



Bower Lodge School

Head Teacher Message

Dear Parents and Families,

It has been a fantastic half term and the improvement in weather has meant that the pupils are utilising the outdoor learning spaces much more. There have been a range of themed events including World Book Day and the Easter Crafts and Cake Sale which have been well attended and enjoyed by all.

We had our Ofsted visit this half term and we really appreciate your support during this time.

I was so proud of how many of our parents filled out the Ofsted survey and the support given to the team during this time. I am really looking forward to sharing the report with you when it is published and am sure that you will be as pleased as the whole team are.

I am excited to share that next term all pupils will have the opportunity to go to the Mayflower Theatre. Red, Yellow, Green and Orange Classes will see Zog and this will run during the school day. Purple and Blue Classes will have the opportunity to see Matilda the Musical and parents have received information about this from the school office.

I hope that you all have an enjoyable Easter break and we look forward to seeing everyone when school opens on Monday 13th March 2026.

Best wishes, Jemma

Important Dates

Wednesdays:

Weekly Swimming lessons for Orange, Blue and purple Class.

Monday 4th May:

Bank Holiday-No school

Thursday May 7th:

Mayflower Theatre:
Matilda Trip for Blue & Purple class -Pickup from school at 5:30 by Parents

Friday 15th May:

Mayflower Theatre: ZOG Trip for Red, Yellow, Green and Orange class - During school day

Monday 25th May-

Friday 29th May:

Half term break- No school



This half term, the children have continued their journey with learning about people who help us. We have all been focusing on working with our peers, and how we can help each other in and around the school. All children in Red Class are now fully settled into the daily routines and expectations and now use our daily schedules and choosing strips to help them navigate throughout the school timetable each day. With the recent improvement in the weather, we have also had the opportunity to take more of our learning outside, to not only include messy play and water play but some very active outdoor PE sessions along with trips to the park. The children have formed some lovely relationships with their classmates and even throughout the wider school. At lunchtimes the children have been exposed to lots of different school lunches, and we have discovered some firm food favourites amongst the children, from pasta to peppers, ice cream and more.

Red Class have continued working through our Rocket Phonics scheme and they all love having Rocket Rabbit to help them with their learning. In maths this half term we have been exploring more and less, subitising, positional language and finding out about lots of different shapes and colours. We are all looking forward to our new topic after the Easter Break of 'Come Outside'. We hope all the children have a lovely Easter Break.





Yellow Class have been having a wonderful time exploring our topic "Grow, Grow, Grow". The children have particularly enjoyed engaging with a variety of sensory trays linked to the theme. A firm favourite was our Old Macdonald Had a Farm edible sensory tray, where the children spent lots of time exploring different textures and using the farm animals to bring their play to life. For World Book Day, we dived into the story We're Going On A Bear Hunt. The children loved exploring our themed edible sensory tray, which included chives, chocolate muffins and sprinkles. It was a fantastic way to bring the story to life through hands-on learning. We have also been making the most of our outdoor environment. The children have been developing their balancing skills and observing how different movements make their bodies feel. It's been lovely to see their confidence and curiosity grow as they explore and play. We are so proud of all of the children and the enthusiasm they bring to their learning every day.





Green Class



As we come to the end of another busy and rewarding half term, we are very proud of the progress the children in Green Class have made. They continue to grow in confidence and independence, approaching each day with curiosity and enthusiasm. It has been lovely to see how settled they are and how much they enjoy learning alongside their peers.

Our topic this half term, "Under the Sea," has provided many exciting opportunities for exploration and creativity. The children have loved learning about a range of sea creatures through stories, sensory play, and hands-on activities. They particularly enjoyed making their own sea creatures, using different materials to explore textures, colours, and shapes while developing their fine motor skills and imagination.

The children have continued to make strong progress in phonics, showing increasing confidence in recognising and using sounds. It has been wonderful to see them beginning to apply this knowledge in their early reading, as well as showing a growing interest in books and shared storytelling.

Messy and sensory activities remain a valuable part of our learning, allowing the children to explore, create, and develop important skills through hands-on experiences. We really appreciate your continued support and understanding when the children fully immerse themselves (and their clothing) in these activities —these experiences are an important part of their development.

Overall, this half term has been full of curiosity, creativity, and positive progress. The children are building strong foundations in their learning and development, and we are incredibly proud of everything they have achieved. We look forward to seeing their confidence and skills continue to grow though out the summer term.





Orange Class



We have had a fantastic and busy term in Orange Class, and we are so proud of everything the children have achieved!

In Numeracy, the children have been developing their understanding of place value using ten frames and part-whole models. They have worked hard to explore numbers in a hands-on way, building strong foundations for their mathematical learning.

In Science, we have been learning all about plants and how they grow. The children have enjoyed exploring what plants need to survive and watching changes over time and enjoyed planting and watering the class plants.

We have continued using Rocket Phonics, with a focus on developing early reading skills, alongside Literacy, where the children have been practising letter formation. To support this, we have completed a range of fine motor activities, helping to strengthen the skills needed for writing.

In Art, the children have been very creative, making animal pictures and spring-themed artwork using a variety of materials. One highlight has been creating a beautiful class spring collage, which the children thoroughly enjoyed.

We have continued with our weekly swimming sessions and shopping trips, where the children help to find and buy ingredients for our very popular cooking sessions. It has been wonderful to see how confident the children have become in the kitchen, as well as when out in the community. They have represented Bower Lodge School amazingly during these outings.

Communication continues to be a big focus for us. The children have made great progress using their communication books, becoming more independent and even using them to communicate with each other, which has been lovely to see.

A firm favourite in class is our sensory sessions, where the children love exploring different lights, sensory videos, water, fabrics, and bubbles. These sessions are always engaging and provide a calm and enjoyable learning experience.

Well done to all the children for such a successful term – we are incredibly proud of you all!

The Orange Class Team





Purple Class



This half term has been a busy and exciting one in our class, with lots of hands-on learning and memorable experiences.

One of the highlights has been caring for our ducklings. The children have supported them right from eggs, to hatchlings, to growing ducklings, and now into ducks. This has been a wonderful opportunity to observe life cycles in real life, and the children have shown great care, patience and responsibility throughout.

In History, we have been learning about the Anglo-Saxons. The children have enjoyed a range of practical activities, including constructing Anglo-Saxon homes out of clay, using runes to write their names, and creating mosaics. A particular favourite was re-enacting a shield wall using their own shields, which really brought the topic to life.

In English, we have explored the book *The Rabbits* in depth. The children have engaged with a range of themes including Immersion & Comprehension, Change & Cause and Effect, Perspective & Inference, and Theme & Symbolism. They have constructed settings using sand and Lego, role-played key scenes, spoken from different characters' perspectives, and explored symbolism within the illustrations.

In Cooking, the children have followed their interests and developed their skills by making a variety of dishes, including homemade burgers, steaks, cakes and curry. They have shown increasing confidence and independence in the kitchen.

Overall, the children have worked incredibly hard this half term. They have shown great enthusiasm in all areas of learning and have worked positively alongside one another. We are very proud of their efforts and the progress they have made.





Blue Class



It may have been a short half-term but it has certainly been a packed one for the children and a now fully- formed staff team in Blue Class.

The discreet teaching unit for PSHE has built upon the work around respectful relationships to explore friendships, in particular what it means to be a good and caring friend and also what behaviours they want to exhibit towards their friends. The daily curriculum continues to offer a multitude of opportunities to further develop their inter-personal skills and social interactions as a member of a class.

The literacy has centred on two main texts this half term, the first was 'Varmints' by Helen Ward and the second was 'The slightly annoying elephant' by David Walliams. The children have all responded really well to the texts and produced a wide range of work, including cross-curricular linkage. Other specific elements in Literacy have included letter writing (fictitious) and non-fiction chronological reporting.

The class also contributed their own stories to the OFG '100 word story' competition, a range of cartoon and gaming characters featured heavily in their tales.

We have once again carried out phonics assessments and are further developing our reading and phonics curriculum offer.

In mathematics the specific units that we have explored have been around Mass, capacity and volume. We have explored these concepts using grams, Kilograms, millilitres and litres. The children have measured, compared, added and subtracted across a wide range of practical and more formal inputs. The level of application and resilience when undertaking the work has remained impressively high and has often shown just how far they have come in terms of their willingness to 'have a go'. It has also shown that our developing 'support request' systems within their bays are being routinely used.

In geography we have continued to explore rocks, fossils and soil, this will continue to develop after Easter when we will interlink with Science and the world around us.

PE this half terms has included sensory circuits as well as a foray into dance and movement...staff included! As the weather continues to improve, this is an area that will become more expansive and wide-ranging.

The children in Blue class have continued to be great class and school ambassadors on their weekly Tesco trips and we hope that you have enjoyed tasting their culinary creations. As ever, the biggest "thank you" for all that you do to support us and all we do with your children whilst we have the privilege of working with them in Blue class.



Skiing lessons



As part of our Friday community trips for Blue and Purple class, some of our students have been hitting the slopes for skiing lessons this half term. It's been fantastic to see them building confidence and developing their balance and coordination in such a fun, active environment. Everyone has shown great perseverance as they master their turns, and the sessions have quickly become a weekly highlight for the group.





Welcome to : Gristy Bitsy Spider



Meet Gristy Bitsy Spider, the newest member of the Bower Lodge School community. This trusty gritter was officially named by the students of Yellow Class. Gristy Bitsy Spider is now ready to take a long deserved rest ready to take on next years winter chill, ensuring the school's paths stay safe and ice-free for everyone.





Communication updates

Class Name	Email to contact
Red Class	Tim.Jeffries@bowerlodgeschool.co.uk
Yellow Class	Jade-louise.marshall@bowerlodgeschool.co.uk
Green Class	Emily.Marshall@bowerlodgeschool.co.uk
Orange Class	Charlene.Gyton@bowerlodgeschool.co.uk
Purple Class	Joshua.Webley@bowerlodgeschool.co.uk
Blue Class	John-paul.Cooke@bowerlodgeschool.co.uk

When contacting Pupils teachers with information please can we ask you to CC our school administrator into those emails to ensure they are seen and dealt with in a timely manner:

hannah.ohara@bowerlodgeschool.co.uk

Keep an eye on our school website News & Events tab as we will be uploading any reminders and events information on there as well as communicating it via email & sending letters home.

<https://www.bowerlodgeschool.co.uk/news-events/>

