

22 MAY 2026

# BOWDON


BULLETIN


## FIND JOY IN THE JOURNEY

Celebrating Growth,  
Connection and Confidence  
Across BPS.



Bowdon  
Preparatory  
School

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

 [office@bowdonprep.org.uk](mailto:office@bowdonprep.org.uk)

## HEADTEACHER'S AWARD

Recognising those who  
embody our school value  
'Care for all.'



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



# Find Joy in the Journey

## *Celebrating Growth, Connection and Confidence Across BPS*

As we reach the end of another busy and rewarding half term, our *Thought for the Week* –“*Find Joy in the Journey*”–feels particularly fitting. At BPS, we believe that education is not simply about outcomes; it is about the journey each child takes along the way. From those very first steps in our Early Years setting to the confident transition into secondary school, every stage is filled with opportunity, growth, and joy.

This half term has been a wonderful reflection of that journey in action. Across the school, pupils have continued to grow in confidence, independence, and resilience. We are proud to nurture not only academic success, but also the personal, social and emotional journey that underpins lifelong learning.

### **Strong Foundations: EYFS to Year 1**

The journey begins in our Early Years classrooms, where curiosity, creativity and confidence are gently nurtured through a supportive, child-centred environment. Our youngest learners are encouraged to explore, question, and build relationships that form the foundation of their future learning.

As children transition into Year 1, they begin to encounter a more structured curriculum. This important step is carefully managed to ensure that the sense of wonder from Early Years continues, while children are gradually introduced to more formal learning routines.

At this stage, children develop key skills in independence, communication and resilience. We celebrate every milestone—from early reading to problem-solving and forming friendships—helping each child to see themselves as a capable and confident learner.



### **Building Confidence: Year 2 to Year 3**

The move from Pre-Prep to Prep marks an exciting stage in each child’s development. Pupils begin to take greater ownership of their learning, building confidence in their abilities and embracing new challenges.

The curriculum broadens, encouraging deeper thinking and greater independence. Through collaboration, discussion and shared experiences, pupils strengthen their communication skills and develop a growing sense of responsibility.

At BPS, we ensure this transition feels positive and empowering, supporting children to understand that challenge is part of learning and that perseverance leads to success.

### **Growing Independence: Year 4 and Preparing for Year 5**

By Year 4, pupils are developing into increasingly independent learners. They demonstrate curiosity, resilience and a willingness to take on new challenges.



This is a pivotal stage where children consolidate their skills and prepare for the increased challenges of the upper prep years.

Alongside academic development, there is a strong focus on personal growth. Pupils are supported in developing organisation, self-regulation and confidence in their abilities. Socially, friendships deepen, and children learn to navigate different perspectives with empathy and understanding.

Our approach ensures that every child feels supported, valued and ready to take the next steps in their journey.

### Rising to the Challenge: Year 5 & Year 6

In the final stage of the BPS journey, pupils continue to grow both academically and personally. They deepen their understanding, consolidate key skills and develop the resilience needed to approach challenges with confidence. We place careful emphasis on wellbeing alongside academic success, ensuring pupils feel supported and encouraged. Year 6 pupils also take on leadership roles within the school, becoming role models for younger children and active members of the wider community.

This is a time of reflection, growth and preparation, as pupils begin to recognise just how far they have come.



### Preparing for Secondary School: A Supported Transition

The move to secondary school is a significant milestone, and one we approach with care and thoughtfulness. Pupils are supported to develop independence, organisation and confidence, ensuring they feel well prepared for the next stage of their education. Through guidance, reflection and encouragement, children are supported to feel positive and excited about the future. As a school community, we celebrate this transition as an important and meaningful step in each child's journey.

### Finding Joy Along the Way

At BPS, we believe learning is about far more than results; it is about the journey itself. From Kindergarten to Year 6, every friendship formed, challenge overcome and milestone achieved helps shape each child's experience and character.

By nurturing pupils academically, socially and emotionally, we ensure they leave BPS not only well-prepared for the future, but also with confidence, resilience and a love of learning that will stay with them for years to come.



Mrs. C. Delf  
Deputy Head, SENDCo,  
Head of English



## Week Beginning June 8th

### Thought of the Week

Good things come to those who wait, but the best things come to those who do.

### Happy school, Healthy school, Safe school

What to do if... I feel worried or anxious

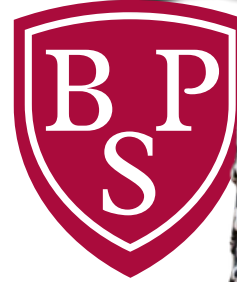


# Headteacher's Award

Creating and nurturing an environment of trust, respect and openness.

Each half term, our Headteacher's Award celebrates one of our school values. This half term, the focus has been on the value Care for All.

Mrs Makepeace-Taylor was delighted to present this special award to the following girls, recognising their kindness, compassion and thoughtful actions towards others in our school community. Their willingness to support their peers, show understanding, and contribute positively to the wellbeing of those around them truly embodies this important value. We are very proud of them all for setting such a wonderful example.



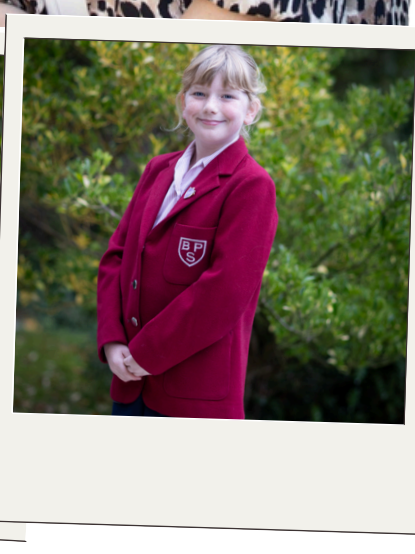
**ALEX  
(EYFS)**



**ESME  
(PRE-PREP)**



**AMY  
(LOWER PREP)**



**ELSIE  
(UPPER PREP)**

# Communication Key Dates

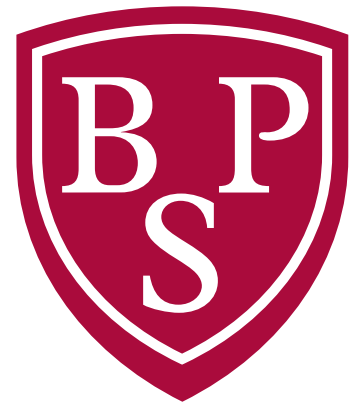




# NEXT WEEK

At a glance...

## WC 8 JUNE



**KG and Rec reviews commence**

*After School Club  
cancellations*



**MON**

School Closed - Staff Inset Day

**MONDAY**

Y1 Baking Club



**TUES**

**TUESDAY**

Y1 Baking Club



**WED**

**WEDNESDAY**

Y4 Rounders



**THUR**

Sports Day: see RMP for timings

**THURSDAY**



**FRI**

**FRIDAY**

# Key dates at a glance

# Summer Term



## June 2025

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
8 <b>School Closed - Staff Inset Day</b>	9	10	11 Sports Day	12
15 Welcome to Prep - Online	16 Open Day for prospective parents	17 Reception Trip	18 Class Photos	19 Y2 Trip
22 Y6 Outward Bound Welcome to Lower School- Online	23 Y6 Outward Bound	24 Y6 Outward Bound	25 Y6 Outward Bound	26 Y6 Outward Bound
29	30 Y5 & Y6 Show - The Waterside			

**MONDAY**

- Y1 - Y3 Dance
- Y5 Rounders
- Y2 Art Club
- Y3 - Y6 Ukulele
- Y1 Baking Club

**TUESDAY**

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

**WEDNESDAY**

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

**THURSDAY**

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

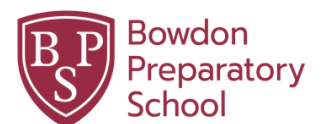


## July 2025

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
		1 Y5 & Y6 Show - The Waterside	2 Moving Up Day Optional Zoom Meeting for Parents	3 Y1 Trip Y3 Waxworks
6 Y6 Activity Day	7	8 Open School for Parents	9	10 <b>School closes at Miday</b> Y6 Leavers Assembly

**FRIDAY**

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



**Notes...**





# MRS ABBEY'S LUNCH



WC 8 JUNE

## MONDAY



*School is closed - staff inset day*

## TUESDAY



*Pasta with various sauces  
Broccoli  
Sorbet*

## WEDNESDAY



*Pizza with various toppings  
Baked Beans and Sweetcorn  
Fresh Fruit and Yoghurt*

## THURSDAY



*Quorn or Chicken Escalope, Crispy Potatoes  
Peas  
Cornflake Cake*

## FRIDAY



*Veggie or Pork Sausages  
Green Beans and Baked Beans  
Chocolate 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  
including coconut and hummus**

Please be mindful when sending items into school, including birthday treats.

**Please cut grapes into QUARTERS (updated advice)**

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

# 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 8.10 - 9am**

Please email [victoria@pwschoolwear.com](mailto:victoria@pwschoolwear.com) purchase online (local delivery is free)

Click here: [Link](#)

Password: BPS24



More Than Sports  
Coaching



8:30am-5:30pm  
9am-3pm

**OFSTED Registered.**  
**Childcare vouchers**  
**accepted.**

# MAY CAMP

1<sup>st</sup> - 8<sup>th</sup> June 2026



Bowdon Prep School  
Altrincham



DIFFERENT  
EVERY  
DAY

Visit our  
website to  
**BOOK**, see the  
**TIMETABLE &**  
**FIND OUT**  
**MORE**



AMAZING  
RANGE OF  
ACTIVITIES

**Huge range of  
sports, games &  
activities.**  
**Outstanding  
coaching.**  
**Excellent  
facilities.**



# HALF TERM CLUB AT BOWDON PREP

<https://morethansports.co.uk/holiday-camps/>



# Congratulations to Mrs. Hill and Family

The BPS community is delighted to share the wonderful news that Mrs. Hill is expecting a baby. We send our warmest congratulations to Mrs. Hill, her husband Sam, and little Bella as they prepare to welcome a new addition to their family.

This is such an exciting time for the whole family, and we know Bella will make a fantastic big sister. Mrs. Hill is a much-valued member of the BPS community, and we are thrilled for her as she begins this special new chapter.

On behalf of everyone at BPS, we wish the Hill family every happiness



# Looking Ahead to the New Academic Year

As we move beyond the half-term break, we are excited to begin sharing transition information for the next academic year. This is always a special time at BPS, as pupils start to look ahead to new opportunities, new classrooms and the exciting experiences that lie ahead.

In the coming weeks, families will receive further details about transition arrangements, including the date of our much-anticipated 'Jump Up' Day, when pupils will have the opportunity to spend time with their new teachers and classmates.

These moments play an important role in helping children feel confident, prepared and excited for the year ahead.

There is a real sense of anticipation across the school at this time of year, and we look forward to supporting every pupil as they take their next steps on their BPS journey.



COMING SOON

# SPORTS DAY

*11TH JUNE 2026*

**LOWER SCHOOL  
9.30 TO 11.00AM**

**YEAR 3&4  
12.15 TO 2.00PM**

**YEAR 5&6  
2.15 TO 3.45PM**



***ARE YOU  
READY TO SEE  
RECORDS BROKEN?***



# BPS Society Reaches Ambitious £10,000 Fundraising Target

Whole School Community Celebrates a Remarkable Year of Support, Generosity and Success

**The BPS Society is delighted to announce that it has successfully reached its fundraising target of £10,000 for the current academic year.**

Although this was an ambitious goal, the entire BPS community rose admirably to the challenge. Over the past five years, the average net amount raised annually has been less than £5,000, making this year's achievement particularly significant.

This incredible success would not have been possible without the enthusiasm, commitment and generosity shown by so many members of the school community. Heartfelt congratulations go to all pupils, committee members, volunteers and school staff for their hard work and dedication throughout the year.

A very special thank-you must also go to all parents for their participation in, and generous donations towards, the many activities and events that have taken place this year. Not



only have these efforts helped the BPS Society achieve such a fantastic result, but they have also created many happy memories along the way.

In the next edition of the Bowdon Bulletin, the BPS Society will provide an update on how these funds will be used to benefit all pupils across the school. Watch this space!



# Curriculum

Reflecting on our  
week at BPS





# ISA Poetry Competition Success

## Celebrating National Recognition for Creative Young Writers at BPS

**We are delighted to celebrate the success of two talented Bowdon Prep pupils in this year's prestigious ISA Poetry Competition.**

Congratulations to Sophia in Year 5, who achieved the outstanding honour of Runner-Up in the national competition. The ISA Poetry Competition offers pupils from ISA member schools the opportunity to showcase their creative writing talents, with entries judged by the acclaimed poet Simon Mole.

This year's theme, "One Day," invited young writers to interpret the title in their own imaginative and personal way. Poems were assessed on creativity, structure, rhythm, and the effective use of poetic devices. Sophia's poem stood out for its wonderfully original interpretation of the theme, combined with a gentle humour and engaging narrative voice that captured the judges' attention.

Congratulations also go to Ava L, whose poem received a Highly Commended award – an exceptional achievement in such a competitive national event. Ava's thoughtful and expressive writing was praised for its emotional depth and maturity.

Mrs Fish commented, "We are incredibly proud of Sophia and Ava for their outstanding achievements. Their poems demonstrated creativity, imagination, and confidence in their writing, and it is wonderful to see their talents recognised on a national stage."



Mrs Dyson added, "Both girls approached the competition with enthusiasm and originality. Their success is a reflection not only of their talent, but also of the dedication and care they bring to their writing. They should be immensely proud of themselves."

We are tremendously proud of both pupils for their creativity, originality, and success, and we look forward to seeing their writing talents continue to flourish.



One day, I will reach the front of this enormous queue,  
hopefully before I turn ninety-five.  
Travelling through Zurich Airport,  
on our way to snowy mountains and skiing glory,  
yet somehow we are frozen here instead.

Mum checks the time, Dad sighs bravely.  
I begin planning how to survive.  
Next time, I will pack snacks, a folding chair,  
maybe even a tiny emergency tent.  
We must ration the chocolate carefully.

I can almost see the passport desk,  
if I stand on my tiptoes and squint very hard.  
By now I feel at least eighty-three.  
One day, I shall step forward in glory,  
passport held high like a champion.

But for now...  
We slowly shuffle....

What a fab poem,  
Sophia! I love  
the gentle humour  
in this. Well done



And gold will spill from skies of gray,  
The winds will soften, calm and mild,  
And hope will wake like a smiling child.

One day the noise will fade to peace,  
The racing thoughts will finally cease.  
The weight you carry deep inside,  
Will loosen, lift, and gently slide.

One day the paths will all feel clear,  
The doubts will shrink, the courage near,  
Each step you take will feel like home,  
No longer lost, no more alone.

One day – not far, though yet unseen –  
Life will become what it has been:  
A place of light, of strength, of grace,  
Where quiet joy finds resting place.





# Creativity, Calm and Community in 5P Crochet Club

**What began as a simple way to create a calm and mindful start to the day in 5P has grown into something truly special. Crochet was first introduced as an opportunity for pupils to settle into the classroom environment, relax with friends and enjoy a peaceful moment before lessons began.**

Since then, it has blossomed into a wonderfully creative and highly skilled community of pupils who take great pride in sharing their creations with one another.

Perhaps there is something about being so close to the art room that inspires these girls! Week by week, more pupils became eager to join, and what started as a small gathering of six quickly expanded into a thriving club filled with creativity, conversation and collaboration.

The name crochet comes from the French word meaning "hook" – simplicity at its best. Within the club, pupils of all abilities work together, from complete beginners learning their very first stitches to more experienced crocheters helping others master new techniques. Some enjoy creating ambitious projects, while others simply love the calming rhythm of chaining wool and chatting with friends.





Crochet Club has become about far more than crafting. It is a chance for pupils to slow down, focus on small steps and experience the satisfaction of creating something with patience and care. Along the way, they celebrate successes together, support one another through the occasional tangled knot, and enjoy the process just as much as the finished product.

Most importantly, the club has helped pupils develop confidence, resilience and mindfulness in a calm and supportive environment. Whether producing colourful creations or simply enjoying a moment of calm in a busy school day, the pupils of 5P have gained some truly incredible skills through their shared love of crochet.

***Mrs. S Thomason***  
***Learning Support Team***



# Staff of the Week

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



## **Mrs Lloyd-Wilson**

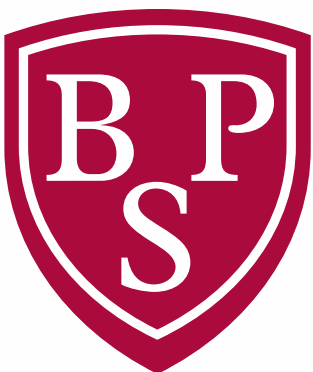
Mrs Lloyd-Wilson brings such energy and creativity to every drama lesson, inspiring pupils to grow in confidence and express themselves. Her passion for the arts shines through in everything she does, making learning both exciting and memorable. Her dedication helps our children find their voice on stage and beyond.

## **Mrs Wilshaw**

Mrs Wilshaw is such a kind and caring teacher who always goes the extra mile for her pupils and the whole school community. She creates a warm, supportive classroom where every child feels valued, we don't know what we would do without her kindness and dedication.



# **BOWDON PREP SCHOOL**



**BELIEVE  
PERSEVERE  
SUCCEED**



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