

## Bankier Primary

Bankier Road, Banknock, FK4 1TF

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**Falkirk Council**

Children's Services

### Newsletter October 2021

Dear Parents,

Although a short month in school, our Brilliant Bankier Bairns packed lots into the month of October. This month we came together as a school to show racism the red card when we all dressed in red. We also celebrated Halloween in traditional style by dressing up and carving our pumpkins. A huge thank-you to the BHH for organising the Pumpkin Trail. The forest looked fantastic! Pupils are also coming together for our school clubs. Pupils have been enjoying Yoga, Football, Tennis, Rugby and Coding.

Pupils continue in their leadership roles with Primary 7 pupils undertaking Young Stem Leader Training and our Guardians of Rights group linking with pupils across the council to plan for the UNCRC coming into Scot's law.

In this newsletter you will find lots more photos and stories showcasing the best of Bankier.

Kind Regards  
Sarah Ritchie



# Bankier's Brilliant Bairns



Congratulations to these pupils who reached for the stars and achieved their very best!



This brilliant bairn has been making good progress in maths



This brilliant bairn is working hard in Primary 1



This brilliant bairn has had a fantastic start to P1



This brilliant bairn has been working very hard



This brilliant bairn has been a great friend to his classmates



This brilliant bairn has been making good progress in reading



This brilliant bairn has been challenging himself in maths



This brilliant bairn is working hard in Primary 6.



This brilliant bairn is making great progress in reading



This brilliant bairn is writing imaginative stories



This brilliant bairn is challenging himself in maths

This brilliant bairn is working hard on his sounds.



This brilliant bairn is a great classroom helper



This brilliant bairn applies himself in maths

This brilliant bairn challenges himself in maths



This brilliant bairn is making great progress in maths

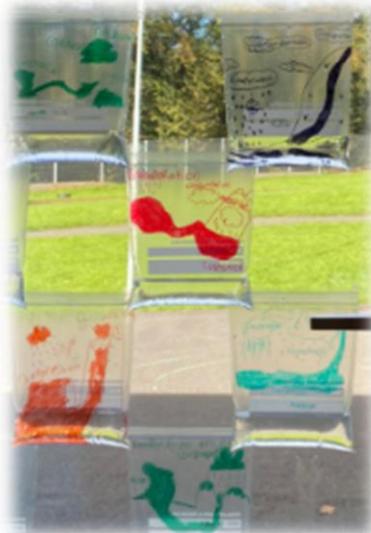
This brilliant bairn is a super classroom helper

This brilliant bairn is learning her sounds.



## Wonderful Work

Wonderful work is already on show...here is some of the wonderful work from our Brilliant Bankier Bairsn.



## House News

Pupils continue to work very hard to earn points for their House. Points can be earned for good work, good manners, achievement and effort.

House of the month for September, with an incredible 1596 points is.....

# **Wyndford!**

## **Wealthy, Wise, Winners!**

Here is how the leader board looks now but remember that the cup is not won yet. Everything you do this year will make a difference.....So keep reaching for the stars!!!!

Wyndford	1596
Braeface	1591
Castle Rankie	1589
Underwood	1325

## Covid Update

Existing Arrangements for the management of Covid-19 remain in place. For Bankier Primary School and ELC this means;

- Handwashing continues.
- Pupils can bring their school bag.
- Pupils can access different areas of the school in their bubble.
- Only 1 parent can accompany a Primary 1 pupil into the playground.
- PE lessons will continue outdoors unless weather conditions are extreme.
- Staff will continue to wear masks and undertake lateral flow testing on a regular basis.
- All visitors to the school building will remain strictly by appointment only.

We continue to manage Covid-19 in the same way. Your child should not attend school if your child or any member of your household has the following symptoms;

- A high temperature, above 37.8 degrees
- A persistent cough
- Loss of taste or smell

Those with symptoms should isolate and book a PCR test immediately. Members of the household aged 5 and over must also isolate. Pupils aged 5 and over cannot attend school.

If the PCR test is negative, members of the household no longer need to isolate and pupils over 5 can come to school.

If the PCR test is positive, all household members over the age of 5 must arrange a PCR test. Pupils can return to school on receipt of a negative test result.

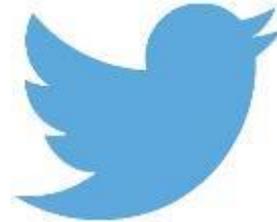
If you are unsure whether your child should attend school, please do not hesitate to contact the school. Staff are only too happy to help.

On behalf of all staff, I would like to take the opportunity to thank parents and the local community for their continued understanding and support throughout the pandemic. Together we have ensured that our Brilliant Bankier Bairns have stayed safe.

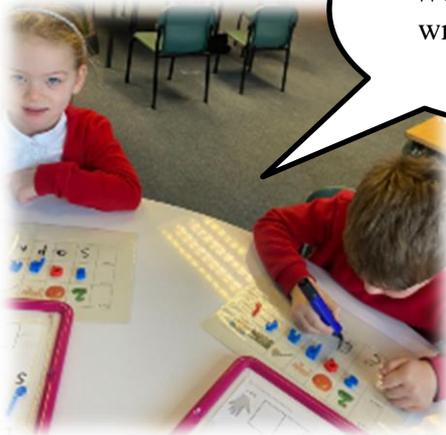
## Class News

Last year, parents fed back that they would like to know more about what was happening in their child's classroom. To share our learning journey with you, our newsletter will now have a class news section written by the children in each class. Each month they will share a few highlights from their learning. Please remember teachers are regularly updating their Twitter feeds sharing the learning taking place. Here is a reminder of the Twitter Handles for each class.

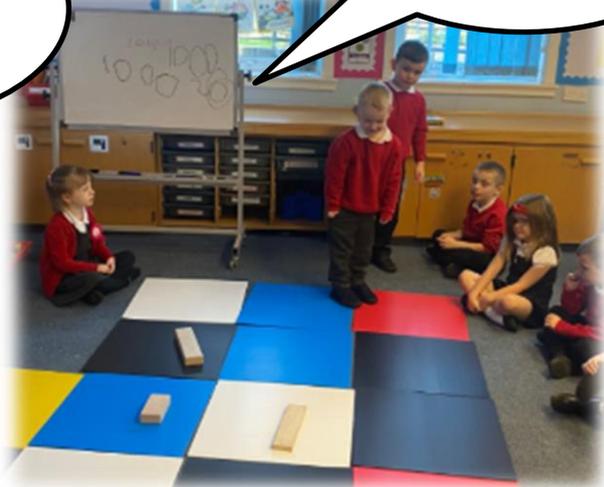
- Bankier Primary School - @BankierPrimary
- Bankier ELCC - @bankier\_nursery
- Miss Callaghan & P1 - @MissRCallaghan
- Mrs Chok & Primary1 - @MrsAChok
- Miss Donnelly & Primary2 - @MissDonnellyBP
- Miss Wilson & P3 - @Miss\_AWilson
- Miss McPhee & primary4 - @MissCMcPhee
- Miss France P5 - @MissFranceBPS
- Mr Innes & P6 - @BpsPrimary6
- Bankier Primary 7 - @MrsPaddon
- Mrs Lerpiniere - @MrsLerpiniere



### Primary 1- Miss Callaghan

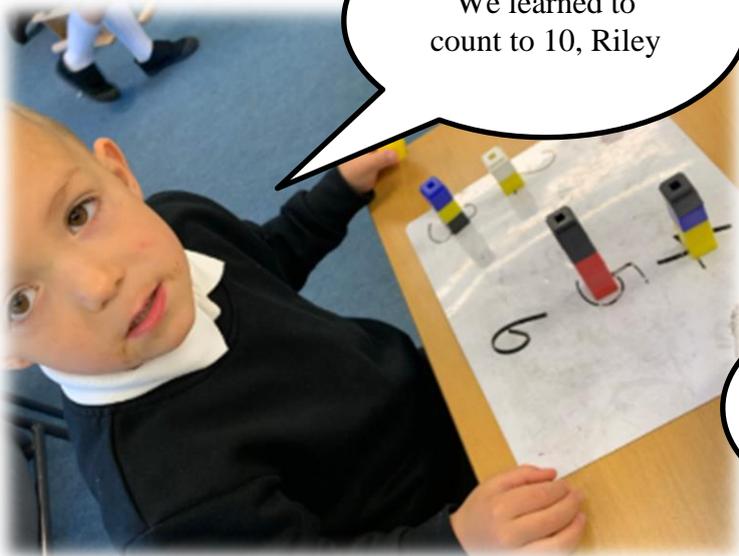


We are learning to write words, Iona



We were robots and learned left and right, Tiffany

### Primary 1- Mrs Chok



We learned to count to 10, Riley



I built a recycling centre, Matthew

**Primary 2- Miss Donnelly**



We had a birthday party for Jack, Frankie

We made a graph about the fruit. We drew the fruit, Holly

We had a Gruffalo party in the hall! Noah, Jack and Michael.

**Primary 3- Miss Wilson**



We were designing posters to stop people littering, Farin

**Primary 4- Miss McPhee**



We drew skeletons and cut them out, Sienna



We were working as a team in basketball, Olivia

**Primary 5- Miss France**



We were making a lockdown town beside the coast, Jessica



We play maths games and we are the teacher, Courtney

**Primary 6- Mr Innes**



We were playing basketball, Anthony

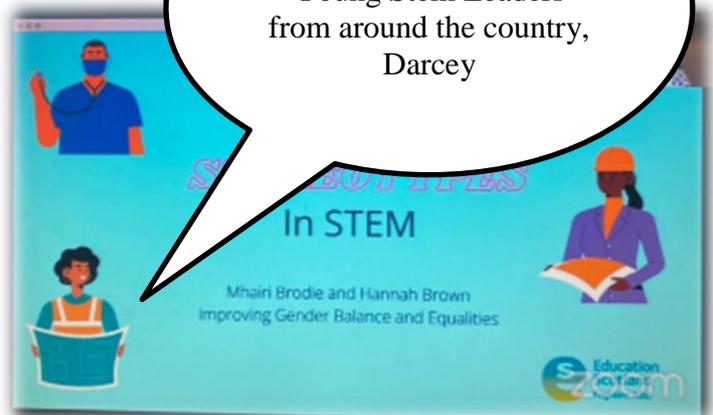


We made dens, Holly

**Primary 7- Mrs Paddon**



Marcus Rashford wrote back to Primary 7, Ailsa



We worked online with Young Stem Leaders from around the country, Darcey

## Just a call or click away

To ensure our Brilliant Bankier Bairns remain safe we cannot have visitors inside our school building. However, this does not mean that we do not welcome parent concerns or queries. Remember we are just a call or click away. The school telephone, 01324 840206, will be answered between 9am and 3pm  
Or you can contact us by e-mail [bankierprimaryschool@falkirk.gov.uk](mailto:bankierprimaryschool@falkirk.gov.uk) If you would like us to call you back, please leave a message and someone on the Senior Leadership Team will give you a call back.

## School Uniform

Bankier Primary School Uniform can be purchased from Logo Express. High street supermarkets also sell a range of red sweatshirts and cardigans and white poloshirts which look just as smart. Our larder also has a selection of pre-loved uniforms, shoes and winter coats for anyone who wants one. Please get in touch if you require any support.



## Christmas in the Community 2021

Very soon we will be celebrating Christmas in our local community. 2021 has brought financial hardship to many but, our community is determined to ensure that all our Brilliant Bankier Bairns have a Christmas to remember.



A group of local volunteers have been fundraising to ensure Christmas comes to all and have a fund to buy Christmas gifts for local children. If you would like any support with gifts for your children, or you know a family in the community in need of this support, please contact the school and ask to speak to Mrs Ritchie.

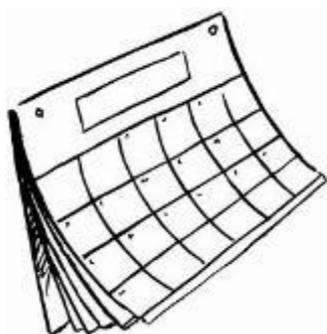
The money has been raised in our community for our community. All requests will be handled sensitively to ensure that families are not identified. The school will share the number, gender and ages of children requiring gifts and then arrange a collection time for families.

Please do not hesitate to contact us about this. Equally, if you would like to donate, please contact the school and we will put you in touch with the fundraisers.

## November/December 2021

Every month we will give you an overview of upcoming events. Here is what to look forward to in the months ahead.

Monday 22 <sup>nd</sup> November	Flu Immunisations
Friday 26 <sup>th</sup> November	Primary 4 Assembly, 1.30pm
Monday 6 <sup>th</sup> December	Link to Christmas Concert will be shared
Friday 11 <sup>th</sup> November	Santa Dash for Strathcarron
Tuesday 21 <sup>st</sup> December	School closes at 1.30pm for the Christmas Holiday ELC closes at 3pm for the Christmas Holiday



There will be more celebratory events in the month of December. Information will follow on parties, Christmas Dinner and class celebrations.



## Halloween

This year we celebrated Halloween with a special assembly. Pupils and staff chose to dress up in costume or dress down in their pyjamas or own clothes.





## Pumpkin Trail

The Halloween experience was enhanced with our first ever pumpkin trail. A huge thank-you to our BHH for hosting the event. Pupils carved pumpkins to decorate our forest. It was lovely to see so many families stopping by to view the pumpkins.



## **Santa Dash for Strathcarron**

Bankier Primary School and ELC have supported our local hospice for many years. Strathcarron Hospice has provided support for local families for 40 years and holds a special place in the hearts of many in our community. Traditionally, we would collect an offering at our church service. However, this year we are unable to come together in the church for our service.

One of our Brilliant Bairns, Ben in Primary 6, came up with a better idea of how we could raise money. Our first ever Santa Dash! Here is what he had to say,

*I want to do this to raise money for the hospice. I want to do a Santa Dash to raise money. Thank-you if you are going to do this to raise money and it is only for kids.*

On Friday 11<sup>th</sup> of December, pupils are invited to participate in a Santa Dash. Pupils will be able to run, skip or walk around a planned route in the grounds of Bankier Primary School. There will be the opportunity to “Chuck it in the bucket” and make an optional donation to Strathcarron Hospice. To make the event as exciting as possible pupils will be able to dress up or down. Christmas Jumpers, Tinsel, Santa Hat, Reindeer Antlers, pyjamas or pupils’ own clothes will all add to the fun. More details will be issued nearer the time.



## **Digital Bankier**

As we learn to live in these new times, we are having to adapt. As a school we miss having our community celebrating events with us. This year we have had to move assemblies, workshops and meetings on line. This has brought challenges but we are keen to learn from this and work with our community to ensure we are doing all we can to link with our community. This year our annual show will move on line and we want this to be accessible to all. We would be very grateful if you could take the time to complete this short survey to help us perfect our digital approach.

**<https://forms.office.com/Pages/DesignPage.aspx?fragment=FormId%3DoyzTzM4Wj0KVQTctawUZKRzyPjuKyRxOgsa8T3LQvAhUNzNQRkNYR1NHMTBWNkRMTjRJSDBaUjJORY4u%26Token%3Dda637ad7598a4237a2172c882f143962>**

## **Transition to Primary 1**

From Monday 1<sup>st</sup> November Falkirk Council will start enrolling pupils for Primary 1. All pupils in their pre-school year in our nursery should have received an e-mail with the link to the enrolment form. If you have not received this, please telephone the school and we will get the link to you.

Making the transition from nursery to primary school is a big transition in a child's life and at Bankier, we work closely to ensure that the transition is as smooth as possible. In the new year we will be in touch with details of what the transition will look like. We also work closely with parents to make sure that children are socially, emotionally and developmentally ready for school.

Children whose birthday falls between 1<sup>st</sup> September and the 28<sup>th</sup> February can defer their entry to school and enjoy another year in the nursery. Below you will find a list of skills and attributes children demonstrate when ready for school. Every child is an individual and will demonstrate these in their own time. If you think your child would benefit from additional time in the nursery to ensure they are socially, emotionally and developmentally ready for school, please speak to your child's key worker.

### **School readiness:**

- ✓ Between the ages of four and five, children should be prepared to be separated from their parent or main carer.
- ✓ Children should be able to clearly demonstrate their ability to listen and follow age appropriate instructions
- ✓ Children should show an interest in a variety of subjects, paying attention to the subject or activity they are taking part in
- ✓ Children should have enough of a range of vocabulary and language to express their needs, feelings, thoughts or ideas
- ✓ Children should be able to identify themselves by name, age, state factors in their life, name family members etc...
- ✓ To be able to interact in an age appropriate way with another child or adult
- ✓ Children should be able to interact, share and play, taking responsibility for their actions, understanding repercussions for their actions
- ✓ Focus on and also show interest in the work they are undertaking
- ✓ To be able to observe, notice, discuss and ask questions about their environment and experiences
- ✓ To be able to engage with books, have some understanding of words and language
- ✓ Respond to boundary setting
- ✓ Vocalise their needs such as toileting, thirst, hunger illness etc...

## Nursery

It was lovely to have had all the children return after the October holidays and to hear all about their adventures. We hope you all had nice relaxing break.

We started the month by familiarising ourselves with the nursery routines and helping the younger children build confidence and independence skills. Why not ask you child if they can help you around the house and build upon life skills. These could include clearing the table, tidying away toys or even putting their shoes and jackets on.

The children have taken part in a few different baking experiences this month. We have made fresh chapati's, pumpkin soup, homemade bread and fairy cakes.



The children showed an interest in hospitals and helping people. The staff set up an outdoor hospital and we were very lucky to have Nurse Claire in.



Claire came to give us a talk on first aid. The children learned lots of first aid techniques, practiced bandaging each other's arms and listened to their hearts with a stethoscope. We all had great fun and learned lots of new skills. At the end of the talk all of the children were presented with their own very own first aid certificate and sticker.

As the weather is turning and we are experiencing the signs of autumn the children have been busy building on their creative skills and their learning. The children listened to the stick man story and decided they wanted to make their own men.

The children picked leaves that had fallen from the tree to use in the art and craft area. One morning it was very cold outside and there was lots of ice on the toys outside. This opened up great discussions and ideas around how ice was formed.



As the week drew closer to Halloween the children had the opportunity to experience lots of different activities relating to Halloween. We watched videos about Halloween, listened to stories, made pumpkin soup and carved pumpkins.

At the end of the week children enjoyed a fun filled day and party. We played games, dopped for apples and had party food.

We hope everyone had a good time.





As the weather is getting colder can we please remind parent to dress their child appropriately for the weather. All children should have wellies in their tray that they can access for the outdoor area.

Can I also ask that face masks are worn when dropping off our collecting your child. This is to keep everyone safe. If you are exempt please wear a lanyard or badge stating this.

Please continue to follow our twitter page for up to date information around the children's everyday learning. The nursery twitter page is - @bankier\_nursery.

Due to restrictions we are still not allowed to have parents in the building and we understand it can be very busy in the morning and evening and it is difficult to speak to your child's key worker.

If you do have any issues or questions please do not hesitate to phone the nurse on 01324 849971 or email the school at [Bankierprimaryschool@falkirk.gov.uk](mailto:Bankierprimaryschool@falkirk.gov.uk) and someone will get back to you. Thank you.