

Friday
23rd
October



Let's Learn and Succeed Together

What a busy and brilliant first half term we have had! It is hard to believe we are already at the end of Autumn 1. The past few weeks have flown by, and it has been wonderful to see our children settle so positively into the new school year.

We are incredibly proud of how hard the children have worked and the enthusiasm they have shown towards their learning. From settling into new classes and routines to taking on new challenges, building friendships and enjoying the many opportunities available across school, there has been so much to celebrate.

As always, a huge thank you must go to our parents and carers for your continued support. Whether it is supporting learning at home, attending school events or simply encouraging your children each day, your partnership with school really does make a difference and is very much appreciated.

We would also like to say a big thank you to our wonderful staff for everything they have done to make the start of the school year such a positive one for our children.

We hope all of our children, families and staff have a lovely, restful and well-deserved half-term break. Enjoy spending time together, and we look forward to welcoming everyone back refreshed and ready for another busy and exciting half term.

Respect

Resilience

Fairness

Responsibility

Kindness

Empathy

Dates for your Diary

Event	Date	Time
School closes for half term	23 rd October	3pm - Nursery and Lotus 3.15pm
Debatemate Launch Event at Manchester University (Year 6)	3 rd November	9.15-3.15pm
Parents Evening	3 rd and 4 th November	3.30-6pm
Y5 Swimming Lessons begin for 5Green and 5Yellow	23 rd November	1pm
North Sports Hall Athletics Competition	26 th November	3.15-6pm
Inclusion Boccia Competition	1st December	9am
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Y5 Educational Visit to Jodrell Bank	8 th and 9 th December	9-3.15pm
KS1 Nativity (Year 1 and 2)	14 th and 17 th December	2-3pm
Panto Day (Whole School)	15 th December	All day
Nursery Christmas Sing Along	16 th December	2.15-2.45pm
Reception Christmas Sing Along	16 th December	9.15-9.45am
Christmas Music Concert	17 th December	9.30-10.30am
Christmas Party Day (Party Clothes)	18 th December	All Day
School closes for Christmas Holidays	18 th December	3pm - Nursery and Lotus 3.15pm



Year 5 and 6 RUDE Workshop

This term, Year 5 and 6 pupils took part in the RUDE Workshop (Respect, Understanding, Dangers and Equality). The workshop is designed to help children develop a deeper understanding of respectful relationships, inclusion, personal safety, and equality in an age-appropriate and engaging way. Through discussion and interactive activities, pupils explored how to value differences, challenge stereotypes, recognised unsafe situations, and make positive choices both online and offline. We are fortunate to have been able to provide this valuable opportunity to support our pupils in becoming confident, respectful, and responsible members of our school community.



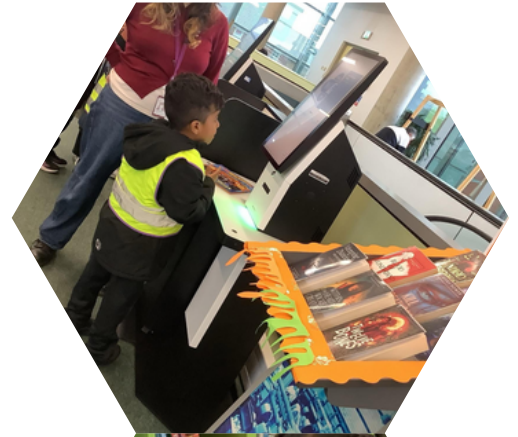
Black History Month

During Black History Month, every class took part in a study of different Black authors, exploring their lives, achievements, and contributions to literature. Pupils enjoyed reading and discussing a range of inspiring texts, discovering new stories and perspectives while celebrating the diversity of voices within children's literature. Through their research and class activities, children developed a greater appreciation of the impact these authors have had on the world of books and the importance of representation, equality, and inclusion. We were incredibly impressed by the enthusiasm and thoughtful discussions shown across the school.



Year 1 Library Visit

Year 1 had a wonderful visit to North City Library, where the children enjoyed exploring a wide range of books and learning about the services their local library has to offer. During the visit, pupils listened attentively to stories, took part in engaging activities, and discovered how libraries help us to develop a love of reading. The children were a credit to the school, demonstrating excellent behaviour and enthusiasm throughout the trip. We hope the visit has inspired many of our young readers to continue exploring books and enjoying reading at home.



Music Visit from Ellen Beth Abdi

Year 5 had a fantastic musical experience when singer-songwriter Ellen Beth Abdi visited school for a special workshop. The children enjoyed learning and performing songs, developing their singing skills and confidence, and even learning how to sing in harmony together.

The musical fun continued after school, when our Choir Club enjoyed a special masterclass with Ellen, giving them another fantastic opportunity to develop their voices and enjoy making music together.

It was certainly a memorable day, with one Year 2 child declaring it the "best day of my life!"

A huge thank you to Ellen for such an inspiring and enjoyable musical experience for our children.



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Year 2 Manchester Jewish Museum Visit

Year 2 had a wonderful educational visit to the Manchester Jewish Museum, where they learned about Jewish culture, traditions, and beliefs. The children explored fascinating artefacts, took part in engaging activities, and discovered how Jewish families celebrate important events and festivals. The visit brought their learning to life and encouraged thoughtful discussions about faith, diversity, and respect for others. The children represented the school brilliantly with their excellent behaviour, curiosity, and enthusiasm throughout the day. We are very proud of how they embraced this valuable learning experience.



Year 6 Church Visit

Year 6 enjoyed a valuable visit to the local church as part of their Religious Education learning. During the visit, the children had the opportunity to explore the church building, learn about its features and significance, and gain a deeper understanding of Christian beliefs and worship. They asked thoughtful questions and engaged enthusiastically with the activities, helping to bring their classroom learning to life. The pupils were excellent ambassadors for the school, showing respect, curiosity, and maturity throughout the visit. We are very proud of the positive attitude they displayed during this enriching experience.



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Reception Visit from Grandma Martha

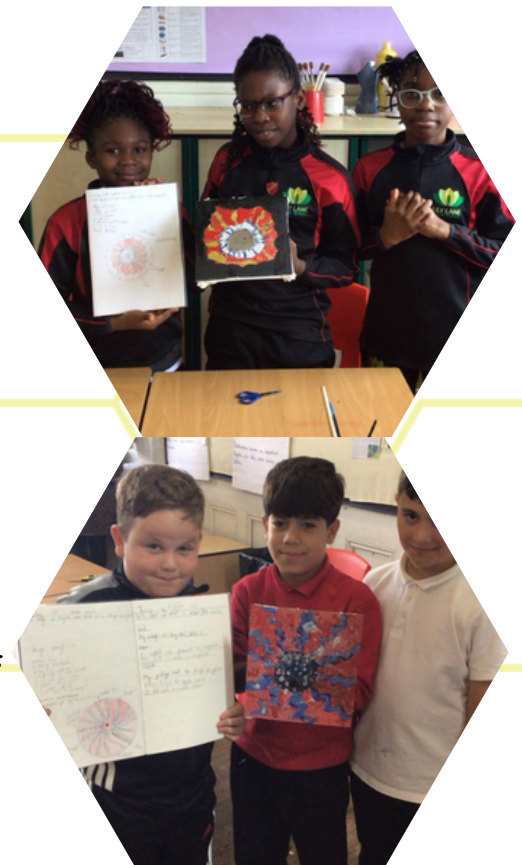
Reception Red had a visit from Grandma Martha! We talked about different stages of life, from being a child all the way to an elderly person. It was a great introduction to our class story 'We Are Family' which is all about different families. The children are great at talking about their own family, using our key words. Learning at home challenge: Ask your child who is in their family and see what they tell you.

We have also been practising our handwriting. We were so good at writing letters, we had a go at writing words. Look at our brilliant writing!



Year 5 Anglo Saxon Shield Making

Year 5 have been bringing history to life through an exciting Design and Technology project inspired by the Anglo-Saxons. After researching the importance of shields in Anglo-Saxon warfare and exploring traditional designs and symbols, the children designed and created their own shields. They carefully considered colour, pattern, and structure to produce unique and impressive pieces. The project provided a fantastic opportunity for pupils to combine their historical knowledge with creativity and practical skills, and we were delighted by the effort, enthusiasm, and craftsmanship shown by all of the children.



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Year 6 – What's My Job Visit

Year 6 enjoyed an exciting 'What's My Job?' careers event, where a range of volunteers visited school to talk about their roles and experiences in the world of work. The children listened carefully to clues about each visitor's job and worked together to guess their profession before finding out the answer. This engaging activity sparked lots of curiosity and discussion, helping pupils to learn about the wide variety of career paths available to them in the future. The children asked thoughtful questions and showed great enthusiasm throughout, making the event both enjoyable and inspiring. We would like to thank all of our volunteers for giving their time and helping to broaden our pupils' aspirations.



Children walking home alone

If you have a child in Y5 or Y6 and you are allowing them to leave independently, please can you inform the school office, we can only allow children to leave independently once we have this information.

School Drop Off

Children in Nursery - Year 4 must be accompanied by an adult to their classroom doors.

Additional Information

- Breakfast Club: Available from 8:00am which is free of charge. Please contact book your child's place via the School Gateway app.
- After-School Activities: A variety of clubs (funded by school) are available for this term. Parents can book these via School Gateway. Please collect children from the main office at 4.15pm.
- Please note that if a child is absent from an after-school club on three occasions, or is collected late three times, they may lose their place so that it can be offered to another pupil.

Educational visits

This year, each child will be offered educational visits which will enhance the learning taking place within the classroom. These visits will be linked to a specific area of the curriculum and will also support your child's personal development.

A maximum amount of £15 per visit will be payable for these visits, and plenty of notice will be provided for payment.

These visits will often cost in excess of £15; however, the school will subsidise the additional amount to help ensure that enriching educational experiences remain accessible to all children.



Attendance

Attendance matters at Lily Lane Primary School. We want your child/ren to be in school every day and on time. New government guidance is now statutory and it is important that we all work together to ensure all children thrive in our school. Every school day counts but every minute is equally important.

- 10 minutes late each day means 6.5 days of school are missed in the year.
- 30 minutes late each day means 19 days of school are missed each year.

From September 2024, if your child arrives at school after 9.15am, the office has to record your child as an unauthorised absence for the morning session.

At Lily Lane Primary School we offer a 'support first' approach and aim to work together to break down any barriers that may be affecting a child's attendance. If you have any questions or need support regarding attendance or punctuality, or the new statutory guidance on notice to improve or penalty notices please come to the school office and speak to Mrs H Simumba or Mrs L Ashworth. Please note: no holidays will be authorised.

Medicines

Medicines in School

If your child requires medication in school, including inhalers or EpiPens, please bring it to the school office. All medication must be prescribed, clearly labelled with your child's name, and accompanied by a completed Medicine Administration Form before it can be given in school.

Should you have any questions or need further information, please do not hesitate to contact the school office on 0161 205 3397 or via email at admin@lilylane.manchester.sch.uk. Please do not use Class Dojo to send messages to staff.

Thank you for your continued support and cooperation.

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Zones of Regulation

Zones of Regulation is a whole-school approach we use to help pupils understand and manage their emotions and behaviour. Children are taught specific lessons to recognise how they are feeling, describe their emotions using the Zones language (for example, blue, green, yellow and red zones), and use agreed strategies to help them regulate. Using the same language at home can really support children to make sense of their feelings and develop independence in managing them. An information leaflet is attached, and further details about Zones of Regulation can be found on the school website.

[Zones of Regulation - Lily Lane Website](#)

Zones of Regulation



Green Zone *Ready to learn*

- 😊 **Feelings:** calm, happy, focused, content
- 🤍 **How it feels:** regulated, in control
- 👍 **Tools:** finish my work, help others, share



Blue Zone *Low energy*

- 😞 **Feelings:** tired, sad, sick, bored
- 🤍 **How it feels:** slow body, quiet voice
- 👍 **Tools:** drink of water, stretch, talk to adult



Yellow Zone *Heightened emotions*

- 😬 **Feelings:** worried, silly, anxious, frustrated
- 🤍 **How it feels:** starting to lose some control
- 👍 **Tools:** movement break, breathing, using a fidget, counting to 10, talking through worries



Red Zone *Big emotions*

- 😡 **Feelings:** angry, scared, out of control, overwhelmed
- 🤍 **How it feels:** hard to think clearly, losing control, a volcano inside
- 👍 **Tools:** adult help, quiet space



Why Zones of Regulation?

Helps children recognise emotions
Gives them tools to self regulate

How families can help

Ask: "What zone are you?"
Help your child choose a tool
Praise your child when they use a tool

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Values Spotlight: Resilience



What does "Resilience" mean at Lily Lane?

Resilience means keeping going when things are difficult, learning from mistakes, and not giving up when we face challenges. It is about having the confidence to try again, staying positive when things do not go to plan, and understanding that making mistakes is an important part of learning and growing.

What have children been practising?

This month, children have been focusing on resilience through assemblies, classroom discussions, and everyday learning experiences. Staff have been celebrating children who demonstrate determination, a positive attitude, and the courage to persevere when faced with challenges.

We've seen resilience in action when children:

- keep trying when work feels difficult
- learn from mistakes and use feedback to improve
- tackle new challenges with a positive attitude
- ask for help when they need it and then continue independently
- show patience when learning a new skill
- stay focused and do not give up when faced with setbacks
- build confidence by stepping outside their comfort zone
- persevere with friendships and work through disagreements respectfully
- demonstrate determination in sport, music, and other enrichment activities
- celebrate progress and effort, not just success

How you can help at home?

You can support our focus on resilience by:

- encouraging your child to keep trying when tasks are challenging
- praising effort, determination, and perseverance rather than just the final outcome
- talking about times when you have overcome difficulties yourself
- reminding your child that mistakes are opportunities to learn
- helping your child break bigger tasks into smaller, manageable steps
- encouraging problem-solving before immediately providing answers
- using the word resilience when discussing challenges and achievements

Thank you for supporting our shared values. When children develop resilience at both school and home, they become more confident, independent learners who are better equipped to face challenges, embrace opportunities, and achieve their full potential.



School Term Dates 2026-2027



Autumn Term	
Inset Day (Staff Only)	Tuesday 1 September 2026
Inset Day (Staff Only)	Wednesday 2 September 2026
Term Starts	Thursday 3 September 2026
School Closes	Friday 23 October 2026
Half Term Holiday	Monday 26 October 2026 – Friday 30 October 2026
School Re-opens	Monday 2 November 2026
Inset Day (Staff Only)	Friday 20 November 2026
Term Finishes	Friday 18 December 2026
Holiday	Monday 21 December - Friday 1 January 2027

Spring Term	
Inset Day (Staff Only)	Monday 4 January 2027
Term Starts	Tuesday 5 January 2027
School Closes	Friday 12 February 2027
Half Term Holiday	Monday 15 February - Friday 19 February 2027
School Re-opens	Monday 22 February 2027
Term Finishes	Thursday 25 March 2027
Bank Holiday	Friday 26 March 2027
Bank Holiday	Monday 29 March 2027
Easter Holidays	Tuesday 30 March - Friday 9 April 2027

Summer Term	
Term Starts	Monday 12 April 2027
Bank Holiday	Monday 3 May 2027
School Closes	Friday 28 May 2027
Half Term Holiday	Monday 31 May – Friday 4 June 2027
School Re-opens	Monday 7 June 2027
Inset Day (Staff Only)	Monday 21 June 2027
Term Finishes	Wednesday 21 July 2027