



Bankside School

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Visible Consistency, Visible Kindness

Newsletter: 24th April 2026

It feels as though the Summer is starting to arrive at last! It has been lovely to see pupils enjoying the sunny outdoors – always good for everyone's mental health.

Walks this week have included visiting the woods and experiencing the wonderful carpet of bluebells which is spectacular each year.

As mentioned last week, we have incorporated a 'Marathon madness!' element to our curriculum this week, celebrating the fact that two of our staff members, Dom and Paul, are competing in the London Marathon this Sunday. Please see the information below and donate if you are able to.

Pupils have not only participated in a physical Mini Marathon around the school grounds but have been involved in maths lesson all related to the marathon and its statistics.

We wish Dom and Paul all the best for Sunday and we await to find out if anyone manages to spot them on TV!

As Summer weather begins to materialise, we have reminded pupils of the need to keep hydrated by bringing in their own water bottles and filling them up at the water station. This can always be accessed throughout the day and cups are available to use too.

Please also remind pupils about hats and suntan lotion. Thank you.

We hope you have a lovely, warm, enjoyable weekend.

Important Dates

1st April to 30th April	-	Autism Awareness Month
Sunday 26th April	-	London Marathon
Monday 4th May	-	May Bank Holiday (School Closed)
Friday 22nd May	-	Last Day of Term
Monday 1st June	-	School reopens after half term

Just as a reminder we are a **NO NUT** School, we have a number of pupils who have allergies, this includes for some pupils, coconut allergy, please be mindful of pupils using sprays or body lotions as they can be sensitive to this.

Nominations

Star Learners: For outstanding effort and focus in lessons:

- **Bran H** - For adapting brilliantly to his new class AND writing an incredible descriptive text to describe a workhouse from Oliver Twist.
- **Betty B** – for showing maturity and using fantastic skills of inference in PSHE lessons this week.
- **Zak R** - a real good week of lesson attendance and task completion for Zak this week. He has worked really hard in all of his Maths lessons.
- **Stan B** - It's been lovely seeing Stan enjoying his maths this week. He's been pushing himself out of his comfort zone and trying more challenging questions, and asking for help to develop his skills in algebra. Well done Stan!
- **Jess B** - for her enthusiasm for baking and her responsibility and independence in the kitchen 😊
- **Daniel F** - Dan you showed great commitment in computing completing all your work on blender which encouraged another student to participate! Well done.
- **Cat B** - for applying herself in English and making good progress with her Functional Skills spoken language presentation.

Kindness Champions:

For showing compassion, helping others and lifting the mood of those around you:

- **Ola D** - For always being willing to help others at horse riding, and acting as a great role model to younger students.
- **Ren H** - for being incredibly supportive to other students in helping them use Blender for animation, with clear accurate instructions.

Progress Heroes: Special Mention:

For making visible strides in learning, behaviour and confidence:

- **Jess I** - Jess, we are so proud of the mature decisions you continue to make in tricky situations. You continue to 'wow' us with your hidden talents. This week you've become a scientist and a singer! A singer with the most beautiful voice... Well done Jess!
- **Archie Ho** - for completing a Maths Task with complete independence, showing good understanding and resilience to work out calculation problems. He was able to recognise where he had made progress with his learning.

“Shout out to all the pupils in maths who had a good go at predicting Dom's time for the marathon, my classes all had a really good go at analysing the data and I've heard other classes did too!”

Bankside Marathon Madness

This week in PE we have celebrated "Bankside Marathon Madness" by completing the TCS mini marathon. Pupils were challenged to take on 2 miles of activity by completing 12 laps around the field. Pupils could walk, run, skip, jog, and had the option to complete their laps over a few days or all at once.

It's been fantastic to see so many pupils taking part and challenging themselves to complete their laps and beat time records.



Marathon Madness



On Sunday Dominique and Paul will be running the London Marathon for the National Autistic Society, a charity close to their hearts both personally and professionally.

Throughout this week, students have taken part in marathon themed learning across the curriculum. There also had the opportunity to take part in their very own TCS London Mini-Marathon!

Please take a look at their JustGiving page via the link below or scan the QR code:

https://www.justgiving.com/page/dominique-childs-1770558893237?utm_medium=FR&utm_source=CL



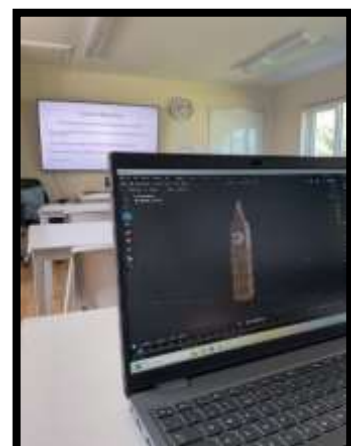
Dom and Paul start at 10.04am on Sunday morning - but if you fancy watching a couple of dots move around a map in London, you can track their progress on the app. I'm sure students will be keen to know if they have been the closest to predicting their actual finish time!

<https://www.londonmarathonevents.co.uk/london-marathon/tcs-london-marathon-app#:~:text=New%20and%20improved%20for%202026,London%20Marathon%20Foundation>

Bankside Marathon Madness

Computing

In computing, students researched London landmarks. They chose one famous landmark and created it using the skills they have learnt in Blender.



Bankside Marathon Madness

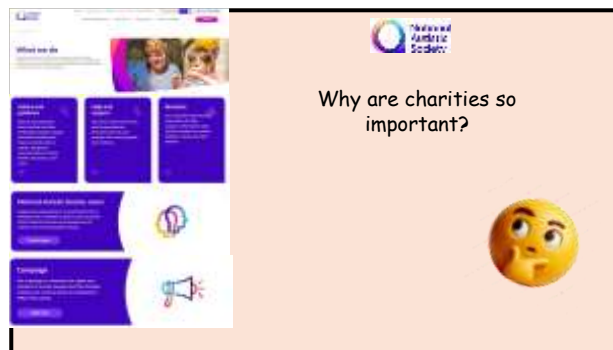
MATHS

In Maths, we came up with lots of ideas of where maths is used in the London marathon, then we used data from 10 of Dom's training runs to do speed/distance/time calculations. We used these to predict the time Dom will run the marathon in and compared it to the staff guesses. I wonder who will be the closest?



PSHE

In PSHE, we looked at 'What difference does 26.2 miles make?' London Marathon is the largest one-day fundraising event in the world. We explored what impact charities can have on people's lives and how important they are in making progress with research, changes and treatments.



Kindness Club

In Kindness Club students created some 'inspirational' posters for Dom and Paul on marathon day!



"When your legs can't run, run with your heart'.

Betty



"Any idiot can run, but it takes a special kind of idiot to run a marathon!"

Ren Husan made this fantastic poster, and Hannah was happy to share it with Dom and Paul



Pan-disability football tournament

On Friday 17th April, some of our pupils took part in the pan-disability football tournament as part of the Worcestershire School Spring Games. Pupils were mixed into teams with 1 or 2 other Bankside pupils and pupils from other Worcestershire schools. It was great to see how welcoming our pupils were to their new teammates and worked together to demonstrate excellent football skills. For many of our pupils this was their first experience representing Bankside at a sports event and we were proud to see them stepping out of their comfort zone and trying these new opportunities. Well done to all pupils who took part. The girl's grey team and boys red team both placed 3rd in their tournaments. while the girl's blue team and boys yellow team placed 4th.

Bankside's Bluebells

The woods at Bankside are in full bloom currently with beautiful Bluebells. Students are getting to get outdoors and have a walk through the lovely woods and pretty flowers. Bailey seems to like them a lot too.



Zoom out (Ctrl+Minus key)

BANKSIDE'S GOT TALENT

**FRIDAY
22ND MAY**

**AUDITION VIDEOS
TO BE SENT TO TOM
BY THE 1ST OF MAY**

**CAN YOU SING, DANCE, OR MAKE
US LAUGH? ARE YOU A POET, A
GYMNAST, OR A MAGICIAN? WE'D
LOVE TO SEE YOUR ENTRIES FOR
BANKSIDE'S GOT TALENT!**

