019 ABP Newsletter 13.02.26

Arthur Bugler Primary School

Dear parents/carers,

It has been a very busy and eventful half term.

We have focused on our Mental Health this week with special assemblies which included a Peace Walk with an extra special guest- ask the children who this was!

Please see the amazing things the children have been doing this half term- each year group have shared this below.

Have a nice half term break and I will look forward to seeing you on our return on Tuesday 24th February,

Mrs Matthews

Head of School

Half term news

Reception

This has been an amazing half term and the children have come on in leaps and bounds with their learning. Drawing Club is proving to be a huge success and we have enjoyed a range of books, tales and animations. We loved the tale of Rumpelstiltskin as we created castles and peculiar characters, and the wolf in Little Red Riding Hood got up to all sorts of mischief indeed. The children's enthusiasm to write, draw and share their own ideas is fantastic.

Their imaginations have no limits and it is a joy to see them so eager to participate in Drawing Club.

Our history topic of Long Ago has been enjoyed by all as we looked into the the past and how people used to live, and what toys they used to play with. Our favourite activity was definitely playing the 'Guess the Baby' game, where we looked at how much we have changed and grown since we were little. These children are certainly going to continue to grow and thrive this year.

We have finished the half term with our spectacular Lunar New Year celebrations. We wished the whole school a very happy new year with a dragon parade, where we showed our lucky red lanterns, made noises to scare the bad spirits away and danced with the dragon along the corridors - such a great way to end the half term! Happy Chinese New Year.

Year 1

This half term has flown by so quickly, and that's because your children have been absolutely amazing! We began our new topic, "Big Light, Big City," which took us on a journey around the United Kingdom. The children enjoyed naming all the different countries, and they are working hard to remember their capital cities. They definitely remember the capital of England, as we took a virtual tour of some of the most well-known places in London.

In Maths, we have been counting up to 50. The children have started to think about the place value of two-digit numbers. We also enjoyed sequencing our daily activities and learning how to tell the time, focusing on o'clock and half past.

In Literacy, we have read some lovely books that helped us reflect on our environment and the importance of being creative. In Phonics, we have been learning some tricky sounds. Computing was very exciting this term as we learned how to log onto our school Chromebooks. It was a little challenging—we had to spell our surnames and then type in our passwords—but the children approached it with enthusiasm and resilience.

A huge thank you to all the parents who have been reading with the children at home. It really shows—our golden tickets have been increasing, with some children reaching 100 and even 200 reads! The *Time to Read* folders are clearly getting lots of love, and we are seeing great improvements in spellings too. Keep it up!

We are looking forward to a wonderful half term ahead!

Year 2

We have had a fantastic half term and should feel incredibly proud of how hard they've worked. One of the standout moments has been designing and building our beach hut prototypes using junk modelling. The children showed brilliant creativity and

teamwork, and they're already buzzing with excitement about using real tools—including saws—after half term.

In geography, the class have become experts at spotting human and physical features, confidently identifying them in maps, photos and real-world examples. Their enthusiasm has been wonderful to see.

Our literacy lessons have been just as inspiring. The children are completely absorbed in their books—so much so that you can often hear a pin drop during reading time. Their love of stories is really shining through.

We're looking forward to another brilliant half term ahead.

Year 3

What an absolute whirlwind of a half-term! We hit the ground running this January, and the energy in Year 3 has been nothing short of electric. It has been a joy to kick-start the year with such an awesome group of children whose curiosity seems to grow by the day.

We officially launched our "Rocks, Relics and Rumbles" topic with a truly explosive WOW Day! We've spent the last few weeks diving deep into the world of volcanoes, exploring the fiery power of our planet. The excitement doesn't stop there; after the break, we'll be shifting our focus to the ground beneath our feet as we tackle the science of earthquakes.

In Maths, we've been getting hands-on, using plenty of resources and, incorporating anything creative whenever possible to bring key concepts to life. Our Literacy sessions have been equally inspired by our phenomenal texts, *The Pied Piper* and *Escape from Pompeii*, resulting in incredible chronological reports and narratives.

To top it off, we've been swept up in the Winter Olympics. We suspect there are budding Olympians in our ranks, so apologies for the many ski slope visits you may have to take this half-term! It's been a phenomenal start to 2026 - too many higlights and not enough space here to give the children credit. Simply, you've all smashed it!

Year 4

Year 4 have had a fantastic half term full of hard work, creativity and curiosity! We have been practising our times tables with great determination, and the children have shown brilliant progress. Thank you to everyone who attended the Multiplication Check meeting and the information from this is on our Classdojo pages.

In our topic *"Winding Rivers and Misty Mountains"*, we explored rivers from around the world and even got hands-on by building our own. The children loved investigating how rivers form, flow and change.

We have also enjoyed a wonderful range of books this term, including *Tamarind and the Star of Ishta*, *The Firework-Maker's Daughter*, *Winter's Child* and *Cinnamon*. The children produced some truly beautiful writing and thoughtful work inspired by these stories.

In Art, the children created stunning clay horses. This was a tricky project, but they showed such perseverance and should be incredibly proud of what they achieved.

We have absolutely loved working with Year 4 this half term. We wish you all a restful break and look forward to seeing you soon for more amazing learning adventures!

Year 5

Year 5 have had a fantastic term and have been working incredibly hard across all subjects.

In Maths, the children have been focusing on fractions, decimals, and calculating area and perimeter. They have shown great perseverance as the concepts have become more challenging.

In English, the class were captivated by the story of Philippe Petit and his breathtaking tightrope walk between the Twin Towers. Using this as inspiration, they produced impressive news reports and biographies about his life. We were particularly proud of their thoughtful language choices and how confidently they incorporated fronted adverbials and relative clauses into their writing.

In Geography, pupils developed their map-reading skills, explored different types of settlements, and analysed data to compare capital cities around the world.

In Art, the children created beautiful watercolour landscapes, demonstrating care, creativity, and growing confidence with the medium.

Overall, it has been a brilliant term full of curiosity, effort, and wonderful achievements and we've finished the half term perfectly with an amazing Space Wow Day. Well done, Year 5!

Year 6 We have had a great half term in Year 6 and look forward to resuming our Britain at War topic when we return after half term. The pupils thoroughly enjoyed their visit to the Imperial War Museum in January and it really helped to capture their enthusiasm for our work on the First World War. In Maths we have been exploring area, perimeter and volume, as well as developing our reasoning and arithmetic skills in continued preparation for our end of Year tests. The children are progressing well towards their targets and have come through another round of mock tests with more confidence and understanding. In Literacy we have written our own dystopian narrative based on 'The Last Wild' by Piers Torday and we are currently developing our historical writing on the Dutch Resistance using the fantastic WW2 book 'Resist' by Tom Palmer. In Science we have been studying light, investigating

shadows, light sources and reflection whilst in art we have studied modern art and abstraction where the children have produced some really bold and creative designs using colour, line, shape and distortion. Another highlight of the half term was our 'make do and mend' D&T sewing project where the children used a variety of stitching techniques to create their own bookmarks.

Horizon Hub

The children in the Horizon Hub have had a wonderful half term, enjoying a rich and varied learning experience across the curriculum. They have loved taking part in sensory stories, exploring money in maths, and developing life skills through practical activities, including baking delicious flapjacks and shortbread, which were very popular!

In literacy, the children have been building their phonics knowledge and even created some wonderfully silly sentences. Our story focus this term has been *The Three Little Pigs*, and the children have enjoyed re-enacting the tale, engaging with themed sensory tuff-tray activities, and making their own 3D pig models.

We have also been developing key social and communication skills, such as turn-taking during games with both peers and adults, as well as practising following instructions during our weekly yoga sessions.

Science Week Poster Competition 2026!

Arthur Bugler will be taking part in National British Science Week 2026!

This year's theme is "Curiosity", and we will be celebrating from Monday 9th March to Friday 13th March 2026.

Look out for more information on our school website: National Science Week.

In the meantime, you can already start working on your Poster Competition entries.

This year, the poster should help answer the question:

“What are children and young people’s vision for a good or positive childhood?”

Further details can be found both on our school website (link is above) and on the official British Science Week homepage.

Every year, our entries have been amazing, and I cannot wait to see what you create this year!

School Travel Plan Update

We are incredibly proud as a school to have been awarded our Good Level Travel Plan Award by Modeshift STARS. This recognition reflects a commitment to safer, greener and more active travel by all members of the community. Thank you to our pupils, families and staff for working together to prioritise eco-friendly methods of travelling to school. We are now focussing on gathering evidence for accreditation for the next level.

Has your child received a diagnosis of Autism? Do you have questions or concerns?

North East London

NHS Foundation Trust

The Specialist Health Visiting team Nursery Nurse and colleagues will be available on the third Monday of each month at the Child Development Centre, Gifford House,

Thurrock Community Hospital, Long Lane, RM16 2PX

9:30am -10:30am

Each month we will have a different topic.

Please see dates and the topic for each session.

For more information please call 0300 300 1816

PE & Sports update

Football News

On Friday our boys B team took on St Josephs on another wet and windy afternoon! Unfortunately St Josephs could only field 5 players which meant that we had to play 2 separate teams for each half (6v5 in the first and 5v5 in the second). This allowed for lots of space on the pitch which we exploited well to score 11 goals in total. Despite the 11-0 scoreline St Josephs battled incredibly well until the final whistle and did not give up, they definitely did their school proud.

Our boys played some fantastic football and the passing was slick and created some fantastic goals and opportunities. Goals were shared around with Oscar bagging a hat-trick and Luke a brace. Also getting on the scoresheet was Jude, Harry, George, Finley and even goalkeeper Zachary managed to score from long range!

Player of the match went to Oscar P for a spectacular second half hat-trick.

1 - The boys B team scored an incredible 11 goals in their win over St Josephs

Weekly reading winners (Golden Tickets)

This weeks winners are:

EYFS/Key Stage 1: Class 2

Key Stage 2: Class 7

Reading is a vital skill, and we take pride in celebrating our readers every Friday during our weekly celebration assembly. Please support us by encouraging your child to read regularly at home and by signing their reading record. Each completed read brings them closer to earning golden tickets—let's work together to inspire a love for reading!

Weekly Attendance winners

A huge congratulations to this week's top attending classes!

EYFS/Key Stage 1: Class 5 - 97.5%

Key Stage 2: Class 14 - 98.3%

Regular attendance is crucial for a strong education, helping children stay on track with their learning and progress. Every school day counts! However, if your child is unwell or unable to attend, please remember that it is your responsibility to inform the school as early as possible. Thank you for your continued support in making attendance a priority!

Class dojo

Winning team - Blue

Congratulations - out of school achievements

2 - Amelia took part in a street dance competition in Kent on Sunday. After dancing through 4 difficult rounds she was placed and got a trophy for 4th place. She was delighted. Her group dance also gained a medal and was placed 4th. She had a fun and successful day! Well done.

3 - Elsie received a Jack Petchey award last night at South Essex gymnastics club for her outstanding achievements as an individual at the club. Well done

Co-operative Values

Osborne
Co-operative Academy Trust

- **Self Help** - We use our own efforts and resources to achieve things without relying on others.
- **Self Responsibility** - We understand that we are answerable and accountable for our actions.
- **Democracy** - We understand that everyone should be treated equally and has an equal voice and right to contribute.
- **Solidarity** - We support each other and work together to achieve a goal.

- **Equality** - We ensure that everyone is treated fairly, equally and with respect.
- **Equity** - We demonstrate attitudes and behaviours which are fair and unbiased.

Dates for your diary

Dates for the next few weeks:

W/C 16.02.26 - Half term

24.02.26 - Children return to school

24.02.26 - Year 6 parents and Carers SATs meeting (3:30pm)

w/c 02.03.26 - Reading & writing week

05.03.26 - World book day

10th & 11th March - Parents evenings