



## Bankhead Newsletter—Bankhead will SOAR

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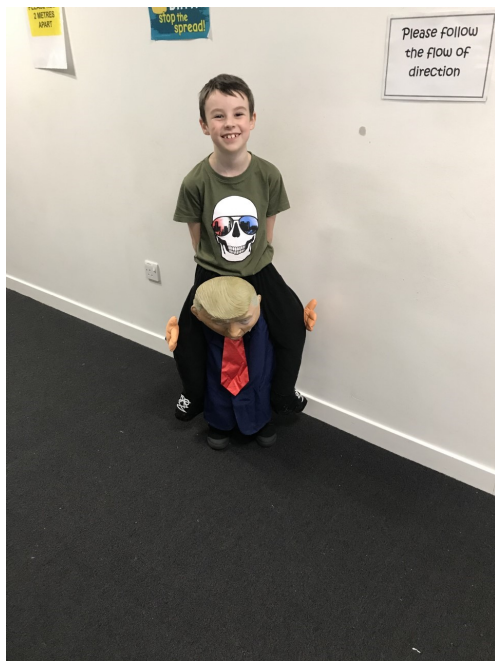
November 2020

### Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome to our November newsletter.

#### Halloween

The boys and girls had a great time celebrating Halloween recently. They had some fantastic costumes. This one was my favourite from Alex in R9.



Friends of Bankhead ran a competition where the children had to send in photographs of



their decorated pumpkins. Here are the lucky winners of a tub of Heroes each. Well done!

#### COVID-19

As the rules change regarding COVID-19, it is sometimes hard to keep up with exactly what we are supposed to be doing. A couple of the big changes in the school recently have been to do with face coverings. Parents / Carers are now required to wear face coverings when dropping off or picking up children from school. Thanks to all who are now adhering to this rule. Within the school building, staff are now required to wear face coverings as they move around the building. They are not required to wear them whilst teaching.

Please keep reminding children about hygiene and social distancing rules within the school. We know it isn't easy sometimes, but the children adapt quickly and have been displaying good habits for the most part.

It is a shame that children are not allowed to mix with children from other classes just now in school, however it is crucial that they stick to these "bubbles" to keep themselves safe. Please remind children to go straight to their lines when they arrive in school and to leave the school grounds smartly at the end of the day.

As well as for homework, we use Google Classrooms to support children who are self-isolating by providing activities for children to complete at home. Please contact the school if you are unable to access this for whatever reason.

#### Flu Vaccination

Most children in the school got their flu vaccination last week. It was very straightforward for almost all the children. If your child was signed up for the vaccination but was off on the day, then there will be a "mop up" session in school at the start of December to ensure everyone who wanted one got one.

#### Christmas

In the blink of an eye we move on from Halloween and Guy Fawkes to Christmas. It has been a tough year for everyone, so we want to make sure that Christmas is a special time for all in Bankhead. Things will inevitably have to be a little bit different, but it will still be a lot of fun. Here are some of the things we are planning for the children.

- **Parties.** The parties this year will be class parties. They will still be in the hall, they will still be lots of fun, but with some social distancing measures in

place to keep everyone safe. The dates section at the end tells you when they are, though there is a possibility that the dates could change slightly. For the Nursery and Rooms 1-4, a special visitor in a big red suit has promised to make an appearance somehow.

- **Pantomime.** The children will enjoy an online pantomime this year in their classrooms— Jack and the Beanstalk. The Friends of Bankhead will again pay for this treat for the children.
- **Christmas Show.** Miss Boyd is using all her creativity to produce a Christmas Show without the children singing, as we are not allowed to sing in schools in the current pandemic. All classes will be involved separately and the show will be made available to children and parents / carers. More details to follow.
- **Christmas Service.** We are not able to go to Kingspark Church this year but we will put together a Christmas Service using our digital technology.
- **Christmas Jumper / t-shirt day.** Pupils are invited to wear a Christmas jumper or t-shirt on the final day of term if they so wish.
- **Christmas Tree.** We will have our usual real Christmas tree at the foot of the stairs this year. This has again been kindly donated by Friends of Bankhead.
- **Christmas Baubles.** For the past number of years we have asked our P1 children and any new pupils to the school to send in a bauble for the Christmas tree. This bauble will appear on the tree for the years that the children attend Bankhead. The child's full name should be put on the bauble. The primary sevens get their bauble back as a memento when the tree is taken down just before the Christmas break. The tree is being delivered on the 1st of December. In



der that the baubles can be quarantined for a sufficient period of time, please have any baubles sent in by Friday 29 November, so that can get on the tree when it is put up.

There may be more Christmassy things happening in school as we adapt and work out how to do things in the current climate.

#### **Anti-Bullying Week 16-20 November**

We will again be doing lots of activities in class to promote anti-bullying in Bankhead, culminating in Odd Socks Day on Friday 20 November. This day is to show that we embrace differences at Bankhead.



#### **Dates For Diary**

Friday 25 November—Anti-Bullying—Odd Socks Day  
 Wednesday 9 Dec—parties—R1 am, R2 pm  
 Thursday 10 Dec—parties—R3 am, R4 pm  
 Friday 11 Dec—parties—R5 am, R6 pm  
 Monday 14 Dec—Going For Gold reward  
 Tuesday 15 Dec—parties— R6 am, R7 pm  
 Wednesday 16 Dec—parties—R8 am, R9 pm  
 Thursday 17 Dec—parties—R10 am, R11 pm  
 Friday 18 Dec—Online Christmas Service available  
 Monday 21 Dec—parties—Nursery—am and pm  
 Tuesday 22 Dec—Christmas jumper / t-shirt day  
 Tuesday 22 December—school closes at 2.30 for Christmas holidays—returning on  
 Wednesday 6 January  
 Monday 8 to Tuesday 9 Feb—holiday—school closed  
 Wednesday 10 February—Staff In-Service day—school closed to pupils.  
 Wednesday 31 March—Parents' Evening (to be confirmed)  
 Thursday 1 April—Close for Easter break—2.30 pm  
 Monday 19 April—school re-opens after Easter break  
 Monday 3 May—holiday—school closed  
 Thursday 6 May—In-Service day for staff—school closed to pupils  
 Friday 21 May and Monday 24 May—holidays—school closed  
 Thursday 24 June—school close for summer break- 1.00 pm.  
 Gerry Hamill,  
 Head Teacher

