



Bankhead Newsletter—Bankhead will SOAR

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

September 2023

Dear Parents/Carers,

Potential Strikes

As you will be aware, various unions are planning strikes on Tuesday 26, Wednesday 27 and Thursday 28 September. This includes support assistants, cleaning staff, catering and early years workers across the authority. Consequently, Bankhead Primary and Nursery Class will be closed on those days—unless a resolution to the dispute is found quickly. Your child will be given work home with them on Thursday 21 September. We hope that they are able to complete the tasks at home on the strike days.



Local By-Election

The local Westminster by-election will take place on Thursday 5 October. Bankhead will be used as a polling station for the by-election so the school and nursery class will be closed to all pupils on that day.



September Holiday Weekend

The school and nursery will be closed on Friday 22 and Monday 25 September for the holiday weekend. We hope you enjoy the long weekend with your children.

Friends of Bankhead

At the recent AGM the following office bearers were elected:

Chair - Heather MacDuff

Vice Chair – Diane Wood

Secretary – Lindsey Toner

Treasurer – Angela O'Malley

At the meeting, dates were also agreed for various events across the school year, which Friends of Bankhead pay for and organise. These include our Halloween Discos on the evening of Thursday 26 October, our Christmas Fayre on Saturday 25 November, and our Christmas discos on the evening of Thursday 21 December. These events are always well attended and are very much a part of our school calendar. The next meeting this session will take place in the school on Tuesday 3 October at 6.30 pm. New members are always welcome.

New Arrangements for Rooms 1-5 leaving at the end of the day

To try to make things safer for our children, we have re-vamped the arrangements for parents / carers collecting children at the end of the day. Rather than taking the children into the MUGA to be dismissed, we will revert to dismissing them from the gate to the infant playground. This gives staff greater control and confidence that all children are leaving with the correct person.

Parents / Carers have a big part to play in this too. Rooms 1 and 2 will be dismissed first. Whoever is collecting children from these classes should wait outside the gate to the infant playground. **For Rooms 3-5, those collecting children should wait in the MUGA and only come forward when that class is at the gate.** Hopefully these arrangements will be more efficient and safe for all concerned.

House Captains

Congratulations are due to our 8 house captains who fought off the competition to be elected. A big thanks to all who put themselves forward. The standard was very high. The house captains will do a fantastic job we are sure, organising events for the houses and representing the school throughout the course of the year. Our house captains this year are:

Ross Hubbert

Juliette Graham

Sophia Brown

Savannah Gayne

Evie McCluskey

Eliza French

Leigha Docherty and

Amelia McIlroy.

Parent Portal / Parents' Evening

We will soon be opening up appointment times for our Parents' Evening, which will take place

in the school on Wednesday 11 October. To book appointment times you must first have signed up to parentsportal.scot



Parentsportal.scot is a new digital service to help replace the traditional 'school bag run' by providing direct communication to parents and carers through a growing suite of online services.

Through parentsportal.scot parents and carers will be able to grant permissions for school trips, view school lunch menus, view attendance, complete the annual data check, book parents evening and link directly to ParentPay to make payment for school meals, to name but a few.

To access parentsportal.scot go to <https://parentsportal.scot/home/>. If you have a mygovscot my account click the link to Sign In or if you don't have a mygovscot my account click the link to register for a mygovscot my account. Alternatively use the QR codes at the bottom of the letter to download the parentsportal.scot APP.

Once registered you will be prompted to Link Your Child. To be able to link your child you will be asked to provide details relating to your child, the school they attend and your relationship with them. Once the details are found and matched you will be sent a security code to either your mobile number or email address registered in the school. The security code is to provide additional security before your child's record is linked. Your request to link your child will then be sent to your child's school for approval. You will then be notified of the decision to approve the link on your email.

Once your child/children are linked to their school you will start to receive communications from the school via parentsportal.scot and over time will become your one-stop-shop to everything to do with your child and their school.

Please sign up as soon as possible using the link above. Please contact the school office if you have any difficulty getting registered. We will let parents know when the appointment times for parents' evening go live.

Plea for your junk!

P1 like to use lots of old recycling in their junk modelling. They would like to build up a bank of different types of cardboard and plastic for the children to use and develop their modelling skills. If you have any you are able to donate, please hand it in to your child's teacher or the school office. They would also like any other bits and pieces like masking tape, Sellotape, bubble wrap, old wrapping paper etc. Thanks in advance for your help with this.

Participatory Budget

Participatory Budget is a way of bringing together ideas from children, staff and wider school community. After condensing it down to three ideas, all stakeholders overwhelmingly voted to improve Health and Wellbeing. 79% of our community would like to spend the PB on extra curricular clubs, trips and some playground equipment. We will endeavour to ensure the money is utilised in these areas in the best way possible. Thank you for your ideas and support.

P7 Residential Trip

After a successful day visit, our P7s will attend the National Sports Training Centre Inverclyde for their residential trip in May. We will be having an information evening for parents / carers in the school on Tuesday 10 October. More details to follow.

Dates for your diary

Friday 22 and Monday 25—September weekend holiday

Thursday 5 October—school closed to pupils—local by-election

Wednesday 11 October—Parents' Evening

Monday 16—Friday 20 October—October holiday week

Thursday 26 October—Halloween discos—evening

Monday 13 November—School closed—In-service day for staff

Saturday 25 November—Christmas Fayre 10.00-2.00

Thursday 14 and Friday 15 December—Infant Nativity and P4-7 Xmas Shows

Thursday 21 December—Christmas Discos—evening

Friday 22 December—close at 2.30 for Xmas holidays, returning on 8 January.

Other dates on school app.

Gerry Hamill,
Head Teacher

