

Bankier Primary

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Falkirk Council

Children's Services

News Letter November 2021

Dear Parents, Guardians and Carers,

Our Brilliant Bankier Bairns have continued to work hard throughout the month of November making it our busiest month so far. Pupils in Primary 6 led Scottish Book Week ensuring that the joy of reading was shared across the school. Our senior pupils also became more connected with the role out of our Connected Falkirk Programme. Pupils have also been busy rehearsing for our first ever virtual Pantomime, which will take the place of our annual show.

Below you will see a Calendar of events for the month of December. December is always our busiest month, so please keep this newsletter or note down relevant dates in your own calendar to make sure that you do not miss out. We will Tweet and message out reminders but until then; stay safe, stay well and stay connected.

Kindest Regards

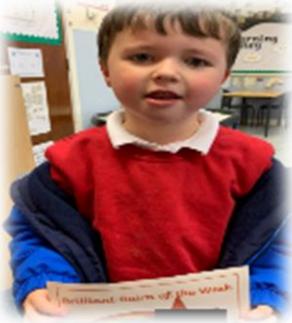
Mrs Sarah Ritchie, Head Teacher



Bankier's Brilliant Bairns



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



This brilliant bairn has made great progress with sounds.



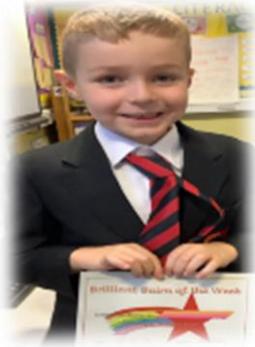
This brilliant bairn has tried her best with every task.



This brilliant bairn can double numbers.



This brilliant bairn writes imaginative stories.



This brilliant bairn always tries his best.



This brilliant bairn tried his best with every task.



This brilliant bairn has been trying really hard with reading.



This brilliant bairn always shows respect and kindness.



This brilliant bairn puts a smile on others' faces.



This brilliant bairn is a super helper.



This brilliant bairn is making great progress.



This brilliant bairn is super in maths.



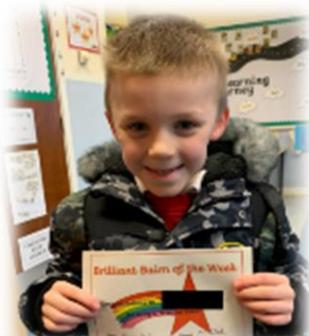
This brilliant bairn joins in class discussions with respect.



This brilliant bairn shows creativity in art.



This brilliant bairn tried hard in reading.



This brilliant bairn made a great start to Primary 1.



This brilliant bairn is great at addition.



This brilliant bairn is a super helper.



This brilliant bairn is learning his sounds.



This brilliant bairn always works hard.



This brilliant bairn tries her best.



This brilliant bairn is a super role model.



This brilliant bairn brings effort and enthusiasm.



This brilliant bairn is a good friend to classmates.



This brilliant bairn is excellent in PE.



This brilliant bairn excels in STEM.



This brilliant bairn tries his best.



This brilliant bairn made a great start to Primary 1.

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 November, with an incredible 1596 points is.....

Braeface
Brave, Blazing, Brilliant!

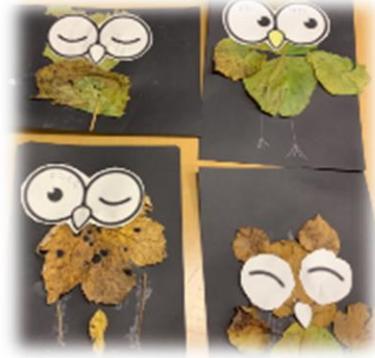
Here is how the leader board looks now but remember that the cup is not won yet. Everything you do this year will make a difference.....So keep reaching for the stars!!!!

Wyndford	3536
Braeface	3589
Castle Rankie	3387
Underwood	3409



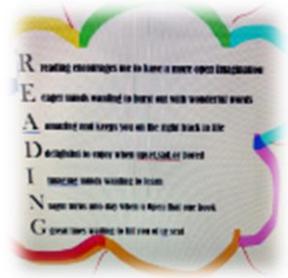
Wonderful Work

Wonderful work was showcased all through our community during lockdown. We are delighted to share that this has continued now we are back in school. Here is some of the wonderful work from our Brilliant Bankier Bairns.



Book Week

Pupils across the school celebrated Book Week Scotland is an annual celebration of books and reading that takes place across the country. Book Week Scotland 2021 took place 15–21 November and was supported by Creative Scotland and SLIC. This year's celebration was led by our Brilliant Bairns in Primary 6. They even took on the role of teacher and delivered literacy lessons to pupils in other classes.



Ski Trip

November also saw our first ever skiing trip. Pupils in Primary 7 took to the slopes at Polmont Ski Centre. A great time was had by all.



Crazy Hair Day

Crazy Hair Day has been a highlight in the Bankier Calendar for a long time. This year was no exception. A huge thank-you to the BHH for organising the event to raise money for school funds. An even bigger thank-you to all those who got up early to take on the role of hair dresser. We are always impressed your effort. A fantastic £66.30 was raised on the day.



Connected Bankier

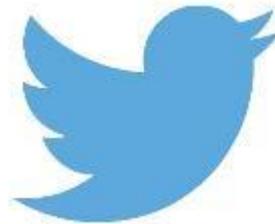
This month pupils in Primary 6 and 7 became a little more connected when the Connected Falkirk Team delivered an Ipad for all pupils in the year group. Connected Falkirk will give children and young people in our schools the confidence, skills and knowledge needed to thrive in an ever-changing, fast-paced digital world. Digital learning and remote working are now part of all our lives and this innovative project plays a critical role in preparing our young people to live, learn and work in a truly digital age.



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



Miss Callaghan and Primary 1



We were playing
adding games,
Findlay



We learned our
doubles, William

Mrs Chok and Primary 1



We were rolling balls to our friends, Rhys



We made Diwali lamps with clay, Ellie- Jasmine

Miss Wilson and Primary 3



We were counting in 2s, Noah



We taste tested foods from other countries, Melody

Miss Mc Phee and Primary 4



We used paint to make stars, Lily



We made emotion monsters, Ethan

Miss France and Primary 5



We made a kind words display, Lukas

Mr Innes and Primary 6



We learned how to use our Ipads, Jennifer



We read books and helped children write a summary, Kieran

Mrs Paddon and Primary 7



We used a drill and a screwdriver in woodwork, Aileigh



We found apps for teachers, Ava



CHRISTMAS AT BANKIER

Christmas will look a little different at this year, but that does not mean that the fun disappears.



We will be marking the celebration a little differently this year whilst ensuring that we adhere to all the latest health and safety advice.

Although things look and feel a little different this year, Christmas is still a very special occasion at Bankier Primary School and ELCC.



This year we have a range of fun activities planned for classes.

Cards and Gifts

Pupils will be able to exchange Christmas cards with their classmates.

Please note that we are not able to accept any gifts from pupils this year. It remains that there are no unnecessary objects in school and we cannot transfer objects between different locations.

Christmas Lunch

Christmas lunch has always been a special occasion at Bankier Primary School and ELC. This year Christmas Lunch will take place in the hall on **Wednesday 8th December**. If you are ordering ahead, please select from Santa Box or Santa Box Vegan and Vegetarian on Ipay.

Christmas Parties

Christmas is not complete without a party. Each class will host a party in the hall. We have been in touch with Santa Claus and he has confirmed that he is able to drop by and attend our Nursery, Primary 1 and 2 parties. Santa is deemed an essential adult in Scottish schools so will be able to join in all the fun. On the next page you can find a list of dates for each class party.

Santa Dash

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 10th 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.

Christmas Show

Rehearsals for our annual concert are underway. Every class has been busy preparing songs for our very first whole school pantomime. The pantomime also features a small cast of senior pupils and performances from the school choir. Unfortunately we cannot welcome families into the school, however, we will be sharing our Panto on our You Tube Channel so that families can enjoy the performance together. A link to the performance will be e-mailed to all families on 6.12.21

Please find below a calendar of events;

Date	Activity
6.12.21	You Tube link issued for whole school panto
8.12.21	Christmas Lunch for school and ELC
9.12.21	Magic Show from Magic Gareth
13.12.21	Primary 7 Christmas Party 6pm-7.30pm
14.12.21	Primary 4 Christmas Party 1pm-3pm
15.12.21	Primary 3 Christmas Party 1pm-3pm
16.12.21	Primary 5 Christmas Party 1pm-3pm
17.12.21	Primary 6 Christmas Party 1pm- 3pm
17.12.21	Nursery Christmas Party
20.12.21	Primary 1 Christmas Party 1pm-3pm Primary 2 Christmas Party 1pm- 3pm
21.12.21	School and Nursery close for the Christmas Holidays School at 1.30pm Nursery at 3pm

Covid Update

The announcement of a new variant of Covid-19 has brought changes for society. As yet, there are no new mitigations planned for Scottish schools. 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.
- 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 of 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.

Nursery newsletter

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, dooked 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 land yard 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 and someone will get back to you. Thank you.

