

Bensham Manor Newsletter



Summer Term 2024

Headteacher's Welcome

Dear Families,

This has been an extremely busy term (as is always the case at Bensham) with lots going on. We had an IQM assessment which gave such a glowing report of Bensham Manor and how inclusive we are as a school. We celebrated Pride and held a Diversity Week with lots of amazing activities. Ofsted visited us on the first week of June and after a rigorous assessment gave us an Outstanding grade. We celebrated this amazing result with a party (we love a party at Bensham Manor!).



Year 11 students did two weeks of work experience from June 6th-17th and we received some fantastic feedback about them. Year 11 then had a year group outing to take part in team building activities during their final week and the following day they took part in enrichment sessions, including learning self-defence! Year 11 graduated on June 20th which was a truly wonderful occasion which saw them having a ceremony outdoors and a little party for pupils and their families afterwards. Our Post 16 leavers graduated on July 5th, I am so proud of this fabulous group of young people. Your children have had access to a huge variety of Careers information this year to help them plan for their future.

As usual we had lots of sporting events including cricket at the Oval, orienteering, football, tennis, basketball, boccia and cross country to name but a few. We sent two groups of pupils to a residential at Woodlarks in Farnham. Pupils had such a great time.

There will be a staggered return to help our new Year 7 pupils transition successfully. Pupils in Years 7, 11 and Post 16 will return on Tuesday September 3rd with all pupils attending on September 4th. Have a safe and happy Summer!

Fiona Robinson, Headteacher

Ofsted Outstanding Party

During our last week, we celebrated our Ofsted result with a party! We had a steel pan band come in and an ice-cream truck during the Monday afternoon. Many games and activities took place. The dancing was very popular!



Bensham Alumni Talk

Anton Bland, a former student of Bensham Manor, along with Paul Funnel, one of our Governors, returned to give a career talk to our Year 9 and 10 students. Anton is currently excelling in his role with the Youth Service, where he supports other young people. He shared valuable insights about transitioning from Bensham Manor to college, which greatly reassured our students. It was wonderful to see him reconnect with Mrs Robinson, who was his teacher many years ago!



Outdoor Learning

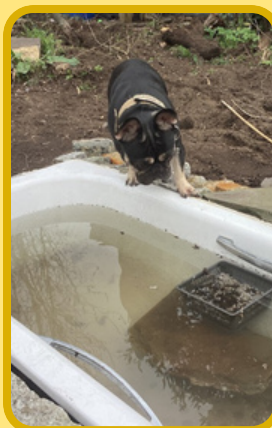
As always things have been busy in Outdoor Learning! Ariana did the honours this term and harvested our new potatoes and some carrots - Well done!



We have created a lovely outdoor classroom area so we can enjoy the beautiful sunshine while we work. The fire has had an update so it is ready for melted marshmallows, yum!



Year 9's have worked super hard revamping the pond area (with Bruno checking the standard of work).



Duke of Edinburgh Award

As part of of their Duke of Edinburgh award, one of our Year 10 classes, 10LBU, spent the day on a fishing trip in Oxted. Big thanks to the Masonic Fishing Charity for their support on this day.



Back at Bensham, they had a yummy cookout on the school's fire pit! Great work!



Bensham Summer Fair

We would like to give a huge shoutout to everyone that helped and who came to our Summer Fair. It was a great success and we are very happy to announce that we raised £2764.07!



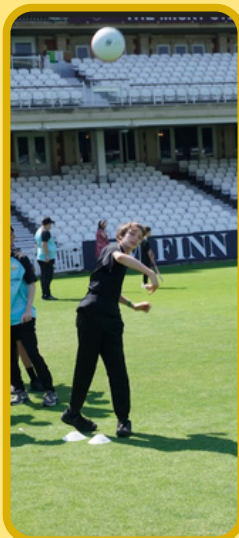
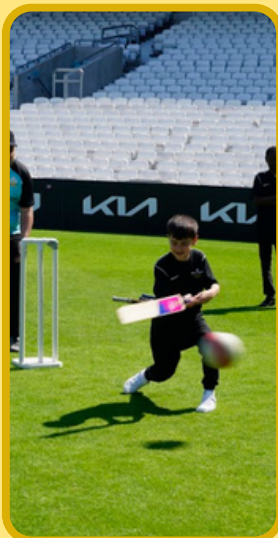
Woodlarks

Post 16 had a superb residential trip to Woodlarks in Farnham. They made their own meals, played games and even went on the zipline! Their adventures in the woods including orienteering, swimming and a treasure hunt.



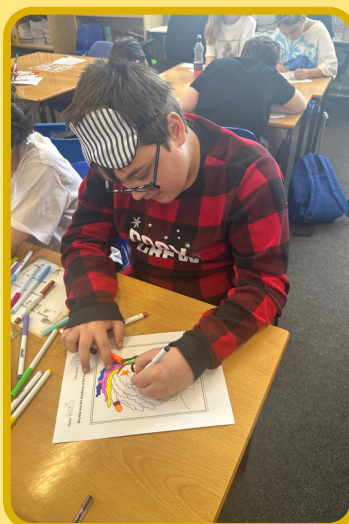
Cricket Disability Day

8IM took part in cricket-themed activities like batting, bowling, and fielding challenges at The Kia Oval on the 26th of June. Their annual Disability Day is an event we always look forward to!



Pyjamarama Day 17th May

This year we raised over £120 for the BookTrust, a charity that is 'dedicated to getting children reading'. We all dressed up in our pyjamas and students took part in fun activities in lesson 1. Students also had to find 10 animals in pyjamas hidden around the school. Well done to Kyle who was drawn at random from all the correct answers and won his own personalised dressing gown!



Bensham/Crystal Palace FC

Bensham Manor represented Crystal Palace at the Premier League Festival held at Chelsea FC's training ground last Saturday. Our amazing players beat top teams including Chelsea, Arsenal Southampton, Brighton and even Fulham, to retain the title they won last year.



Diversity Week

What an amazing week we had! On the Monday students created and coloured in flags from around the world which we turned into bunting ready for our diversity picnic on the Thursday. On the Tuesday we celebrated Pride, students choose a topic within diversity that is important to them. Then students were asked to design a Pride, Equality or Diversity badge. We had some amazing entries - well done to our winners who were: Luca, Eliana and Akaiah. Their designs will be made into badges and sold in school next year.



Wednesday was amazing. Students and staff came dressed in traditional dress and staff had the most amazing lunch - staff cooked food from around the world. Pupils also took part in a film fest, where they were able to watch clips from films such as Hidden Figures, Coco, Wonder and more. Once they had watched the clips, they engaged in class discussions about culture, traditions and diversity. Pupils were able to share their experiences and traditions and celebrate their similarities and differences. Our week culminated in our diversity picnic lesson 5, with music from around the world, a 'guess the flag' quiz and a cookie and flag for all students.

Our superb Sewing Club!

Every Friday lunchtime in the Therapy Centre, a group of dedicated sewers come along to make bracelets, cushions, puppets and pom-poms for family, friends and staff! Our sewers have grown in confidence, skills and creativity and we look forward to the amazing crafts they will make next year!



Graduation Ceremonies

We said goodbye to a group of brilliant Year 11 and Post 16 students this term. Our Year 11 ceremony ended with an absolutely fabulous speech by Tommy, who served as Mrs Robinson's shadow headteacher in his final year with us.



Year 10 Art

In their art lessons, Year 10 students explored the fascinating world of Cubism, focusing on Cubist objects. They studied famous Cubist artworks and techniques, learning how to deconstruct objects into geometric shapes and depict them from multiple angles.



Eoin in 10JMc

Student Council

Student council have really enjoyed supporting their peers this year and advocating for the school. Lots of positive things have happened this year thanks to all of student council's efforts – some include:

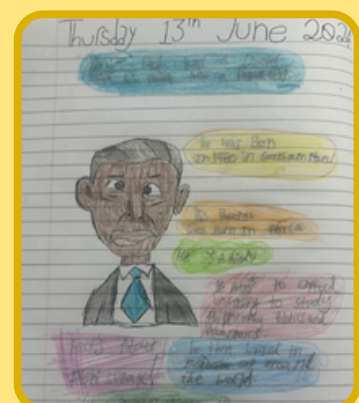
- An increase in trips
- A revived lunch menu
- Additional PE equipment has been ordered
- Students support in the playgrounds
- Birthday lanyards
- Revamp of the class points
- Meeting the Ofsted inspectors
- And.... An upcoming Year 11 prom for the year 24/25

A message from student council:

Thank you for the all support that we have had this year, please stay safe and hydrated over the summer holidays and we will be back bigger and even better next year to make Bensham an even better place where all of us can continue to thrive and be outstanding! We are incredibly proud of our Outstanding school and hope you are too! Enjoy the summer.

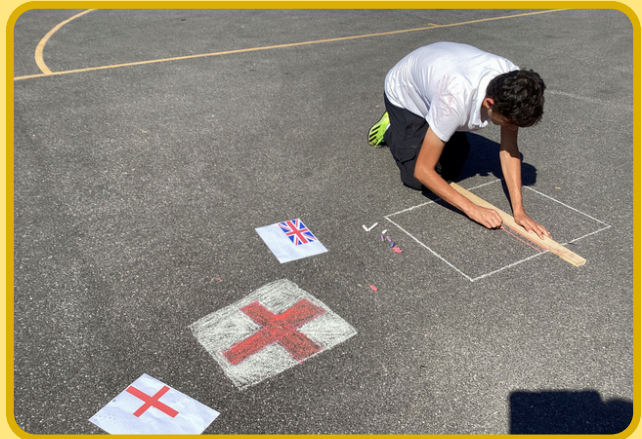
PSHCE

Pupils this term have been very busy, learning about first aid, democracy and Rishi Sunak. Pupils have also been focusing on diversity and celebrating where they and their peers come from. Here are some photos of pupils work in Year 9.



Playground Flags

As part of diversity week, students spent great care and time drawing out important flags to them in the front playground. Using chalk, they were able to create a stunning work of art. All the flags then became part of a really impressive larger collage.



Year 7 Farm Trip

7BM had a fantastic time at Deen City Farm, where they had the opportunity to learn about various animals. They enjoyed meeting and feeding a wide range of farm animals, including goats, sheep, chickens, and cows. The hands-on experience allowed the students to connect with the animals and gain a better understanding of farm life and animal care.



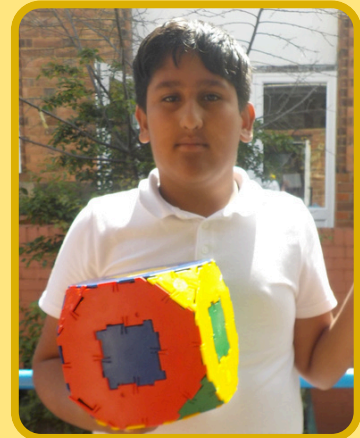
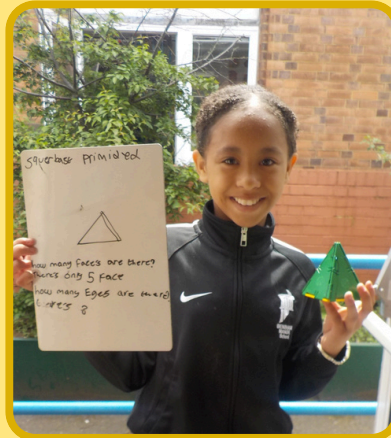
London Youth Games Football

The Bensham girls football team were fantastic at the London Youth Games! They won an exciting penalty shoot-out 5-4 in the semi-final with some great saves by goalkeeper Abigale. In a tournament of 10 teams from across London they finished as silver medallists!



Maths

Year 7 have been learning about 3D shapes and their properties. They have all made their own shapes and written great descriptions.



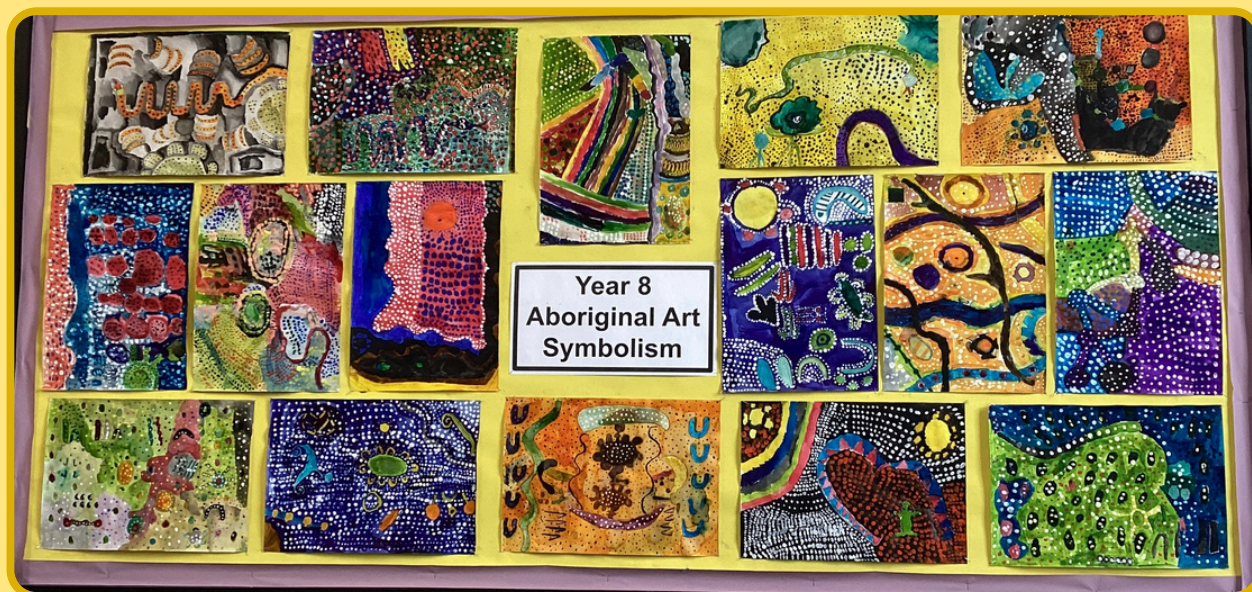
Year 9 have been learning how to calculate the missing angles in a triangle. They enjoyed drawing triangles around school and working with a partner to calculate the missing angle.

Year 11 visited the local café in Thornton Heath before they departed Bensham Manor. They applied lots of the maths skills they had learnt in the classroom to everyday life and planned their route to the café, looked at the menu and ensured they had enough money to buy their items and most importantly counted their change! They all had a lovely lunch out.



Year 8 Patterns and Culture

Year 8 have been creating beautiful paintings inspired by The Aboriginal Dream stories. Pupils built up colours and dotting with different types of paints. Using excellent brush control and concentration over time.



Croydon Mayor Visit

Filipe in Post 16 left such an impression on the Mayor of Croydon with his brilliant Christmas card design, that the Mayor came to visit Filipe for himself! Accompanied by Shelley Davies, Croydon's Director of Education and Youth Engagement, they came in and spent some time getting to learn what great work our Post 16 do.



Science Adventures

The students in KS4 have been on a science adventure to the science museum. They saw and experienced how science has changed over the years.

The students found out how different types of medicines have made a difference in the world around them and how technology has changed over the years. They thoroughly enjoyed the different exhibits and were blown away by how versatile science is.



The students explored space and saw the different types of space shuttles and satellites that have helped us to explore our solar system and beyond.



History

Year 9s have been learning about the Tudors in History this term and had the opportunity to visit Hampton Court Palace. They enjoyed walking in the footsteps of Henry VIII, his 6 wives and other Tudors and they loved the beautiful views and gardens of the historic royal palace.

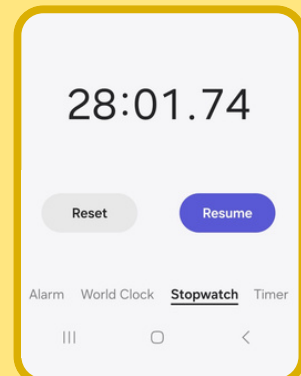


Year 7s have been learning about the Industrial Revolution during Queen Victoria's reign. They visited the Museum of London in Canary Wharf to learn about the history of the River Thames and had a great time finding out about the lives of dockworkers as well as trade during the Victorian era.



Student Fundraisers

We want to give a huge shoutout to Dhruv and Marek, two of our students that have raised money for important causes. Marek ran a 5K, which was his first ever formal race. He says he recently discovered a love for running and wanted to put it to good use - He raised a fantastic £150!



Marek's 5K time!



Dhruv in Post 16, who is a Special Olympics athlete, walked 21 miles from Chiswick's Pier House to Tower Bridge's The Conductor and raised £500 for Special Olympics GB. This charity has greatly impacted his life, and he wants to give back to the community. Every contribution to his cause helped children and adults with intellectual disabilities enjoy the benefits of sport. Brilliant Dhruv!



£500

raised of £500 target
by 29 supporters