

Weekly Newsletter

Dear parents and carers,

We are so pleased to have welcomed our remaining reception families to Abacus this week. Yes, there have been some tears, but the children have settled quickly in the mornings and are enjoying their day at Abacus- they've even started some phonics learning! It's been wonderful to see the all the children continue with the learning journeys and make new friends.

Buses

Thank you for your patience with our buses this week, as always, our staff are doing an amazing job getting the children to school safely and promptly. Unfortunately, mistakes sometimes happen but rest assured all children are safe and in the care of our wonderful team. It is important that staff are treated with respect doing this important job and that children remain seated, with their seatbelt on until their name is called.

You may have noticed that our Swiss bus is very full. For that reason, we are asking if there are 2-3 families who are able to change from Swiss to Belsize (for example if you live in the middle of catchment). This would give us a little lee-way and would be greatly appreciated if possible. If you are able to do this, please contact the office ASAP. If we are unable to do this, we will look to adapt our arrangements and will let you know early next week. Unfortunately, we are unable to increase the size of the bus due to the tight London corners.

In order to support school, any changes to buses, including pick-up changes need to come to the office before 1pm. This allows us time to update notes and make sure staff are informed.

Have a lovely weekend- possibly the last of the warmer weather!

Ms Melissa Chandler
Head of School

Mrs Vicki Briody
Executive Headteacher
Associate Education Director

Ms Miriyan Sikkens
Deputy Head Teacher



THRIVE



Reception
Whole Class

Year 1
Whole Class

Year 2
Whole Class
Billie-Joe

Year 3
Sophia
Noor

Year 4
Whole Class

Year 5/6
Whole Class
Max

KEY

All parents invited

Some volunteers needed

School event—no adults needed

New event added

Calendar

Autumn 1

Spring 1

Summer 1

To be updated ASAP- watch this space!

Autumn 2

Spring 2

Summer 2

T.H.R.I.V.E.

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a message from
Abacus Belsize PTA



Dear Abacus Families,

A warm welcome to all reception families, we hope you had a great start so far!

Next Friday morning 8.45@ Chamomile Café

we'll have our first 'Get Together' for new and existing parents.

We would love to see you there, have a chat and explain a bit more who we are and what we do.

A big thank you to the parents who came forward to be class reps for this academic year.

Your class reps will share messages, concerns and ideas in order to communicate effectively with the PTA.

We are still looking to find someone for Y4.

Thank you to all the volunteers who came today to talk to the kids about Rosh Ashanà (the Jewish New Year)
and Shanà Tovà to everyone who's celebrating it!



We are also very happy to announce that we finally have a **PTA calendar** with our main events,
please have a look from time to time as we might add or move some dates.

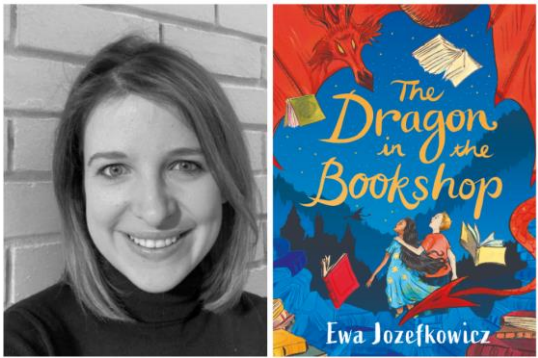
Don't forget to start using Easyfundraising (direct link below) to help us raise money through your shopping
without any additional cost to you!



Support our PTA on Easyfundraising, using it is
simple and quick:
<https://easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/abacus-belsize-pta/>

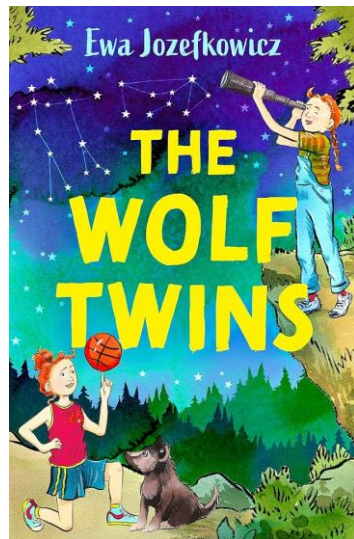
Have a lovely weekend,
Your PTA

  We run a *pre-loved uniform* sale throughout the
year so if you are interested in buying or in donating
please contact Anne (via WhatsApp 07778283729).



Author Ewa Jozefkiewicz returns to Abacus!

Key Stage 2 are fortunate enough to be getting another visit from Ewa on Thursday 5th October following the huge success of last year's visit. You may have bought your children copies of her books 'Cooking Club Detectives' or 'The Dragon in the Bookshop'. This time, she will be telling us all about her new book, 'The Wolf Twins' and conducting some creative writing workshops. This time, parents are able to pre-order a signed copy of her new book **only. Orders will not be taken after her visit.** If you would like to pre-order, please email the school office FAO Miss Lovell RE: Author Visit by Friday 22nd September. You will then need to pay via PayPal.



The Wolf Twins

Lucy and Alpha used to be the Wonder Twins, two hearts beating as one. When Mum's new job rewilding wolves means they have to move to the forest, that changes. Lucy loves being close to nature, but Alpha wants to follow her dream of basketball glory. They've become like distant universes, drifting further apart.

Then a new wolf cub arrives at the centre. Lucy names him Claw and they form a special bond. But Alpha thinks he should roam free, and she plots to release him. When news of Claw's disappearance breaks, the future of the rewilding centre is at stake. Can the Wonder Twins pull together again to find Claw and heal their differences?

Alternatively you can purchase a copy of any of her books directly at:
<https://ewajozefkiewicz.com/books/>

Reception

We have had a wonderful week in reception. All our children are now with us and have all settled into the classroom wonderfully. They have loved exploring the different areas such as the construction area, art area and water area. Over the week, everyone has become a lot more confident with both their friends and the adults in the room as well as around school. It has been lovely watching friends reunite and new friendships form.

We have begun our phonics carpet sessions and focus groups this week. It has been fantastic to see so many children working hard to write the sounds we have learnt as well as label their work with their names. We will continue to practise our pencil grips and letter formation in the coming weeks.

Our topic this half term is dinosaurs. This week, we opened our 'Dinosaur Dig' role play area to the children, where they become fossil hunters, using brushes and shovels to dig for fossils. The children can often be found in their pretending to find all manner of dinosaur fossils particularly those of the T-Rex. Next week we will be learning more about dinosaurs such as when they lived and the names of some of different types of dinosaurs!



Key notes for next week:

- Please remember to bring hats
- Please could you ensure every item of children's clothes and belongings are named. (water bottles, bags hats, shoes, coats, jackets and spare clothes)
- Miss Tangyuk will be at Swiss next Friday morning.

Year 1

What another busy week in year 1. We are continuing to explore animals and animal classification. We learnt what fins and fur and feathers are for in science, and have been matching vocabulary. Three of our girls even put on a show about a cat, a dog, and a tiger. They wrote their own lines and used their own props. I wonder if we will have some performers again next week!?

The children have also all shown me what wonderful writers and readers they are as we have been practicing using handwriting lines and writing sentences about a story we are reading. We have started reading a chapter book together – A Faraway Tree Adventure!!

Maths has been all about sorting and counting – we made some interesting creations with blocks, we sorted buttons and bears, and even built animal homes with construction bricks outside.



Key notes for next week:

- Please remember to bring hats
- Please could you ensure children's clothes and belongings are named.

Year 2

Happy Friday!

We've had a great week in Year 2! Everyone has been doing such a great job with their learning and deserve a huge pat on the back.

In English we've been reading Jim and the Beanstalk. The children put their prediction skills to use, imagined what the giant might've been thinking in different parts of the story and even created a story map to retell the story.

Place value is this half term's focus in Maths. After a review on what place value is, we learned how to use our counting in 10s to help with counting objects up to 100 (10, 20, 30 ... 35 rather than 1, 2 ... 35). We also practiced representing numbers using dienes, making sure not to confuse our 10s for our 1s.

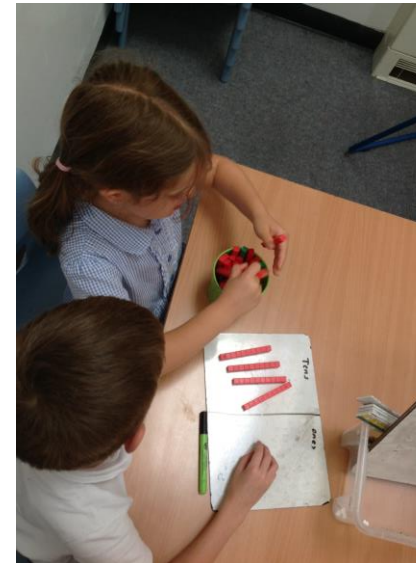
In art the children discovered how artists get inspiration from everything around them before sketching objects that inspire them.

Our topic focus is Life in the City. We compared human and physical features in England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland before focusing on Camden as a borough.

Science is all about animals and humans - this week we looked at the life cycle of humans. Everybody sorted different stages of the human life cycle in order and labelled them. The children decided that playing on a phone would be a good action to remember the term 'adolescent'. 😊

Have a lovely weekend!

Miss Taylor and Mr David



Key notes for next week:

Please remember to bring in hats for outdoor play

PE is on Wednesdays

Miss Taylor is on the bus every Wednesday

T.H.R.I.V.E.

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Year 3

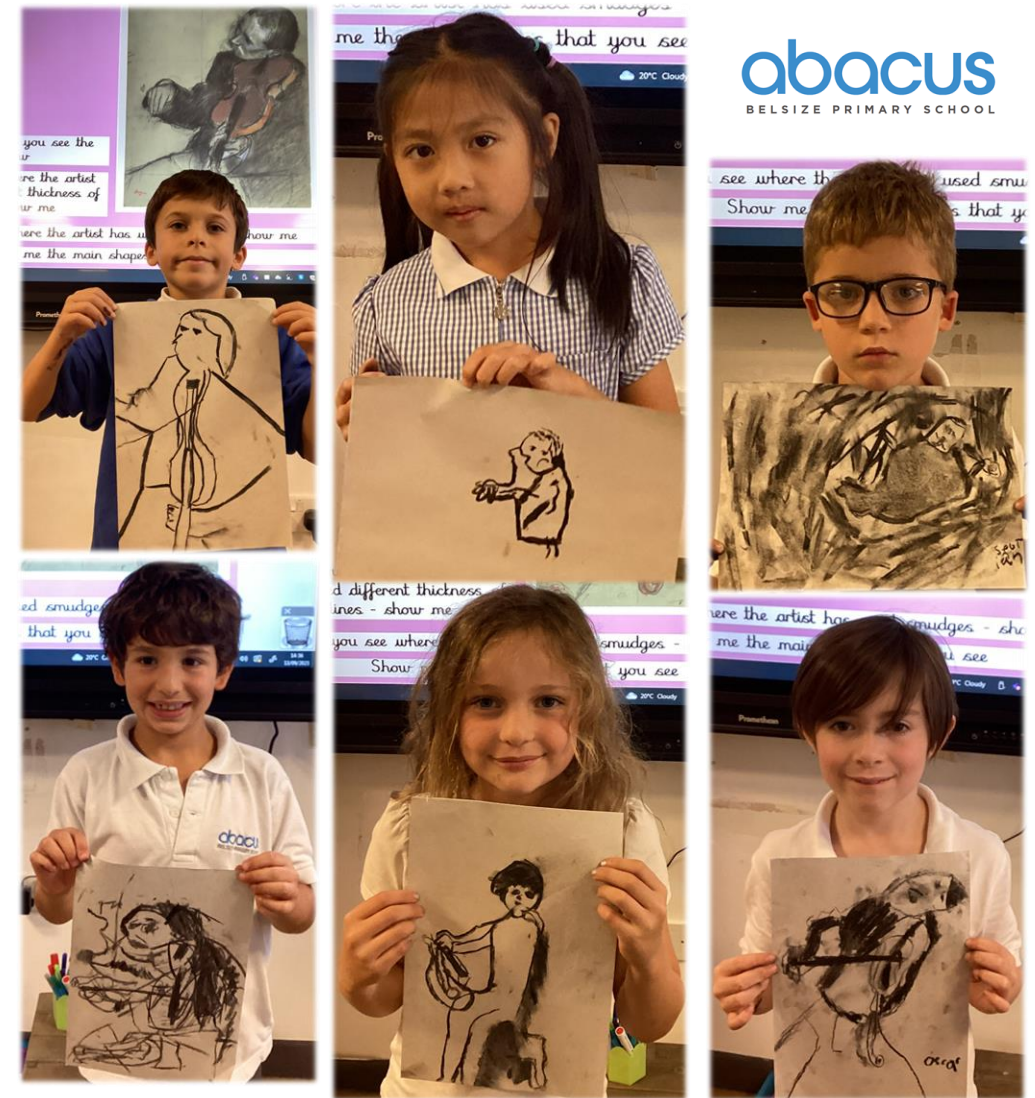
I'd like to say a big, "Well done!" to the whole of Year 3 for an excellent first full week back at school. We managed to hit the ground running and I'm really excited about all our amazing learning in the year ahead.

In Guided Reading this week, we've been off to the mystical land of Nanvi Dar, high in the Himalayas, getting to know Lady Agatha and all the friendly yetis in The Abominables. The children have been really engaged, so why not ask your child to tell you all about it?

In English, we've been studying The Heart and the Bottle, a beautiful book by Oliver Jeffers. The children arrived on Monday to find an old, worn leather chair in the classroom and they were very curious, just like the little girl in the story. They enjoyed reading and responding to the text before creating a graph to show the little girl's feelings through the story, as she faced some real-life challenges.

In Maths, we've been getting into the swing of things learning place value – with lots of fun challenges.

While in Art, we were looking at Edger Degas and how he used charcoal and chalk to create dynamic pictures and we had a go ourselves. I think They really captured something of his magic!



Key notes for next week:

- Our PE day has now moved to **Friday**. Sorry for the inconvenience!
- Please remember to bring in hats on sunny days so the children can play outside
- I'll be at Belsize next Thursday morning

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anthem

Year 4

This week Year 4 have had an amazing start to their learning and they should be so proud of their behaviour and focus! They have definitely shown us they're ready for Year 4 learning!!!

In English we started our new text, Varmints! We explored what the word Varmint mean before we listened to the soundtrack for the trailer. We described what we could hear and used this to make predictions about what the book is about. We also explored 2 different settings, using noun phrases to describe and compare them.

In maths we started our Place Value work, looking at how the place of digits affects their value and how we can partition numbers. We also had a go at identifying numbers on a number line and smashed it!!!

In Science we started learning about our new Topic, Animals including Humans. We explored the digestive system and identified the different organs and their functions. We can't wait for our experiment where we investigate what actually happens to food inside us!!!

In Guided reading we have started our ne story, Boy At The Back Of The Class. We explored reasons why people may move away from their homes and then analysed our story. So far, we have met Ahmet, a young boy who has started in a new class who our main character would like to be friends with. We can't wait to find out more about him.

In Mandarin we have started learning all about how to say the different animals we might keep as pets. Ask us to show you our actions!

We also had a very special visitor I today who taught us all about Rosh Hashanah! We learnt about why Jewish people celebrate Rosh Hashanah and different things they do to celebrate. We also had some honey and apples and Challah bread together! Thank you so much Jennie, we had a great time!

A massive well done for all of your hard work this week, Year 4!! Enjoy your weekend!!

Mrs. Bowen and Carl.

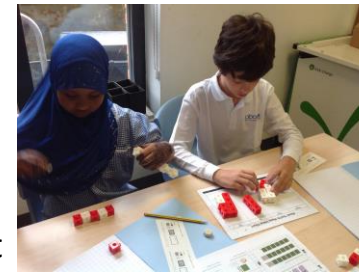
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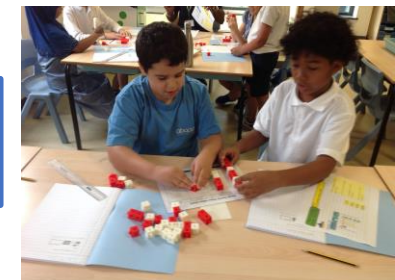
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Key notes for next week:

- **Our PE day is on Monday**
- **Please remember to bring hats on sunny days and make sure you have a water bottle.**



abacus
BELSIZE PRIMARY SCHOOL



Year 5/6

Happy Friday all! It's been another amazing week in Year 5 and 6. It's been really fun to get cracking with our curriculum in full this week.

In Maths, we've been busy with Place Value, using different representations to show numbers up to 1,000,000. We'll continue with this next week, including ordering and comparing numbers.

The class are already hooked on our Guided Reading text 'Holes'. I was really impressed with their comprehension skills this week! In English, we are reading "The Arrival" by Shaun Tan, a picture book with no words. The children enjoy imagining their own stories, using evidence from the images.

Every Thursday, the children will be split into year groups and they will have a violin lesson with Thi and a Computing lesson with Mr Elgar (our Computing Lead). On Fridays, the class will have our new Deputy Head, Miss Sikkens for Curriculum Day, which includes Geography, PSHE, Mandarin and Music.

It was lovely to welcome some of our parents today to share in their Rosh Hashanah celebrations. Thank you for giving up with your time and for the yummy treats! We also had an assembly on Thursday, where the children had the opportunity to share some of their traditions. We wish all of our families Shana Tovah!

Finally, FYI for those families wishing to apply for a place at Camden School for Girls, the deadline for the Banding Assessment registration is Tuesday 19th September at noon. Please see the link below.

[Banding Assessment](#)

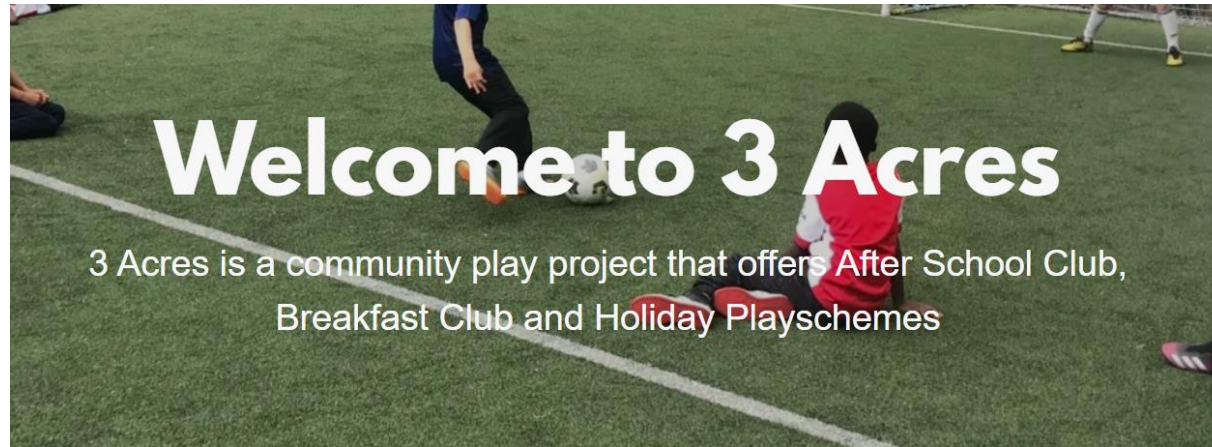
Have a lovely weekend!

Miss Lovell, Miss McClure and Jonny

Key things to remember for next week:

- PE kits worn on Wednesday
- Violin in school on Thursday
- Hats must be worn at playtimes, or children will be asked to stay inside
- Please ensure your child has a water bottle in school
- Miss Lovell will be at Swiss on Thursday and Miss McClure will be at Belsize on Tuesday





We have met with 3 Acres, a play provision centre, a short walk away from our bus-stop. They have provisionally offered 10 spaces per evening to Abacus families starting in September. As with the Winch, this is organised through the centre and they inform us of our daily register.

Children will be picked up from the bus stop at 3:30 and walked to the centre.

More information can be found here: <https://3acresplay.co.uk/>

Please call or email the centre to register your interest and get the required registration packs.

020277223812 or threeacresplayproject@gmail.com

Staff List

Leadership Team	Teaching Team	Support Team	Office Team
Vicki Briody Executive Head Teacher, Deputy safeguarding lead	Madison Tangyuk Reception teacher	Toni Gill Reception teaching assistant	Michelle Kiratzi Office Administrator
Melissa Chandler Head of School, Designated Safeguarding Lead	Thomas Owens Reception teacher (Tues)	Nasima Ali Reception, 1:1 support assistant	Jackie Bright Attendance officer and office administrator
Miriyam Sikkens Deputy Head Teacher, Geography, History and PSHE lead	Julia Hagen Year 1 teacher	Alaya Begum Year 1 teaching assistant	Zahraa Miah Office assistant
Holly Lovell Assistant Headteacher, Key Stage 2 leader, Maths, RE and PE lead	Claire Taylor Year 2 teacher	David Diaz Year 2 teaching assistant	Rasa Undaraviciute Operations manager (Anthem schools Trust)
Thomas Owens SENDCo	Thomas Elgar Year 3 teacher, Forest School and Computing lead	Una Predanic Year 3-4 teaching assistant	Nadine Kanda School cleaner
Madison Tangyuk EYFS and KS1 Lead, Phonics, Science and Music lead	Becky Bowen Year 4 teacher, Art and DT lead, PPG champion	Jonny Chu Year 5/6 teaching assistant	
	Holly Lovell – Year 5/6 teacher		
	Rachel McClure- Year 5/6 student teacher		