



# End of Year Letter from the Head

## July 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

I have had a wonderful first term at our school. It has felt very busy, getting to know so many new people, and gradually discovering what makes Bounds Green tick. It has involved daily delight: the commitment, creativity and skilled work of so many colleagues, happy interactions with so many children, and the kindness and support that so many of you give us, especially through our brilliant PTA (note their very lovely newsletter, sent out today).

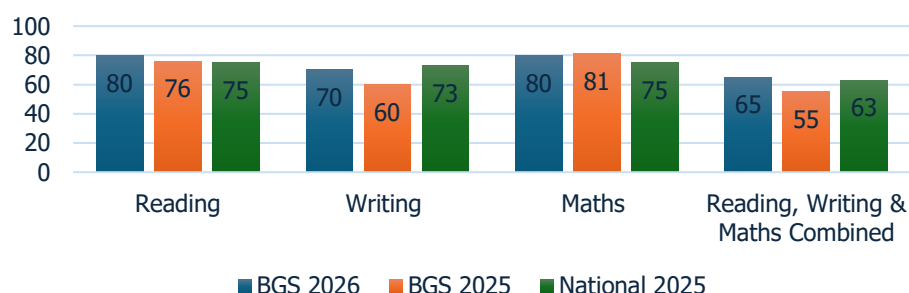
Highlights for me this term include some key assemblies. The Year 6 and Year 2 leaver shows were both brilliantly performed and genuinely moving – a testament to your amazing children. It was a pleasure to see how much had been experienced and learnt on the Lanzarote trip for Year 5. This week a group of neurodiverse children at our school ran an assembly for the rest of us, explaining what autism meant to them and what they needed from us, in terms of understanding, support and enablement. It was proactive, positive and inclusive. It made me feel very proud and very lucky to work at Bounds Green.

I hope you all have a wonderful summer break. We wish our Year 6 children the very best of starts at secondary school. As I said to them, we will always be here for them and we'd love them to come back and visit. Everyone else, I look forward very much to seeing you in September.

### 2026 Outcomes in National Tests

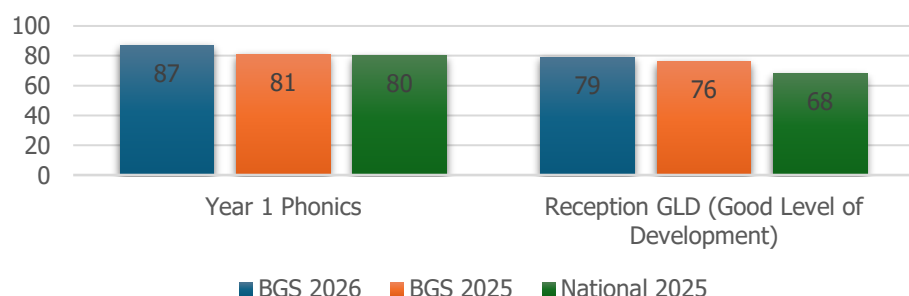
There are a range of national assessment points throughout children's primary school journey. A key marker of our success as a school is how our outcomes compare to national averages. The tables below provide an overview of our pupils' successes this year.

#### Year 6 SATS Results (all figures are percentages)



This year, reading, maths and the combined score are all above national averages. Writing is significantly improved on 2025 outcomes.

#### Infants' Data (all figures are percentages)



This year, outcomes at the end of Reception and in phonics are above national averages.

We are very proud of the achievements of all our children. We are delighted that our outcomes are moving in a positive direction. Our aim is to ensure that every child at Bounds Green achieves as well as they can, and feels proud of themselves for doing so.

## **Our Finances**

Schools throughout London are facing significant financial pressures at the moment, and Bounds Green is no exception. We are in a relatively positive position, helped by our size and the fact that, in terms of pupil numbers, we are full with a waiting list. However, our funding is being squeezed. We need to gradually reduce our expenditure, over the next three years, to ensure we remain in a sustainable financial position. There are two measures we are currently putting in place to help achieve this.

Firstly we are looking at the costs of admin, including printing and copying. You may start to see a bit less colour printing, and a bit more black and white in your children's books. There won't be any impact on how well they learn.

Secondly, we intend to reduce our expenditure on supply teachers. We use supplies whenever teachers are out of class. Last year we spent £139,000 on supplies. We want to save as much of this money as we can by using internal cover solutions instead.

To achieve this, we are turning to our current teaching support staff. At the moment there are eight teaching assistants (TAs) working in classes across Years 1-3. Six of these will be taking on new roles in September, as 'Cover Supervisors'. There will be one Cover Supervisor in each Year Group, from Years 1-6. They will provide short-term cover for teachers when they are absent, and otherwise continue working as classroom TAs. We are not losing any support staff, but we are deploying them differently. There will be a slight reduction in TA support in Years 1-3, and an increase across Years 4-6.

The appointments to the new Cover Supervisor positions were finalised last week. The roles will start in September. We will put in place a training and development programme for them all, and they will start covering classes gradually, as the Autumn term progresses.

Every colleague who applied to be a Cover Supervisor showed real professionalism, commitment and ambition. I am delighted by the appointments we have made. I firmly believe that our own staff, who know your children, know our curriculum, and know the schools' routines, will do a better job of covering classes than ad hoc supply teachers do.

## **Phase Leadership**

The school's middle management team is made up of class-based Phase Leaders. Their role is to support the development of teaching and learning across the phase, creating a bridge between senior leaders and classroom teachers. They are a great team, currently organised as follows:

- Upper Key Stage 2 (Years 5 & 6): Tom
- Lower Key Stage 2 (Years 3 & 4): Brian
- Key Stage 1 (Years 1 & 2): Layla
- Early Years (Nursery and Reception): Lydia

Next year, Lydia will be going on maternity leave. In response, we are reorganising Phase Leadership across Early Years and Key Stage 1. Whilst the current organisation of our phases fits with the national Key Stage system, it doesn't easily reflect our realities: Year 1 is taught in our infants

building, in many ways like Reception, and Year 2 is located in the junior building, in distinct classrooms like Key Stage 2.

Next year Layla will become the Phase Leader for Early Years and Year 1. Deborah will step into a new role, leading Year 2. This is a temporary arrangement which will last for the year, until Lydia returns from maternity leave.

### **New Teachers**

We are welcoming three new teachers to Bounds Green in September:

- Emma Nash in Chalk Farm in Year 1
- Usra Jama in Hyde Park in Year 2
- Safaa Pirbhai in Redbridge in Year 3
- Helen Classick (who has taught at our school before) in Year 4

I am sure you will offer them the same, very warm welcome you gave me. I know they will make a great contribution to your children, and to Bounds Green.

### **Ofsted**

I'm afraid I was emailed by Ofsted on Thursday to explain that their policy is not to release reports during a school holiday period, or the week before one. I have seen the draft report, but it contained a typo. We pointed the error out, as we are required to, but it has not been corrected in time to release the report before summer. I now expect it in September. I look forward, next term, finally, to sharing it with you!

### **School Improvement Next Year**

This half-term we have been working on a new behaviour policy, which we will launch in September. It is designed to build on our existing strengths – kind, caring relationships, positivity, strong restorative practice, and good behaviour for learning in classes. We expect it will improve consistency across the school, and improve behaviour in key areas, especially our playgrounds. We are building in the capacity to identify and challenge any institutional bias in the ways we manage behaviour, and will continue striving to ensure that every child can thrive, belong and achieve, as themselves, as members of our inclusive community.

As well as working on behaviour in our playgrounds, we intend to improve the range and quality of children's play at break and lunchtimes. We see play as learning, and want to make it as brilliant for your children as we can.

There will be a focus on writing next year. Ofsted identified this as an area for development and it is the one SATs subject in which our outcomes remain below the national average. Our main focus will be on oracy and spoken language – the precursor to writing. As we develop our practice in this area, we will also work on our provision for our multilingual families, who speak languages other than English at home.

We will implement a new approach to the way we support professional development for our staff, intended to share best practice, build consistency across classes, and improve outcomes.

Finally, there is much to do to improve our building. Our halls need work, classrooms need decoration, there are some patches of damp to address, our toilets are in a lamentable state, the surface in the ball courts needs replacing and we need to work towards future proofing the building, bearing in mind climate change and the likelihood of further heatwaves. Alan has done a huge

amount over the last fortnight to heat proof our building. He will be working over summer, addressing a range of issues. The main barrier to improving the building is funding. I have received some great offers of help from the PTA and parents. We will proceed systematically, making the changes we can as quickly as we can.

### National Changes to SEND Provision

The Government has published a White Paper, detailing significant changes to the way provision for SEND pupils will be organised and funded. We welcome this. The current system has been failing pupils, parents and schools for several years. A lot of the detail around the new changes is not yet available. They will be implemented over several years, beginning in September. You can read an overview of the changes [here](#).

We would like to invite the parents of pupils with SEND to one of two meetings, to begin discussing the proposed changes. The meetings will take place on 1<sup>st</sup> October at 9:30-10:30 and again at 16:30-17:30. We hope to explain what we know about the changes so far, and begin discussing the implications for Bounds Green, and your children. We hope to establish a regular forum for the parents of children with SEND, in order to ensure that the way we implement the changes is co-produced with you. We will send further details in September.

### Walk to School Week



In May, we participated in Walk to School Week. Every day we recorded if a child came to school by walking, scooting, wheeling or cycling (as a school we think it is important to celebrate any form of sustainable modes of travel).

The Junior Travel Ambassadors helped tally up the results at the end of the week. The class with the greatest number of journeys made to school via a sustainable mode of travel was **Island Gardens Class, with 133 journeys - congratulations!** The Junior Travel Ambassadors have selected two games for the class as a prize.

### Year 3 Bell Boating Trips



This June and July, each of the Year 3 classes enjoyed a unique bell-boating trip to the Phoenix Canoe Centre (Welsh Harp). The trip was organised as part of the PE Outdoor Adventurous Activities curriculum. This year, we were fortunate to be able to fully fund the trip, allowing all Year 3 children to enjoy this fantastic experience free of charge.

The children had a fantastic afternoon out on the water, taking part in a range of fun activities on the bell boats while enjoying the sunshine.



A huge thank you to all the parent volunteers who gave up their time to support the trip. It was an unforgettable experience for everyone involved!

## Road Safety Sign Winner



Huge congratulations to one of our past pupils, Saffy, who has won a road safety design competition, run by Haringey's Smarter Travel Team. Her winning design will feature on banners and signs around Haringey.

## Beyond the Classroom

Our children have enjoyed a fantastic year of memorable experiences beyond the classroom.

A particular highlight was the Year 5 trip to Lanzarote to visit our partner school. Thanks to Sylvia, who secured funding for the project, pupils formed friendships with children at Costa Teguisse School, experienced school life in Spain and visited Timanfaya National Park, César Manrique's House and Jameos del Agua. The learning extended to the whole Year 5 cohort through pre- and post-trip activities. Thank you to Sylvia and all the staff who made this incredible opportunity possible.

## A Year of Sporting Success

Our pupils have once again excelled in Haringey sporting competitions, earning the honour of representing the school through their skill, commitment and excellent behaviour. Highlights included third place in the Year 5/6 Boys' Football Tournament and several first-place finishes in the summer athletics competitions.

These achievements contributed to us earning the Silver School Games Mark. Thank you to Luigi for his dedication in coaching our teams throughout the year.

Sports Days were another highlight, achieved despite the heatwave's best disruptive efforts. You may want to know the outcomes of the parent races...

| <b>Years 1, 2 &amp; 5</b> | <b>Mums</b> | <b>Dads</b> |
|---------------------------|-------------|-------------|
| Gold                      | Leke        | Patrick     |
| Silver                    | Fiona       | Jordan      |
| Bronze                    | Anna        | Louis       |

| <b>Years 3 &amp; 4</b> | <b>Mums</b> | <b>Dads</b>            |
|------------------------|-------------|------------------------|
| Gold                   | Ralia       | Jordan                 |
| Silver                 | Anna        | Jacob                  |
| Bronze                 | Jen         | Alexia<br>(ex-student) |

Congratulations speedy parents!

## Celebrating the Arts

Our choir has had another exceptional year, performing at Alexandra Palace, Wigmore Hall and both school fairs. Parents also enjoyed our year group singing and dance performances always binging tears of joy and great applause, while our WCIT concerts showcased the talents of our Year 4 musicians and Year 5 and 6 continuers.

A special highlight was our guitar ensemble of over 50 children performing together, alongside a memorable Year 4 singing and violin performance with their music teachers.

Well done to all of our talented performers.

Bounds Greeners, we are incredibly proud of everything you have achieved this year.

## BOUNDS GREEN SCHOOL ACADEMIC YEAR 2026/2027

|                         | <b>First Day</b>                | <b>Half Term</b>                                | <b>Last Day</b>                    |
|-------------------------|---------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| <b>AUTUMN TERM 2026</b> | Monday 7 <sup>th</sup> Sept '26 | 26 <sup>th</sup> – 30 <sup>th</sup> Oct '26     | Friday 18 <sup>th</sup> Dec '26    |
| <b>SPRING TERM 2027</b> | Tuesday 5 <sup>th</sup> Jan '27 | 15 <sup>th</sup> – 19 <sup>th</sup> Feb '27     | Thursday 25 <sup>th</sup> Mar '27  |
| <b>SUMMER TERM 2027</b> | Monday 12 <sup>th</sup> Apr '27 | 31 <sup>st</sup> May – 4 <sup>th</sup> June '27 | Thursday 22 <sup>nd</sup> July '27 |

### Teacher Training Days, in which school is closed to children:

- Wednesday – Friday, 2<sup>nd</sup> – 4<sup>th</sup> September, 2026
- Monday 4<sup>th</sup> January, 2027
- Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> July, 2027

**Key Dates for Autumn** – This is an overview of important dates in for parents in Autumn 2026. We will publish a fuller year's calendar in September and send you reminders before each event, with full explanations of what they are.

| <b>Date</b>                                          | <b>Times</b>                   | <b>Event</b>                                              |
|------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------|
| Thurs 17 <sup>th</sup> Sept                          | 17:30-18:30                    | Secondary Transfer / Pendarren meeting for Year 6 parents |
| Tues 22 <sup>nd</sup> Sept                           | 15:45-16:15, or<br>17:30-18:00 | Meet Your Teacher – an event for all parents              |
| Weds 1 <sup>st</sup> Oct                             | Ongoing                        | Black History Month learning and celebration begins       |
| Weds 1 <sup>st</sup> Oct                             | 9:30-10:30, or<br>16:30-17:30  | Forum meeting for parents of children with SEND           |
| Weds 7 <sup>th</sup> Oct                             | 14:45 - 15:15                  | A Reading Workshop for Reception parents                  |
| Weds 4 <sup>th</sup> Nov                             | All Day                        | Photo Day for all pupils                                  |
| Weds 4 <sup>th</sup> Nov                             | 14:00 - 15:30                  | Year 1 multi-cultural picnic                              |
| Tue 10 <sup>th</sup> &<br>Thurs 12 <sup>th</sup> Nov | After school                   | Parents' Evenings                                         |
| Mon 16 <sup>th</sup> Nov                             | All week                       | Road Safety Week                                          |
| Fri 20 <sup>th</sup> Nov                             | 09:15 - 10:15                  | Nursery Communication Workshop for parents                |
| Mon 23 <sup>rd</sup> Nov                             | All week                       | Year 6 residential trip to Pendarren                      |
|                                                      | Two weeks                      | WCIT Music performances for parents                       |
| Mon 7 <sup>th</sup> Dec                              | All week                       | Early Years Christmas performances                        |