapes in half - length-ways or in quarters.

Please note, due to manufacturing processes, some products used in the school kitchen state
may contain nuts/sesame'.

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

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

Curriculum

Reflecting on our week at BPS





Science Day 2026

A Celebration of Curiosity and Creativity

Science Day was a fantastic opportunity for our whole school community to come together, embrace curiosity and celebrate the joy of learning.

We began with a whole-school assembly that introduced our theme for the day and posed intriguing questions to spark the girls' scientific thinking. They rose brilliantly to the challenge, exploring a wide variety of ideas as they worked out what might be hidden inside the mystery box! From there, each year group worked with their teachers to extend their understanding of their chosen scientific focus—carefully linked to the learning taking place in their current units.

Our staff truly went above and beyond to provide exciting, hands-on, and thought-provoking activities that inspired even greater curiosity and enthusiasm. A special workshop for each year group allowed the girls to dive deeper into a specific area of their topic, helping bring science vividly to life:

- **Kindergarten & Reception:** Rocket-building challenge—exploring forces and motion in the most exciting way possible.
- **Years 1 & 2: Adaptation and camouflage**—discovering how animals survive and thrive in their habitats.
- **Years 3 & 4: Forces in action** —designing and testing elastic-band cars to investigate push, pull and propulsion.
- **Year 5: The science of black holes** — taking a journey into space to understand some of the universe's most extraordinary phenomena. **Year 6: Sheep's heart dissection** - an unforgettable practical session deepening their knowledge of the circulatory system.

What an incredible day of inspiring science! We had so much fun and were genuinely blown away by the enthusiasm, curiosity, and engagement shown by every single girl.



The sky really is the limit—and with such passion and determination, our girls are already breaking through the glass ceiling in STEM. Thank you to all staff and pupils for making the day so special. It is a privilege to be part of such an extraordinary learning community.





An Evening of Musical Talent

Pupils from Years 3–6 shine in a memorable soloists' concert

On Tuesday evening we were treated to a thoroughly enjoyable concert that showcased the wonderful musical talent across our school community. The programme opened with a fantastic performance from the school orchestra, setting a vibrant tone for the evening ahead.

A selection of soloists then took to the stage, presenting a wide range of instruments and musical styles. Pupils from Years 3–6 each brought their own character and musicality to the event, performing with impressive confidence and care. The warm atmosphere in the hall was a reflection of the dedication and effort the girls had invested in preparing for the evening.

Mrs Clarke praised the pupils' efforts, saying, "It was a joy to see so many girls performing with such confidence and enthusiasm. The variety of instruments and musical styles made for a truly special evening, and the girls should feel incredibly proud of their performances."



We are very grateful to all the parents and carers who joined us to support the children. We hope they enjoyed the evening as much as we did, and we are sure they share our pride in the girls' achievements. We were also delighted by the number of pupils who expressed an interest in performing, and this enthusiasm has encouraged us to plan another soloists' concert later in the school year.

A special thank you goes to Mrs Chasey and Mrs Fan for accompanying the pupils so beautifully, and to Mrs Stiles for bringing the performers together and organising such a lovely event.





Soloists Concert
March 11th 2026



Sport
@BPS



ISA NETBALL NATIONAL FINALS!

Bronze Glory for Bowdon

The Bowdon Prep U11 netball squad competed in the ISA National Netball Finals on Wednesday at King's High School, Warwick, taking part in the competition for the ninth consecutive year.

The event brought together 28 independent schools from across the country for a full day of high-quality netball. Looking smart in their national tops and matching plaits, the girls arrived excited and ready to make their mark while enjoying the experience of competing at a national level.

The team performed superbly throughout the pool stages, producing a series of impressive results:

- **St David's Prep:** Won 9–1
- **Ashley Manor:** Won 9–2
- **Ursuline:** Lost 3–6
- **St Mary's Hampstead:** Won 10–0
- **Claire's Court:** Won 7–2
- **Polwhele:** Won 9–2

These strong performances saw Bowdon progress to the Cup competition, where they faced The Study, who had won all of their group matches and were previous national champions in 2020.



After a closely fought quarter-final, Bowdon produced a determined performance to win 3–1, securing a place in the semi-finals. In the semi-final, the team came up against Lady Barn, who had dominated their matches throughout the day. Having previously faced them at the Regional stages, the girls knew it would be a tough challenge. Despite playing with great heart and determination, Bowdon were narrowly beaten 1–6. This result meant a place in the 3rd place play-off, with the opportunity to secure a national bronze medal.





Bowdon faced King's Chester, a team they had drawn with during the regional stages. In an intense and nail-biting match, the girls held their nerve and came out as 4-3 winners, proudly securing the bronze medal. We are incredibly proud of every player who represented

Bowdon Prep with such commitment and teamwork. After playing over two hours of netball, cheering one another on from the sidelines, and implementing tactics and strategies throughout the day, the girls gave it their all. I am sure many of them enjoyed a well-earned sleep on the journey home! They should wear those bronze medals with a huge sense of achievement. It was also fantastic to see that the

Year 4 Netballers Rise to the Challenge

Great teamwork and determination on display against St Vincent's Year 5 teams

Our Year 4 netballers delivered an excellent performance this week during their friendly fixture against St Vincent's Year 5 teams.

Throughout the match, the girls demonstrated impressive determination, resilience, and teamwork, gaining valuable experience while competing against a strong and skilful A team.

A special congratulations goes to our B team, who secured a well-deserved victory with a confident and spirited display. We are incredibly proud of all the players for their effort, enthusiasm, and sportsmanship on the court. Well done, girls!

four Northern schools who qualified for the finals all finished in the top four nationally, highlighting the strength and dominance of netball in our region.

A huge thank you goes to the parents who travelled to support the team and helped make the day such a special occasion. Mrs Baxter and I returned to school feeling incredibly proud and privileged to have shared another successful ISA National Netball Finals experience with such a fantastic group of players.



UPCOMING FIXTURES

**WEDNESDAY 18 MARCH
YEAR 4 & YEAR 5
INTERYEAR NETBALL**



BELIEVE. PERSEVERE. SUCCEED.

Staff of the Week

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



Mrs Ferguson

Mrs Ferguson helps keep things on track, calmly supporting staff and pupils, answering questions, and jumping into whatever needs doing. Helping the school office run smoothly and always with a smile. Thank you!

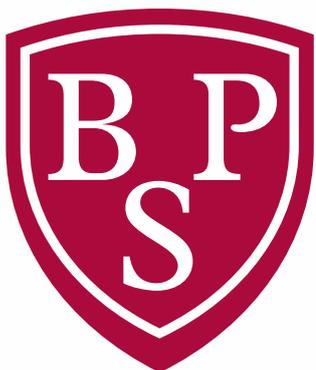


Mrs Walker

After returning to school from maternity leave with her gorgeous son, Ronnie, Mrs Walker jumped straight back in, as if she'd never been away, planning lively activities and getting every child moving with a smile. We are so glad to have her back on the team!



BOWDON PREP SCHOOL



**BELIEVE
PERSEVERE
SUCCEED**



ASHLEY RD, ALTRINCHAM, WA14 2LT