

Autumn 2026 Class Newsletter



Y2 Lubaina Himid Class

Class teacher: Nancy Lambert
Teaching Assistant: Saheda Ahmed



We are a GOLD Rights Respecting School

Our Class



Our Class Name



Our class is named after Lubaina Himid. Lubaina Himid is an artist who lives in North London. She was born in Zanzibar, in East Africa. When she was 4 months old, her whole family moved to London. Her mother worked in textiles. Being surrounded by colourful materials inspired a lot of her artwork. She decided to go to University, and studied set design. This also inspired her art. She is famous for using large cut-outs and collages to tell the stories of black people that don't often get told. You can walk around her exhibitions to understand the story. Many people love her colourful style.

She also became the first black woman to win the Turner Prize in 2017. This is an important award given to 1 British artist each year.

We are excited to learn more about Lubaina Himid this year.

Welcome Message from the Class Teacher

Dear Families,
Welcome back!

I hope you had a wonderful summer break and enjoyed spending some quality time together. I'm really looking forward to being your child's class teacher this year and to all the learning and experiences we have ahead of us.

Throughout the year, there will be lots to look forward to, including exciting learning, workshops, school trips, special events and after-school clubs. Let's make the most of every opportunity by

working together – keeping communication open, prioritising excellent attendance and punctuality, and encouraging every child to take part in at least one club or enrichment opportunity this year.

A Little About Me

I personally am particularly excited about teaching your students this year, as I am a new teacher at Bangabandhu. I have moved back to East London after living in Southampton for 2 years. I am particularly excited to teach your children History, as my degree is a History degree from Queen Mary. I loved living in East London whilst studying, so I am so excited to be back.

In my spare time, I love reading and writing plays. I am looking forward to finding lots of ways to be creative in the class.

I'm looking forward to getting to know you and your child and to a happy and successful year together!

Nancy Lambert

Important Reminders

Attendance and Punctuality

Excellent attendance and punctuality are vital in giving your child the best possible chance to achieve and succeed. Our school day begins at 8.55am, with classroom doors opening at 8.50am. Please ensure your child arrives by 8.50am so they have time to come into class, settle and be ready for registration and learning at 8.55am.

Children arriving at 8.56am or later will be marked as late. Learning begins straight away, so even arriving a few minutes late can mean missing key teaching. When this happens regularly, those missed minutes quickly add up and can make it harder for children to keep up with their learning.

Every day and every minute of learning matters – thank you for helping your child arrive every day, on time and ready to learn.

Working Together – Communication with Families

We want families to feel welcome, know what is happening in school and feel comfortable talking to us. Please **come into the playground in the morning and say hello**. These regular, informal opportunities help us get to know you and build positive relationships. You can pass on a quick message, but teachers need to focus on welcoming children and getting learning started promptly. If you need a longer or more private conversation, please let us know and we will arrange a suitable time to speak with you.

At the end of the day, please collect your child promptly and wait patiently while children are dismissed safely. If you would like to speak to the class teacher, please wait until all children have been dismissed so that their attention can remain on keeping children safe.

Please check Arbor regularly and keep notifications switched on. Arbor is one of our main ways of communicating with families and is used to share important school information, trips, clubs, events and other updates. We don't want you to miss anything!

Please ensure the School Office always has your up-to-date contact and medical information. Any medication must be taken directly to the office and should not be handed to the class teacher at the classroom door.

What to Bring to School Each Day

Please help your child come to school ready and organised for learning each day.

All children should bring their book bag to school every day, with their reading book and reading record inside. Due to limited storage space, children should not bring rucksacks to school. Please do not attach charms or keyrings to book bags, as these can become lost, cause upset and create

unnecessary distractions. Please check your child's book bag regularly and support them to develop good habits by keeping it tidy and organised.

Children should also bring a named, reusable water bottle filled with fresh water each day. Staying well hydrated supports concentration and helps children remain alert and ready to learn.

Children should have their PE kit in school, ready for their PE lessons. Please remember that we are a nut-free school due to children with potentially serious allergies. Any birthday cakes brought into school must have a full ingredients list. Sweets and chocolates should not be brought into school.

Thank you for helping your child develop the independence and routines they need to arrive ready to learn each day.

Classroom routines and organisation

PE information

Our PE Day will be on **Thursday**.

Please ensure children are equipped with the correct kit for PE:

- black shorts, tracksuits or leggings
- red t-shirt
- trainers or plimsoles for outdoor PE (school black trainers worn in the day can be used)
- Children can come into school wearing their PE Kit on PE days.

Spellings

The spellings that the children are learning in class will be sent home for them to practice on a **Friday** – more information below. This will begin in the next couple of weeks.

Book Bags

The children must bring their book bag to school **every day** so that books can be changed when needed and that children can access their books in the school day. More information below.

Home learning

Home learning is designed to reinforce and practise what children are learning in school and to help them develop positive, independent learning habits.

Reading

Reading is our most important home-learning expectation. Children should read every day for at least **15 minutes** and regularly enjoy their Must Reads. Please listen to your child read, read to them and talk together about the books they are enjoying. Reading Records will be checked regularly so that we can work together to support consistent reading at home. Please sign your child's reading record to support with this.

Ensure that your child looks after their 3 sets of books; reads them every evening and brings them to school daily:

- RWI and book bag book or two Oxford Reading Tree books (depending on your child's English group).
- Must Read Book.
- Class library book.

Spellings

The children are taught new spellings each week. Spellings will be sent home every Friday for the children to continue to practice at home. The children will be assessed on the spellings the following Friday.

Maths

Children will also receive maths activities linked to their learning in school. Maths home learning may include interactive board games, short booklet activities and practical maths tasks. We encourage children to complete these little and often, rather than all at once.

In line with our Healthy Minds approach, home learning will not be set on screens. We want home learning to be purposeful and manageable while still leaving children plenty of time for family life, play, creativity, physical activity and rest.

Thank you for supporting your child with their home learning – your interest, encouragement and praise make a real difference.

Ways to Help Your Child at Home

There are lots of simple ways you can support and take an interest in your child's learning at home:

- Talk about the school day. Ask your child what they learned, what they enjoyed, what they found challenging or an interesting fact they discovered. Talking about learning helps children recall, reflect on and strengthen what they have learned.
- Learn through everyday experiences. Cooking, making, building, drawing, shopping and visiting local places all provide opportunities to develop language, maths, creativity and problem-solving. Talk together about what you are doing and why.
- Encourage curiosity. Ask questions, explore your child's interests together and encourage them to explain their thinking and ideas.
- Use trusted learning resources, such as BBC Bitesize, where appropriate to revisit or explore learning.

You do not need to recreate school at home – talking, reading, exploring and showing an interest in what your child is learning can make a real difference.

Must Reads – Books Every Child Should Experience

At Bangabandhu, we want every child to develop a love of reading and experience a rich and varied range of high-quality books. Our Must Reads are a carefully selected collection of books that we believe every child should have the opportunity to enjoy during their time with us.

The books have been chosen to broaden children's reading experiences, introduce them to authors, characters, ideas and styles of writing they may not otherwise encounter, and gradually expose them to increasingly rich and challenging texts. Our Must Reads progress from Nursery through to Year 6, growing in complexity as children develop as readers.

Children do not always have to read these books independently. Reading together and being read to are just as valuable. Please enjoy the books with your child, talk about the characters and events, discuss unfamiliar words and ideas, and share your thoughts and opinions. We want children to discover that reading is not simply something they do at school – books can make us laugh, wonder, imagine, question, learn and see the world in different ways.

Year 2 Must Reads

- *The Very Smart Pea and the Princess-to-Be* — Mini Grey
 - *The Summer My Father Was Ten* — Pat Brisson
 - *Voices in the Park* — Anthony Browne
- *The Stinky Cheese Man and Other Fairly Stupid Tales* — Jon Scieszka
 - *The Heart and the Bottle* — Oliver Jeffers
 - *Tadpole's Promise* — Jeanne Willis
 - *Slug Needs a Hug* — Jeanne Willis
 - *The Red Tree* — Shaun Tan
 - *The Twits* — Roald Dahl
 - *A Bear Called Paddington* — Michael Bond
 - *Cinnamon* — Neil Gaiman

- *Cops and Robbers* — Allan Ahlberg
- *The Book with No Pictures* — B. J. Novak
 - *Dinosaurs and All That Rubbish*
- *The Three Little Wolves and the Big Bad Pig* — Eugene Trivizas
 - *Mirette on the High Wire* — Emily Arnold McCully
 - *Masai and I* — Virginia Kroll
 - *The Tale of Peter Rabbit* — Beatrix Potter
 - *The Frog Prince* — Susanne Davidson
 - *The Tear Thief* — Carol Ann Duffy

Term dates:

Autumn Term

Thursday, 3rd September 2026 to Friday, 23rd October 2026

Half Term: Monday, 26th October 2026 to Friday, 30th October 2026

Tuesday, 3rd November 2026 to Friday, 18th December 2026

Spring Term

Monday, 4th January 2027 to Friday, 12th February 2027

Half Term: Monday, 15th February 2027 to Friday, 19th February 2027

Monday, 22nd February 2027 to Thursday, 25th March 2027

Summer Term

Monday, 12th April 2027 to Friday, 28th May 2027

Half Term: Monday, 31st May 2027 to Friday, 4th June 2027

Monday, 7th June 2027 to Wednesday 21st July 2027

Trips, Workshops and Events

Dates for school trips, workshops and events will be shared through Arbor, our weekly newsletter and the school website calendar. Please check these regularly so you don't miss important dates and opportunities to get involved.

We really value our families being active members of our school community. When you attend workshops, you gain a better understanding of what and how your child is learning and how you can support them at home. Coming along to school events gives you the opportunity to share in your child's experiences, celebrate their achievements and strengthen the important relationship between home and school.

We also really appreciate parents and carers volunteering on school trips. Sharing these experiences with your child can spark conversations at home and give you a valuable insight into their school life. Your support makes a real difference and helps us to provide more opportunities and experiences for our children.

Please come along and get involved whenever you can – we would love to see you!

- Y2 Lubaina Himid Class Welcome Meeting – Tuesday 15th September at 9am.