



Bankhead Newsletter—Bankhead will SOAR

<http://bankheadps.schoolwebsite.scot/>

August 2022

Dear Parents/Carers,

We would like to extend a warm welcome back to all pupils and parents / carers of Bankhead. Hopefully you all had a good summer break. The children have come back in to school excited to see their friends and hopefully ready to work. There will, as always, be lots of exciting things happening this year across the school. We know the children are in for another great year at Bankhead.

A Plea

Please could you make sure that your children's names are clearly marked on all items



that could be lost. This includes jumpers, cardigans, jackets, packed lunch boxes, water bottles, bags and anything else that might get lost or mixed up with others. It would save us a lot of bother trying to return items, but also save yourselves money and your children tears when they can't find a lost item.

Indoor Shoes

Please provide your child with indoor shoes to change into when they come in from the playground. This will keep them comfortable and ready to learn in class.

Water Bottles

Please provide your child with a water bottle for school. This should be taken home every day and filled up at home before coming to school. Don't forget to put their name on it. Only water is allowed in the water bottles which children will have access to throughout the day.

Attendance and Latecomings

We will be having a big push this year to improve attendance and reduce latecomings amongst the children. Much time has been lost to education over the past couple of years due

to COVID 19. We want to help the children attain and achieve to the best of their abilities. To do that we need them in the building as much as possible.

We understand that there will be times when children are ill and are unable to attend school, but we want to make sure they are here at all other times. Even being five minutes late every day can have a significant impact on your child's learning over a period of time. You will receive more information about this over the coming weeks.

Reporting Absence

Please remember that you must phone the school first thing in the morning if your child is going to be absent. You can leave a message or speak to the office staff if there is someone available. This avoids us having to make possibly several phone calls to try to find out why a child is absent.

**COVID.
IT'S NOT
GONE YET.**

COVID 19

Though we are all hoping we are over the worst of the pandemic, we need to be aware that COVID 19 is still out there in our community. We will continue with hand-washing and other hygiene measures within the school, and will make

sure all rooms are well ventilated. Though there are no safe distance limits in place for the children, we will continue to take a cautious, sensible approach to try and keep everyone safe. We urge parents / carers to do likewise when in the school grounds.

New Members of staff

As always, there has been a bit of a turnover of staff over the summer. Miss Thomson, Miss Lyall, Miss Coull and Mrs Holtham have moved on. Joining the team at Bankhead are Miss Carr (P4) and - for the time being - Miss Cochrane (P3/4). Mrs McGregor also returns to the school from the nursery. She is with P2 this year. We also welcome back Mrs Murray from maternity leave. We know the children are delighted to see them all.

Friends of Bankhead

Our Parent Council group—Friends of Bankhead—meet on the first Tuesday of every month in the school. They are a great source of support to the school and provide a lot of much needed funds to provide opportunities for the children—both educational and social—throughout the whole year. The first meeting this session will take place in the school on Tuesday 6 September at 6.30 pm. New members are always welcome.

Annual Data Checks

You will shortly be receiving annual data check forms. It is important that these are returned to the school promptly so that we can make any necessary changes to our stored information. We would appreciate it if any letters sent home that require a return are returned as soon as possible.

School App

Most of our communication with parents / carers will be through the school app. Please update your

**School
App for
Parents**

settings for your child's new class if you haven't already done so. This is done through the filter button in the top right hand corner of the Messages section in the

app. You will find lunch menus and a list of dates in the app as well as important messages, information and school and class news. If you know of anyone who doesn't yet have the app on their phone please encourage them to download it.

Free School Meals P1-P5

All children in P1-P5 are now entitled to free school meals. In the current financial situation, we would encourage all parents / carers to take advantage of this. The meals are healthy and tasty and the children very much enjoy them. It could save families a fair amount of money if the children take a free school meal every day rather than bringing a packed lunch to school.

Change for Charity

We are very proud of the generosity of the Bankhead community in supporting our monthly Change for Charity days. Children come to school dressed in casual clothes on those days and we suggest a £1 donation per family. There is no obligation to take part. We support local, national

and international charities throughout the year.

This month we will be supporting a local charity, The Baltic Street Playground. It is a community and play area in Dalmarnock that provides hot food for children free of charge during holidays. There is also a food-bank there for adults. Below is a link to their website:

[https://
www.balticstreetadventureplay.co.uk/](https://www.balticstreetadventureplay.co.uk/)



The date for our first Change for Charity of the year is Friday 26 August.

Dates for your diary

Thursday 25 August P7 swimming starts—12 weeks
Friday 26 August—Change for Charity
Friday 23 and Monday 26 September—School closed—holiday weekend
Wednesday 12 October—Parents' Evening
Monday 17—Friday 21 October—October holiday week—school closed
Tuesday 8—Friday 11 November—P7 residential trip
Monday 14 November—School closed—In-Service day
Saturday 3 December School Xmas Fayre
Friday 23 December—close at 2.30 for xmas holidays—return on Monday 9 January
Monday 13 -Wednesday 15 February. School closed—holidays and In-Service.
Thursday 23 March—Parents' Evening
Friday 31 March—School closes for Spring Break at 2.30. Re-opens Monday 17 April.
Monday 1 and Tuesday 2 May. School closed. Holiday and In-Service day.
Friday 26 and Monday 29 May—school closed—holiday.
Tuesday 27 June—school closes at 1.00 pm for summer break

Gerry Hamill,
Head Teacher

