

Spring term – February-March 2025



We've enjoyed another short, action-packed second half of the Spring Term, with beautiful Spring weather, which has been so lovely after a long winter. Enjoy reading our news update!

Class news

Ice Age class (Nursery/Reception)

Ice Age Class really enjoyed going on weekly trips to learn about different types of transport. We visited The Postal Museum, the London Transport Museum, and watched planes taking off and landing at the Royal Albert Dock.



Ancient Egypt class (Key Stage 1)

We went to Kew Gardens on a beautiful Spring Day to complete our topic on plants and growth this term. We saw many different plants and trees. We drew pictures of plants and added different leaves onto black cardboard using sticky tape.



Jurassic class (KS1/2)

This term Jurassic Class have enjoyed taking part in their Global Generation Project workshop. All the children enjoyed the hands-on exploration activities involved in building their own bug hotel. We learned lots about insects and their habitats and plants.



Roman class (Key Stage 1/2)



During DT lessons, the children in Roman class worked in pairs to design their own pirate ships. They discussed the design process and identified the materials they would need.

The children enjoyed collaborating with their partners to create their pirate ships and were very pleased with the results.

Tudor class (Key Stage 2)

Our class have been learning about World War I this term. The children explored the life of soldiers during the war, and imagined what it was like to be a soldier. They learnt about the features of a diary and wrote their own diary entries as if they were soldiers. In one Food Technology lesson, the children made war time food - cheese and potato dumplings. They loved it! They also created amazing artwork, developing their skills using a variety of art styles.



British Science Week

We had a very successful British Science Week from 10th -14th March with all the children doing experiments linked to the theme of 'change and adapt'. Each class presented their experiment findings with their plans, predictions and conclusions and gave the children an opportunity to do the experiments too. Tudor class joined up with Heathlands and Blanche Nevile School to share their own and do different experiments.



Maths Day

On Wednesday 2nd April, the children enjoyed a whole school Maths Day linking Maths with Art and creativity. All the children were mixed up in different groups, doing puzzle hunts to create different well-known artwork, then created their own artwork using different shapes and patterns.



Facebook

Frank Barnes School for Deaf Children



Instagram

frank_barnes_school_deaf



Twitter

@FrankBarnesDeaf

Everyone enjoyed themselves very much, and discovered how Maths and art can be so much fun and linked more than they realized!



Sports and PE

This half-term, all EYFS to KS2 classes participated in tennis lessons as part of their PE curriculum. Due to scheduling:

*Two classes received coaching from a Camden Tennis Coach.

*Three classes received coaching from Brentford FC Deaf coaches. These sessions aimed to improve pupils' hand-eye coordination, agility and gross motor skills. Next term, EYFS children will enjoy multi-sports: KS1 children will experience yoga and we are looking forward to seeing our KS2 children start kayaking.



BSL Recognition Day

On Tuesday 18th March we celebrated the 22nd anniversary of BSL being recognised



officially as a language in the UK. The theme for this year's celebration was 'How we value BSL'. We were joined by children and staff from Blanche Neville School. The children enjoyed a flag game, identifying countries around the world and their country signs. We were very lucky to be joined by four international presenters: Conor, Nimco, Jurga and Georgia, who shared their experiences of growing up in their home countries. The children then split into four groups to find puzzle pieces of flags and then researched the sign for that country. We finished the day off with a traditional slice of BSL celebration cake.



World Book Day

This year's World Book Day theme was 'Read Your Way'. The children dressed up as story book characters and brought along their favourite books. It was wonderful to see the children and staff

dressed up as different book characters and get involved in a range of book-themed activities, including making their own bookmark and creating, filming and editing their own story videos. At the end of the day the children all enjoyed watching each other's films. They all chose a book to take home with them.



Charlotte's Mad Hat Day

Every year we remember one of our former TAs, Charlotte Morten. We held our annual 'Mad Hat Day' in her honour on her birthday, 26th February. Charlotte sadly passed away from bowel cancer in 2018. Staff and children all wore a hat in her memory and we raised £36.80, which we donated to a Bowel Cancer charity. We would like to say a big thank you to everyone that donated and took part.

Online safety

There has been a lot of information in the press and social media around the importance of online safety for children and young people. We would like to remind parents to be mindful of their child's online activity and ensure close supervision and vigilance. Please check what your child is doing online, who they are talking to, what language they are using and what they are looking at. We will be sharing resources with parents next term to support with monitoring online activity at home.



Parent coffee mornings

We have 2 parent coffee mornings at school next term:

- **Wednesday 30th April, 9.30am-12noon-**



Wendy Martin, Speech and Language Therapist will present what the children learn in 'Live English' sessions at school. She will also share ideas how you can support your child, with face-to-face interactions, with hearing/non-signing people. We hope it will be a fun interactive session!



Facebook

Frank Barnes School for Deaf Children



Instagram

frank_barnes_school_deaf



Twitter

@FrankBarnesDeaf

• **Thursday 26th June, 9.30am- 12noon:**

Natalie Emmett, School Nurse will talk about the importance of hydration and share advice on any bladder and bowel issues.

Please let Katie know if you will be attending by emailing her at senco@fbarnes.camden.sch.uk

Camden Music Festival

Thank you to all the parents of the pupils who have agreed for their child to attend the Camden Music Festival on Wednesday 30th April, and paid for their tickets. We will be sending the tickets home with your child after the Easter holidays. Please note the performance **starts at 7.00pm** and **ends at 9.00pm** at the Royal Albert Hall.



School attendance

Currently we are at **90.7%** so still just below our 92% target. Please ensure your child attends school every day to ensure we reach our whole school target.



Diary dates for the Summer Term:

Monday 28th April:

National BSL (Act) Day

Wednesday 30th April:

Camden Music Festival

Wednesday 30th April:

Parent Coffee morning

Sunday 18th May:

Run Kings Cross Run

Monday 30th June – Friday 4th July:

Centre Parcs residential (Year 5/6)

Tuesday 8th July:

Winning House Trip

Wednesday 9th July

Sports Day

Monday 14th - Friday 18th July

Deaf Festival Week

Wednesday 16th July

International Evening

Monday 21st July:

Whole school trip

Tuesday 22nd July

Year 6 Leaver's assembly & **END OF TERM (2.30pm)**



BSL Family Workshop

There is a free and exciting family 'architecture' workshop at the **Royal Institute of British Architects** on **Tuesday 15th April** from **10am- 12pm**. The workshop will be led by deaf architects Chris Laing and former governor Martin Glover. This is a wonderful opportunity during the Easter holidays. Places are limited so do book in advance using this link: <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/bsl-family-workshop-dream-shed-tickets-1306738212169?aff=oddtcreator>



International Evening 2025

Our annual International Evening is back on **Wednesday 16th July 2025**. Join us for a celebration of cultures, flavours, and fun — please bring your favourite traditional international dish to share and enjoy together. We look forward to seeing you there! Please confirm your attendance (and how many) by emailing Fahmida at office@fbarnes.camden.sch.uk



There are 2 Remark! playschemes in North and South London during the Easter holidays for children aged 6 and above. Please see Lisa's message on Seesaw for details.



Have a restful Easter holiday!

School re-opens to pupils for the Summer Term on **Wednesday 23rd April 2025**





Term Dates 2025-26

ACTIVITY	START	END
AUTUMN TERM		
Autumn 1 st Half Term	Monday 1 st September 2025	Friday 24 th October 2025
INSET DAY(S)	Monday 1st September 2025	
INSET DAY(S)	Tuesday 2nd September 2025	
First day back for children	Wednesday 3rd September 2025	
Autumn Half Term	Monday 27 th October 2025	Friday 31 st October 2025
Autumn 2 nd Half Term	Monday 3 rd November 2025	Friday 19 th December 2025
INSET DAY	Monday 3rd November 2025	
First day back for children	Tuesday 4 th November 2025	
Total Autumn: 75		
Christmas Holiday	Monday 22 nd December 2025	Friday 2 nd January 2026
SPRING TERM		
Spring 1 st Half Term	Monday 5 th January 2026	Friday 13 th February 2026
INSET DAY	Monday 5th January 2026	
First day back for children	Tuesday 6th January 2026	
Spring Half Term	Monday 16 th February 2026	Friday 20 th February 2026
First day back for children	Monday 23rd February 2026	
Spring 2 nd Half Term	Monday 23 rd February 2026	Friday 27 th March 2026
Total Spring: 55		
Easter Holiday	Monday 30 th March 2026	Friday 10 th April 2026
SUMMER TERM		
Summer 1 st Half Term	Monday 13 th April 2026	Friday 22 nd May 2026
First day back for children	Monday 13 th April 2026	
Summer Half Term	Monday 25 th May 2026	Friday 29 th May 2026
Pupils back to School	Monday 1 st June 2026	
Summer 2 nd Half Term	Monday 1 st June 2026	Friday 17 th July 2026
Last Day of Term for pupils	Friday 17 th July 2026	
Total Summer: 65		

