



# The Byword



13th February 2026

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

@bygrove\_primary

## Key Dates

- Monday 16th – Friday 20th February 2026: Half term holidays
- Monday 23rd February 2026: INSET DAY - School closed**
- Tuesday 24th February 2026: All children return back to school
- Tuesday 24th February – Friday 6th March 2026: Parent consultations
- Friday 27th February 2026: Parent Have your Say Conference 2026 at 9:15am, Main Hall
- Thursday 5th March 2026: World Book Day
- Friday 13th March 2026: Year 4 Sleepover
- Monday 16th – Friday 20th March 2026: Thinking of Others Week
- Friday 20th March 2026: Eid - School closed (TBC)
- Monday 23rd March 2026: Class Eid parties
- Friday 27th March 2026: Last day of term - 1:30pm finish

Dear Parents & Carers,

What a spectacular way to wrap up the first half of the spring term! It has been a week filled with curiosity, talent and true Bygrove spirit.

We kicked off the week with a very special visit from Exotic Explorers. Our Nursery and Year 1 children had the chance to meet some truly wonderful creatures, including a snake, an owl and even a skunk! I was incredibly impressed by the curiosity and bravery our youngest learners (& staff!) showed. Their enthusiasm for the natural world was fantastic to see.

On Wednesday, Year 2 and Year 3 transported us to Sherwood Forest with their performance of Looking Good, Robin Hood. The audience was quite simply blown away! The talent on display - from the singing to the comic timing - was a testament to the hard work the children and staff have put in over the last few weeks. Well done to all our performers!

Our sporting success continued on Thursday as Year 5 and Year 6 pupils represented Bygrove at a cross-school basketball tournament. Bradley and Vicki were bursting with pride, not just because of the skill shown on the court, but because of the children's teamwork and sportsmanship. They gave every match their absolute best while also finding the breath to cheer on the other teams. You truly did Bygrove proud!

Thank you for your continued support throughout this busy and productive half-term. It is the partnership between home and school that makes our community so special. We are looking forward to seeing you on Friday 27th February for the annual Parent Have Your Say Conference.

To all our families who will begin observing Ramadan next week, we wish you a peaceful and blessed month.

Please remember that we return to school on Tuesday 24th February.

I hope you all have a restful and enjoyable half-term break.

Warm regards,

Fiona





# Spotlight on Inclusion



## Spotlight on Inclusion:

Since last September, our **Specialist Learning Space** has been flourishing under the dedicated leadership of our Higher Level Teaching Assistant, **Christina Saunders**.

Many of you may have already noticed the wonderful buzz surrounding this area of the school. Christina has worked tirelessly to cultivate an environment that is both nurturing and calm, providing a vital sanctuary where pupils feel safe, valued and ready to learn.

Christina believes that a child's environment is key to their success. With the support of her great team, she has carefully curated both our indoor and outdoor learning spaces to ensure they are sensory-friendly and physically engaging. Whether it's a quiet corner for reflection or an active outdoor task, the provision is designed to meet children exactly where they are.

Behind every great space is a great team. Christina leads a group of **four extraordinary Teaching Assistants**, coordinating their efforts to ensure that every pupil receives personalised, high-quality support. Her expertise is backed by specialised training in:

- **Speech and Language Interventions:** Helping children find their voice and build communication confidence.
- **Emotional Regulation:** Equipping pupils with the tools they need to navigate their feelings and stay focused.

Beyond the walls of the learning space, Christina acts as a vital link to the wider school. She liaises closely with class teachers to identify enrichment opportunities, ensuring that while pupils benefit from specialist support, they also remain connected to their peers and the broader curriculum.

Her constant endeavor is to ensure that our provision isn't just supportive, but a launchpad for every child to reach their full potential. We are incredibly lucky to have her leading this team!

# Safeguarding

## How Safe is WhatsApp for Children - NSPCC

WhatsApp is one of the most popular instant messaging apps, used by over 2 billion people in 180 countries. It allows you to send and receive messages, as well as make voice and video calls. You can connect with people individually or join group chats where lots of people can contribute. All you need to set up a WhatsApp account is a phone number. However, children and young people can easily subvert the restrictions placed on its access. Although **rated at 16+**, all that is required is a phone number. All it takes is one child in a class to be on whatsapp, and all the others will wish to join. This can lead to **increased vulnerabilities** for child users. The NSPCC has released its own analysis about the **dangers of the app**. If interested, please follow the link below:

Click here: [The dangers of Whatsapp](#)





# PARENT HAVE YOUR SAY!

**Friday 27<sup>th</sup> February 2026**

**Time: 9:15am**

**Location: Main Hall**

Please join the Bygrove governors & leaders for a cup of tea & a chat. We always love to hear your ideas about what you think we are doing well at Bygrove & what we can do to make things even better.

**WE WANT**

**YOUR**

**FEEDBACK**



# Attendance

Our aim is to promote high attendance so that our pupils achieve well at school. Regular attendance and punctuality is also crucial for making friends and developing good relationships.



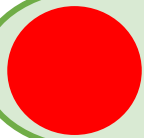
**Exceptional!**  
**100%**



**Very Good**  
**97% - 99%**



**Potential to improve**  
**91% - 96%**



**Needs to improve**  
**90% & below**

Our whole school attendance target for this year:

**97.00%**

Attendance for the week beginning Monday 2nd February 2026 - Friday 6th February 2026 (Rec-Y6):

**95.20%**

Year	Attendance
Nursery	93.20%
Reception	90.30%
Year 1	98.00%
Year 2	94.80%
Year 3	96.70%
Year 4	97.70%
Year 5	96.40%
Year 6	93.90%

## Last week's attendance

**Y1: 98%**

**Well done Y1!**

Paper copies of the Byword are available from the office.

# After School Clubs

We are excited to launch our club provision for the spring term, which will begin on Tuesday 6th January 2026. Ad-Hoc Clubhouse sessions and Breakfast Club will also be starting from Tuesday 6th January 2026.

The clubs will be live on ParentPay by 3pm on Friday 19th December 2025! To sign up, please log on to your [ParentPay](#) accounts.

The clubs available will be:

## After School Clubs - Spring 2026

Each club costs **£19.50 for the term**. The price for the Cooking Club is **£22.00** due to the sessions being longer and the additional resources required. Breakfast Club will cost **£1.00 per day** and Ad-Hoc Clubhouse sessions will cost **£2.50 per day**.

Mondays			
Clubhouse	Nursery - Year 6	3:45 - 5:30	All welcome
Tuesdays			
Clubhouse	Nursery - Year 6	3:45 - 5:30	All welcome
Phase 2 Football Club	Years 4 - Year 6	3:45 - 4:45	7 spaces remaining
Wednesdays			
Clubhouse	Nursery - Year 6	3:45 - 5:30	All welcome
Phase 1 Football Club	Year 1 - Year 3	3:45 - 4:45	15 spaces remaining
Thursdays			
Clubhouse	Nursery - Year 6	3:45 - 5:30	All welcome
Cooking Club ( <b>£22 per term</b> )	Years 1 - Year 6	3:45 - 5:00	No spaces remaining
Fridays			
Clubhouse	Nursery - Year 6	3:45 - 5:30	All welcome



# LANGUAGE ANGELS



**This week's word is:**

**"Mar"**– which means **"Sea"**

Try using it at home and in school!

## Bygrove WhatsApp Channel



We are delighted to introduce to you our official Bygrove WhatsApp Channel!

To join the channel, simply click on the link below or scan the QR code:

<https://whatsapp.com/channel/0029VbC1wNm2phHULakpU33p>

## Change to School Systems



We are currently migrating to a new school system, SIMS, as our previous platform (Integris) is being discontinued. This upgrade will provide a more reliable way for us to share information with you.

To ensure you receive all future updates and notices, please take a moment to add [SC2112920a@schoolcomms.com](mailto:SC2112920a@schoolcomms.com) to your email contacts or "safe senders" list. This will prevent important school messages from being marked as spam.

**To contact the office:** Please email [admin@bygrove.org.uk](mailto:admin@bygrove.org.uk) (do not reply directly to automated system emails).

**For queries regarding this change:** Please contact Emily Mangiza.

Thank you for your support during this transition.



# Stars Of The Week

Year 1

Sophia

Year 3

Whole class

Year 4

Nairah

Year 5

Tayeba

# HANDWRITING HEROES

YEAR 1: ABDURRAHMAN

YEAR 2: KIYAN

YEAR 3: ELLA

YEAR 4: OSMAN

YEAR 5: HAFSAH





Mathletics

# MATHLETICS WINNERS

**1ST: Y1 - 25,475 POINTS**  
**2ND: Y2 - 24,421 POINTS**  
**3RD: Y3 - 21,781 POINTS**

**TOP STUDENT AT BYGROVE  
THIS WEEK:**

**ZAID - Y1**  
**5,820 POINTS**

# Nursery

Over this half-term, Nursery have been doing a lot of investigating in Forest School. It has been quite wet and rainy so we have see lots of mini-beasts like snails and worms. We have been digging, pond dipping and planting to prepare for spring. We have also been collecting different natural resources to create patterns and practise our counting.

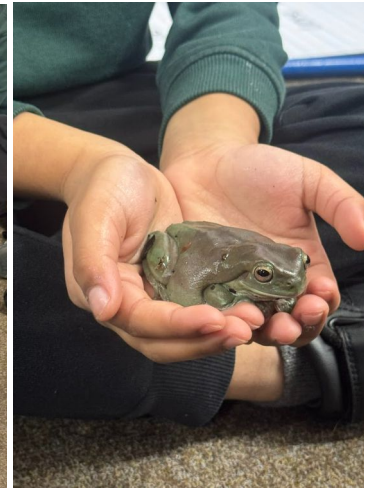
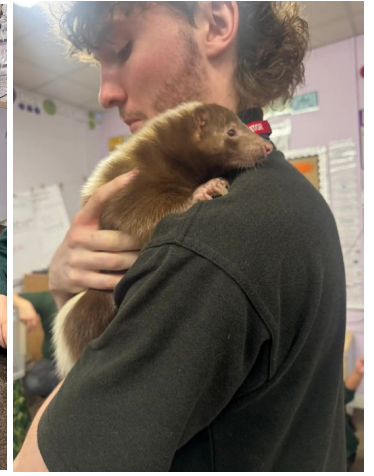


This week, Nursery saw real exotic animals: a snake, an owl and a skunk. First, we were reminded how to be kind to animals by using a quiet voice, listening ears, slow bodies and kind hands. Then, the animal keepers showed us each animal. We saw the snake slithering, skunks eating and the owl flying. We were a bit nervous at first but we were all very brave!

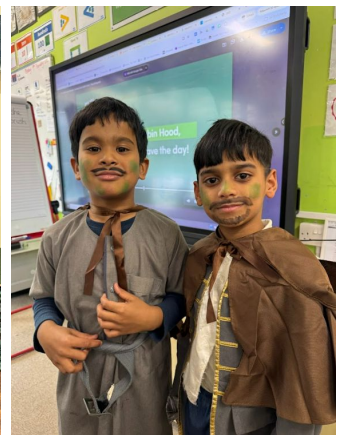


# Year 1

Year 1 enjoyed an exciting animal visit at school, meeting a snake, skunk, tarantula, owl and frog up close. They learned fascinating facts about each animal's habitat, diet and special adaptations, with children even getting the chance to gently touch some of them. It was a memorable, hands-on experience that sparked curiosity and great classroom discussions about wildlife and conservation.

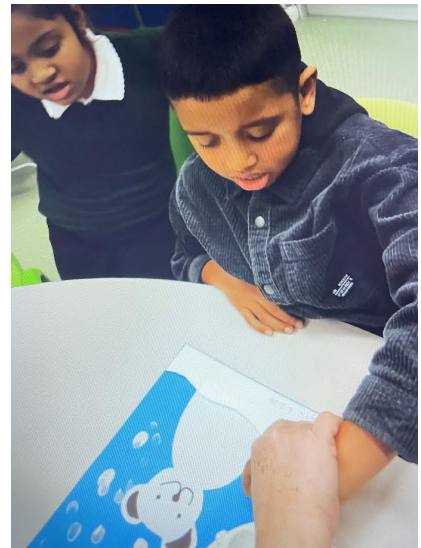
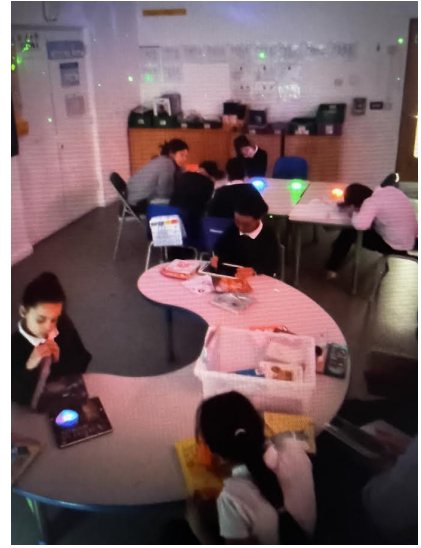


# Robin Hood



Year 2 & 3 performed their show 'Looking Good, Robin Hood'. The children were so excited for the show, dressing up and even venturing into having face paint to get into character. They completed a fantastic show full of singing, dancing and incredible acting. A huge THANK YOU to all of the parents for rehearsing lines and songs with the children as well as Jen for all the hard work in costumes, staging and the work she does with the children.

Well done Year 2 and 3!



The children in the SLS have been learning to make decisions this week. During choosing time, some decided to use their fine motor skills to make patterns in clay using a variety of tools. Others developed their reading skills through interactive stories or creative skills through making a polar bear. All these activities helped us to develop focus.



## Cooking Club

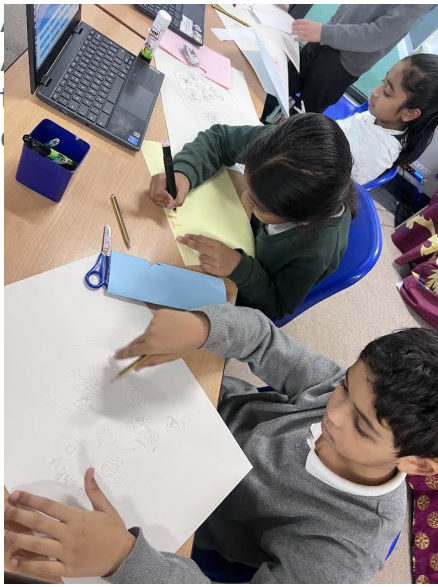
In Cooking Club this week we made Yorkshire puddings with cheese and our favourite toppings!



Year 4 had a blast in their Explorers session last Friday, especially our Inca family, who hosted an amazing market! The children spent the afternoon finishing and preparing their products before transforming the hall into a buzzing marketplace. Everyone had the chance to sell, serve customers and buy, ensuring fairness and equal opportunities for all. Prices and products were thoughtfully developed in response to customer feedback, showing real adaptability and problem-solving. Children displayed excellent examples of leadership, teamwork, communication and resilience and lots of smiles too. A fantastic learning experience and a great time had by all!



This week Year 4 have had so much fun getting creative and making beautiful lanterns to celebrate Chinese Lunar New Year, which begins next week! The classroom was full of colour, teamwork and excitement as everyone carefully designed and crafted their own unique lanterns. We can't wait to welcome the New Year with our wonderful creations!



This week, Year 4 took part in Children's Mental Health Week 2026, exploring this year's theme, "This Is My Place."

Using creativity and imagination, the children created their own personal "belonging maps," filled with the people, places, activities and special spaces that help them feel safe, valued and connected. From cosy reading corners and family homes to football pitches, friendship groups and peaceful outdoor spots, their maps beautifully showed that belonging can be found in many different ways.

## Year 5 & Year 6



A mixture of Year 5 and 6 children took part in a 3v3 basketball competition held at Mulberry Academy. School from all across Tower Hamlets attended. At their first ever sports competition the children did Bygrove incredibly proud. They won 2 of their 4 games and loved the experience of competitive sport. They cannot wait to compete again! Well done everyone!

# BE WELL

HEALTH | WELLNESS | PLAY

# Make a splash with intensive swimming lessons!

Get a head start in swimming this Spring half term with our short, intensive swim course at Mile End and York Hall Leisure Centres. Perfect for beginners needing extra support and building confidence before heading back to school.

-  16-19/20 February
-  Daily 30 minute lessons
-  For ages 4+
-  Small class sizes for focused learning

Fun, friendly lessons with teachers supporting beginners in the pool!

**Book your  
place today!**



TOWER HAMLETS



# FEBRUARY HALF-TERM

Art & Circus Holiday Camp  
Theme: Lost city of Atlantis

for children aged 5 - 11 years old

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

Times: 9am - 3.30pm

(early drop off @ 8.30am & late pick up @ 5pm)

**Columbia Primary School**

49-53 Columbia Rd,

E2 7RH

&

**Holy Trinity Primary School**

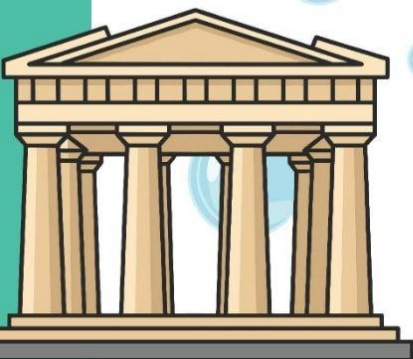
Beechwood Road

E83DY

5% Early Bird Discount (LWU941)

[www.theartimaginarium.co.uk](http://www.theartimaginarium.co.uk)

[hello@theartimaginarium.co.uk](mailto:hello@theartimaginarium.co.uk)





family  
action



# LifeSkills Open

Join us for a **FREE 4 week LifeSkills course**

Sessions are informal, fun and make you feel part of a supportive inclusive community group

Sessions cover:

- Writing personal/professional action plans
- Understanding the skills you have and areas you need to develop
- Money management
- Personal budgeting/managing your debt
- CV surgery
- Interview skills
- Writing cover letters/applications

Starting  
**26<sup>th</sup> Feb**  
for 4  
weeks



City FOOD Club  
1 Artizan Street  
E1 7AF



Thursday  
12-1pm



For more information or to book your place email  
[Sarah.Selvarajah@family-action.org.uk](mailto:Sarah.Selvarajah@family-action.org.uk) or call 07825 852635

**family-action.org.uk**

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



# **PASG - Parent Autism Support Group**

## **For all parents**

<b>Session Name</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Time</b>	<b>Room</b>
DCOS session	Wednesday 15 <sup>th</sup> October 2025	10am-11:30am	Training Suite 2
Social Care	Thursday 13 <sup>th</sup> November 2025	10am-11:30am	Training Suite 2
Behaviour - Dysregulation and Crisis Behaviour	Wednesday 10 <sup>th</sup> December 2025	10am-11:30am	Training Suite 2
OT session	Thursday 8 <sup>th</sup> January 2026	10am-11:30am	Training Suite 2
Behaviour - Regular Occuring Behaviour	Thursday 12 <sup>th</sup> February 2026	10am-11:30am	Training Suite 2
Puberty - Boys	Thursday 23 <sup>rd</sup> April 2026	10am-11:30am	Training Suite 2
Puberty - Girls	Wednesday 13 <sup>th</sup> May 2026	10am-11:30am	Training Suite 1
Toileting	Wednesday 3 <sup>rd</sup> June 2026	10am-11:30am	Training Suite 2
Leisure and Play	Wednesday 1 <sup>st</sup> July 2026	10am-11:30am	Training Suite 1

**Co-ordinator: Salina/Khadra/Junayel**

**To Book, Email: [parents@phoenix.towerhamlets.sch.uk](mailto:parents@phoenix.towerhamlets.sch.uk)**

SCHOOL TRENDS

GROWN OUT BEFORE WORN OUT



20%  
OFF

USE CODE:  
HALFTERM20

Valid from Feb 13th to Feb 23rd

24<sup>th</sup> March 2026

LOCAL OFFER  
Tower Hamlets and City



Tower Hamlets and City  
SEND IASS



## Let's Talk SEND TRANSITION

An information event about Secondary Transfer for parents/carers whose children have Education, Health and Care Plans (EHCPs) in Years 4 & 5.

Presentation from SEN Department on Secondary Transfer

Local Offer & Family Information Service

Independent Travel Training

Meet the Secondary SENCOs

When? Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> March , 9.30am-2pm

Where? The Brady Arts and Community Centre, 192-196 Hanbury Street, London E1 5HU

Lunch provided

For further information, contact us at:

Family Information and Advice Service

Tel: 020 7364 6489

Email: [fs@towerhamlets.gov.uk](mailto:fs@towerhamlets.gov.uk)

LET'S

TALK

SEND

Information from previous  
Let's Talk SEND  
meetings on the Local Offer.

# Bygrove Pupil Vacancies



Did you know we have pupil vacancies at Bygrove? If you have a child or know someone who might be interested, please apply, share and join our waiting list!

<b>Nursery admissions 2026</b> For children born between 1 September 2022 and 31 August 2023	52 spaces available for 2026/27 apply online via the <a href="#">eadmissions portal</a>
<b>Reception admissions 2026</b> For children born between 1 September 2021 and 31 August 2022	30 spaces available for 2026/27 apply online via the <a href="#">eadmissions portal</a>
<b>Nursery admissions 2025</b> For children born between 1 September 2021 and 31 August 2022	2 spaces available for 2025/26 apply online via the <a href="#">Parent Portal</a>
<b>Current Year 2 admissions</b> For children born between 1 September 2018 and 31 August 2019	1 space available! Apply via the <a href="#">Parent Portal</a>
<b>Current Year 5 admissions</b> For children born between 1 September 2015 and 31 August 2016	2 spaces available! Apply via the <a href="#">Parent Portal</a>
<b>Current Year 6 admissions</b> For children born between 1 September 2014 and 31 August 2015	2 spaces available! Apply via the <a href="#">Parent Portal</a>

If we are currently full in other year groups, please still apply to join our waiting list via the [Parent Portal](#). For more information about in-year admissions visit [LBTH in-year admissions](#).

For more information about all admissions in Tower Hamlets visit [LBTH school admissions](#).

**Contact the admissions service directly for more information**

Email: [school.admissions@towerhamlets.gov.uk](mailto:school.admissions@towerhamlets.gov.uk)

Telephone: 020 7364 5006

**Late applications will be accepted so please apply now and share with family and friends!**

**We also offer places to rising 3-year-olds to start nursery a term after turning 3 years old. Please spread the word and tell them to apply ASAP! They can apply via: the [Parent Portal](#)**



# NURSERY

## Places Available!

Do you have or know someone with a child born between 1 September 2021 and 31 August 2022?

Apply now via the [Parent Portal](#)

They can start with us in September 2025



DID YOU KNOW?

We also offer places to rising 3-year-olds to start nursery a term after turning 3 years old! They can start in January 2026 or April 2026.

Please contact the school office on 020 7538 4925 or email [admin@bygrove.org.uk](mailto:admin@bygrove.org.uk)

Click the link below for more information

[Nursery admissions 2025](#)