



Banks Road Infants and Nursery School

"A Home for Learning, Laughing, Caring and Trying"

AUTUMN TERM

September 2019

WELCOME BACK.

Welcome back to the new school year! We hope that you all had an enjoyable summer. The staff are all looking forward to welcoming the children back to school for the start of the Autumn Term and hearing all about their adventures during the holidays.

We would like to welcome our new Reception children (and their families). We are really looking forward to getting to know you all. We wish all our new children and their families a very happy and successful time with us here at Banks Road. I know that this can be a nerve-wracking time, with lots of information to take in, so please remember that the staff at Banks Road are always available if you have any questions or concerns (no matter how big or small!). If you are not able to speak to us in person, then please give the school a call or use your child's Home-School Diary as a way of keeping in touch with us.

I would also like to welcome our new staff: Miss Elizabeth Freeman who is a class teacher in Chestnut Class and Mrs Michelle Buchanan who joins the staff team as a midday supervisor. I would also like to welcome back Mrs Katie Racz following her maternity leave as a job share class teacher in Maple class

As always it has been a busy summer in school. I would like to pass on my personal thanks to the hard working and committed Banks Road Team who have given up much of their holiday to prepare for the new academic year. Mr and Mrs Buchanan have cleaned, polished and scrubbed every surface. The teachers and support staff have worked tirelessly to create the wonderful learning environments in the class rooms, shared areas and outdoor areas for your children and have planned learning.

We have also had new emergency lighting replaced around school.

Our school website (www.banksroadschool.co.uk) is regularly updated and look out for the Friday email with information for the following week.

Should you have any queries or questions please do not hesitate to come into school and ask a member of staff.

PARENT HELPERS

We welcome and encourage parent helpers into school on a regular basis, as it adds much needed support for the children.

We regard all our helpers in school as part of the Banks Road Team and have a professional duty to you in this capacity. We now have a policy in school for all volunteers / visitors and parent helpers. As part of the process of welcoming your invaluable contribution to the learning of our children, we are holding an 'induction' which will include: our aims and values, confidentiality, supervision, health and safety and safeguarding. All 'new' volunteers in school will be required to attend this induction meeting led by myself, Mrs Clemens, before they are able to volunteer in school. If you have already attended this induction at any time that your child has been at Banks Road, you are not required to attend again.

There will only be 2 induction meetings for this year. If you think you will be able to help at any point during the course of your child's time at Banks Road (including off-site visits) you will have to attend one of these meetings. The dates are Wednesday 25th September at 6.15 p.m and Thursday 26th September at 9 a.m.

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ATTENDANCE

Schools are unable to authorise any holiday during term time (unless for an exceptional circumstance). Please visit our website www.banksroadschool.co.uk for further information on our policies and procedures under— 'Our Parents' / 'Attendance'.

If your child has a minor cough or cold and you are in two minds whether to send them to school, please send them in and we will ring you if they feel unwell during the school day. Children should not be absent from school if they have head lice. This needs to be treated appropriately and then they may attend school normally.

If your child has a sickness bug please be aware that school policy remains at 48 hours from the last bout of sickness before they can return to school.

This remains a strong focus for us and it is important that your child attends school every day so that they don't miss out on valuable learning.



Please ensure you inform us if your child is unwell. The office opens at 8.00am each morning. Good attendance is crucial in ensuring your child makes good progress both academically and socially.

Children arriving after the completion of the register are deemed to be late and this is recorded separately.

- Arrivals after 8.50 a.m. must be signed in by the parents.
- Arrivals between 8.50 a.m. and 9.00 a.m. will be recorded as late before the register closes.
- Arrivals after 9.00 a.m. will be recorded as late after the register closes.
- The number of minutes late will be recorded and monitored and reported to parents.

We acknowledge that each family's circumstances are different but our school is dedicated to the education of all our pupils and believes that regular attendance throughout the year is essential to every child's success and fulfilment

BEHAVIOUR

Children will be taught and modelled our Banks Road BRILLIANT expectations, school rules and will discuss their own class room charters. We aim to create a positive behaviour environment at Banks Road and this must be consistent. It takes the hard work of everyone involved using many techniques. Please remind yourselves of our school Behaviour Policy and further information on our practices by looking on the school website under Our School/Behaviour.



CONTACT DETAILS.

Please ensure that you keep us up to date with any changes in your contact details, especially mobile phone numbers. This is essential in case of an emergency and we need to contact you.

HOMEWORK

Homework for our key stage 1 children will be sent home on Fridays.

Homework will be completed in the children's 'Learning Logs'.

For our year 1 children this will be fortnightly and for our year 2 children it will be weekly. Details for our reception children's 'fortnightly homework' will be sent out separately.

The learning task / challenge is linked to the work being done in class. The learning logs are then returned to school and are shared with the class, enhancing and reinforcing the learning that is taking place, bringing the children together in discussing their learning. Details of the learning logs are stuck inside the children's books for more detailed information.

Please do support your child in completing their homework as this is an important way to reinforce the children's learning in school. It is also a way to keep you informed of the sorts of things the children are doing in their classes and the sharing of weekly teaching objectives.



DINNERS / SANDWICHES

Our new and exciting menu has been introduced. The three week cycle can be found on the school website: Our Parents/School Meals.

We continue to allow children to have a mixture of sandwiches and dinners.

If your child has specific dietary requirements these must be discussed with the school cook. An appointment with our school cook can be made through the school office and appropriate forms completed (requirement from NCC Catering Services).

KS1— MEET THE TEACHER

You are invited to "meet the teacher" and find out about the class organisation and routines in your child's new class. These sessions are very valuable, and allow you time to ask questions and become familiar with the new year group. These will take place for parents and carers of our year 1 children on Wednesday 11th September at 2.45 p.m and for our parents and carers of our year 2 children on Thursday 12th September at 2.45. There will be a 'settling into school' meeting for our Reception parents on Tuesday 1st October at 2.45pm Please use the front entrance. Thank you.



FRIENDS ASSOCIATION AGM 6.45 pm Wednesday 25th September

If you are interested in joining our Friends' Association, they will be holding their AGM meeting just after the Parent Induction event on 25th September. This is an informal get together and we would welcome new members or interested parents from across the school. An email has been sent out with a separate letter regarding details of this.

WALK TO SCHOOL



We will be encouraging all our children and families to get into good habits early in the school year by challenging everybody to walk to school every day and make a real difference to your children's happiness and wellbeing. Our annual 'Walk to School' week will be taking place week commencing 23rd September. Children who walk, bike or scooter to school will receive a daily stamp and a reward sticker at the end of the week. Please help support our mission to have a healthy and safe school community.

May I suggest that parents and carers use a "5 minute walking zone" rule. If it takes less than 5 minutes to walk from your parked car (if you need to bring a car) to the school gates then you have parked too close! We continue to encourage parents and carers to 'PARK AND STRIDE' from Greenwood Community Centre, thus avoiding dangerously parked vehicles around the school entrance.

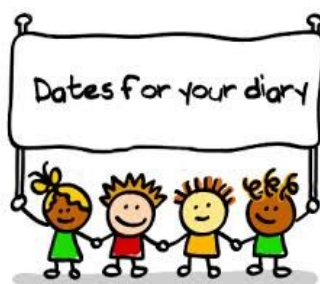


P.E. IN SCHOOL



We continue to receive the government's additional funding to improve provision of physical education (P.E.) and sport in primary schools. Major Oak sports coaching will therefore continue to be a part of the team in school. Their experienced coaches will be in school every week on Wednesday and Thursday, implementing structured lessons and enhancing the P.E. curriculum. Major Oak have been providing quality P.E. sessions at Banks Road for the last few years and we are thrilled that they are able to continue to bring their expertise and skills to all the children through the P.E. curriculum.

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*These dates may be subject to change at short notice, which will be notified via the weekly newsletter. More information on specific events and meetings will be provided closer to the date. **

11 September – Year 1 parents 'Meet the Teacher' – 2.45pm
 12 September – Year 2 parents – 'Meet the Teacher' – 2.45pm
 13 September – Coffee morning for new reception parents* – 9 am
 20 September – Friends coffee morning in support of MIND*
 23 September – Walk to School week commences *
 25 September – Parent Helpers Induction Meeting – 6.15pm
 25 September – Friends of Banks Road AGM – 6.45 pm*
 26 September – Parent Helpers Induction Meeting – 9am

1 October – Reception parents 'Settling into school' – 2.45pm
 3 October – 'Try a school dinner day' (for all children in FS2 and KS1)
 9 October – Individual and sibling photographs *
 9 October – Phonics information for Foundation Stage parents* – 2.30 pm
 10 October – World Mental Health Awareness Day*
 10 October – Year 2 parents introduction to Bispham Drive Junior School – 6pm (at Bispham Drive) *
 11 October – Coffee morning for new reception parents* – 9 am
 12 October – Friends 'Treasure Hunt' *
 14 October – Y1 Pirate dress up day
 15 October – Harvest Festival (TBC)
 21 October – HALF TERM - Return to School on 4 November

5 November – Theatre production of 'Peter Pan' in School *
 8 November – Remembrance Day assembly in school
 11 November – Anti-Bullying Week commence
 15 November – Children in Need day *
 15 November – Friends Pamper Night *
 19 November – Parents Consultation Meetings – 3.30-6pm (by appointment) *
 20 November – Parents Consultation Meetings – 4pm-7pm (by appointment) *
 26 November – New entrants tour – 9.30am
 27 November – New entrants tour – 5pm
 29 November – for St Andrew's Day (Beaver/Brownie/Rainbow uniforms may be worn)
 3 December – Christmas show for parents of Nursery & Birch class – 2pm
 5 December – Christmas show for parents of Nursery & Chestnut 2pm
 9 December – Year 2 children to watch Bispham Y3 Christmas Show
 9 December – Christmas show for parents of Cherry Class – 2.00pm
 10 December – Christmas show for parents of Maple Class – 9.15am
 10 December – Christmas show for parents of Willow Class – 2pm
 11 December – Christmas show for parents of Oak Class – 9.15am
 12 & 13 December – Pound shop*
 13 December – Christmas Jumper Day
 13 December – Friends Christmas Disco *
 16 December – Christmas Party Day inc. Magic Show (am)
 17 December – KS1 & KS2 Christmas sing-along at Bispham (am)
 18 December – Christmas Dinner Day
 19 December – 'Key Strings' musical performance in School (am)
 19 December – Parent Christmas craft afternoon *
 20 December – Break up for Christmas Holiday – return to school on 6 January

***More information to follow**

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Thank you for taking the time to read this newsletter.
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