

January Newsletter

Welcome back!

We hope all of our children and their families had a great festive break and we wish you a Happy New Year. Well done to those who have returned and are following our rules and expectations, with brilliant attitudes to learning and zones of regulation calming strategies. We know 2024 is going to be an exciting year at Bankwood.

PCSOs

Last week we were visited in school by our local PCSOs (police community support officers). They led assemblies to KS1 and KS2 children about what to do if they go missing and how to be safe outside.

Children also looked at the uniform.

It was really informative and we look forward to seeing more of our PCSOs in and outside of school.



Late Stations



Attendance and punctuality are a big priority for us this year. Our hope is that all children will be OTIS but we understand that sometimes families will arrive to school late. To get children into school quicker and avoid any unnecessary delay, we have created Late Stations. Any child arriving between 8.50am and 9.15am must first register at the Late Station before entering the school building. For Nursery children, the Late Station is upstairs at the main office and for children in Reception to Y6, the Late Station is accessed by the side gate entrance at the bottom of Bankwood Close.



Travel Tracker

This week we have launched the WOW – Walk to School Challenge in school.

Every day the children will record on the travel tracker how they have travelled to school and at the end of each month, children have a chance to earn a nature-themed badge for active travel (walk/wheel, scooter, bike or park and stride).

Children only need to make an active journey once a week for a month to earn a badge! It's that simple!

We want as many children and families as possible to experience the benefits of walking to school whilst also cutting down on congestion at the school gates.

Who will be the first to earn their badge for active travel in January? We're looking forward to finding out!



Food for Life Bronze Award

We're pleased to say Bankwood has achieved the Food for Life Bronze Award.

Food for Life is a Soil Association initiative which began life in 2003 and developed into an award-winning national programme thanks to funding from the Big Lottery Fund.

Food for Life is about making good food the easy choice for everyone – making healthy, tasty and sustainable meals the norm for all to enjoy, reconnecting people with where their food comes from, teaching them how it's grown and cooked, and championing the importance of well-sourced ingredients.

Diary Dates

Thursday 25th January – Thursday 1st February – Y5
Bikeability
Friday 9th February – INSET (school closed to children)
HALF TERM
Monday 19th February – school reopen

Ready to Learn

Attendance has been low since we've come back to school and we've noticed a lot of absences. Please support us with this by getting your child to school each day. If they are unwell, please phone school to let us know.

Our attendance target is **96%**.

We notice a huge difference in children's attitude to learning when they are in the classroom **on** time and ready to begin the daily learning activities. We'd like our **Ready to Learn** percent to be **100%**, meaning **every** child has arrived to school **on time**; not late.

Please help us with this by encouraging and getting your child to school for **8.30am** each day when the gates are open.

Class	Attendance	Ready to Learn
FS2 GB	87%	92.3%
FS2 RM	89.3%	97.2%
Y1 SC	87%	98.3%
Y1 CC	93.1%	98.6%
Y2 LT	91.2%	95.4%
Y2 AW	93.5%	97.2%
Y3 BC	94.6%	96%
Y3 LT	91.9%	97.3%
Y4 WB	82.1%	96%
Y4 HC	95%	97.1%
Y5 DN	90%	97.9%
Y5 KW	94%	98.3%
Y6 AK	83.3%	97.7%
Y6 EA	95.1%	98.2%



We would like all children to come to school in PE clothing on their PE days – plain t-shirt, plain leggings or tracksuit bottoms, shorts and trainers. Below are the PE days for each year group so you can help with this and make sure your child is dressed appropriately:

FS2 – Wednesday

Y1 – Tuesday and Friday

Y2 – Friday

Y3 – Tuesday and Wednesday

Y4 – Monday and Thursday

Y5 – Tuesday

Y6 – Wednesday and Friday