

# Banks Road Infants and Nursery School

“A Home for Learning, Laughing, Caring and Trying”

02.09.2022

Dear Parents and Carers,

## ▪ WELCOME BACK.

Welcome back to the new school year! We hope that you all had an enjoyable summer. The staff are looking forward to welcoming the children back to school for the start of the Autumn Term and hearing all about their adventures during the holidays.

We would like to welcome our new Reception children (and their families). We are really looking forward to getting to know you all. We wish all our new children and their families a very happy and successful time with us here at Banks Road. I know that this can be a nerve-wracking time, with lots of information to take in, so please remember that the staff at Banks Road are always available if you have any questions or concerns (no matter how big or small!). If you are not able to speak to us in person, then please give the school a call or use Class Dojo as a way of keeping in touch with us.

I would also like to welcome our new staff: Mrs Davies who will be job sharing alongside Miss Holmes in Cherry class on a Thursday and Friday; Mrs Hallam who will be supporting in Birch class.

Staff have continued to be busy during the break and I would like to pass on my personal thanks to the hard working and committed Banks Road Team who have given up much of their holiday to prepare for the new academic year.



## ▪ ATTENDANCE AND PUNCTUALITY

As parents you are legally responsible for ensuring your children of school age receive a suitable full time education. Regular attendance remains a strong focus for us and it is important that your child attends school every day so that they don't miss out on valuable learning. Good attendance is crucial in ensuring your child makes good progress both academically and socially. The most important thing that a parent/carer can do is to make sure that their child goes to school regularly and arrives on time. (Arriving late in the classroom can make children feel anxious or embarrassed, and arriving 5 minutes late every day adds up to over 3 whole school days lost every year).



- Schools are unable to authorise any holiday during term time (unless for an exceptional circumstance).
- If your child has a minor cough or cold and you are in two minds whether to send them to school, please send them in and we will ring you if they feel unwell during the school day.
- Children should not be absent from school if they have head lice. This needs to be treated appropriately and then they may attend school normally.
- ***If your child has a sickness bug please be aware that school policy remains at 48 hours from the last bout of sickness before they can return to school.***

In the event of illness, it is important that you contact the school before 9:30am on the morning of any absence.

We acknowledge that each family's circumstances are different but our school is dedicated to the education of all our pupils and believes that regular attendance throughout the year is essential to every child's success and fulfilment and at Banks Road we say that:

**“Every Second of Every Minute of Every Day at School Counts”**

## ▪ SUPERVISION AT DROP OFF AND PICK UP

We ask that you support us by reminding your child(ren) to make the right choices during drop off and pick up by:

- ensuring your child(ren) is (are) closely **supervised** at all times whilst on school grounds. Please remind your child(ren) to remain with you at all times whilst on school site.
- intervening if your child becomes involved in **inappropriate** activities / behaviours
- not allowing them to use any equipment. This is for the **safety** of your child(ren). (Please remember it is important that before and after school, children and younger and older brothers and sisters **DO NOT** use the playground equipment. This is due to strict Health and Safety responsibility of the school. It will be hard asking your child to keep off at these times but we rely on all parents/carers to support us with this.)

## ▪ PARKING

All schools seem to have the same problems...problems caused by their own communities. At Banks Road we are no different and parking around the school site is inherently dangerous for our children and families as well as potentially causing health issues from vehicle emissions, all through inconsiderate parking. We frequently get complaints from our residential neighbours of parents parking across driveways, on pavements and too close to the many junctions near to our school. There is no designated parking so we rely on your cooperation and engagement to be more considerate about parking, road safety and pollution.



Make different choices: walk to school if time allows, use parking at the Green wood Community Centre and please remember that inconsiderate parking is an accident waiting to happen.

## ▪ UNIFORM



**Please see separate email with the new Uniform Policy attached.**

You can buy our Banks Road logo uniform from TGR Embroidery in Chilwell but equally we have always adopted a flexible uniform policy and plain red sweatshirts, jumpers and cardigans as well as white or red plain polo shirts can also be purchased at larger supermarkets.

Most importantly we want all our children to feel comfortable in the clothes and footwear they wear for school. We have a curriculum that involves much outdoor learning provision, including Forest School, so our children need to be suitably dressed for this! We encourage footwear with Velcro or buckle fastenings and no open toed sandals. School shoes are, no doubt an expensive purchase so trainer type shoes are ideal.

Our second hand uniform sale is also good option. We ask for a donation from this for our school fund.

## ▪ PE



As we have returned to most of the routines and procedures that were in place before the first lockdown in March 2020, we will now return to asking children to **bring their PE kit into school and change in class for PE**. This has been the procedure at Banks Road and at most primary schools for many years. Children will change together in their own class supervised appropriately by their class teacher or by the teacher who is leading their PE lesson. One of the reasons that children have been asked to change into PE kit at school for PE has been for **reasons of hygiene**, i.e. the children learn that

when they exercise, they sweat and it is not healthy to wear sweaty clothes or PE kit all day.

It has also been the case that changing for PE in school allows younger children to **develop their independence** from parents and learn how to dress themselves, e.g. putting jumpers on, buttoning up shirts, putting shoes on and tying up laces.

There is no requirement to purchase specific clothing. We ask that your child brings t-shirt and shorts **in**, preferably, a draw string type bag that can remain on their peg **in school** (we do sell school logo draw string bags at £4). The children will not require trainers or plimsolls for the Autumn term unless requested for ad-hoc activities by the class teacher via Dojo. These clothes will be sent home by class teachers at intervals throughout the year to be washed.

**Our reception children do not require a PE kit in September. Your class teachers will inform you later in the year when this may change.**

▪ **LUNCHES**



All pupils in reception, year 1 and year 2 in state-funded schools are eligible for the universal infant free school meals (UIFSM). We do encourage all children to access a hot school meal but you may wish to provide your child with a packed lunch. This may be ad hoc or daily and we do allow a mixture of school dinners and packed lunches. Lunchtime registers are taken each morning in class.

If you do provide your child with a packed lunch you must ensure that it is **nut free**, this includes:

- Peanut butter sandwiches
- Chocolate spreads
- Cereal bars
- Some granola bars
- Cakes that contain nuts
- Biscuits / Cookies that contain nuts
- Peanut butter cakes
- Some Asian food, including satay
- Sauces that contain nuts
- Anything containing Nutella.



This list is not exhaustive so please check the packaging of products closely.

We have children in school with severe nut allergies who can be seriously affected with potentially life-threatening allergic reaction by someone else who is eating or may have recently eaten nuts. We do have to insist we are a nut free school. I know if this was your child you would expect that we all help, especially as it is a life-threatening condition.

Lunch boxes should **not** contain sweets, chocolate bars or fruit flavoured drinks (children are provided with water)

▪ **DRINKS AND SNACKS**

We only allow water in school. No fruit squash or fruit juice to be sent in water bottles. Every child is provided with a piece of fruit for morning snack but you may send your child with an additional piece of fruit.

▪ **FIRST AID**

As we all know, bumps, bruises and grazes are part of any child's life and if your child has a knock or a fall at school they may receive first aid. When this happens, and it is a minor injury, a first aid form will be completed at school and sent home with your child at the end of the school day. If we feel the injury is more serious, we will contact you immediately and ask you to arrange to seek professional medical help. Likewise, we request that if your child sustains any injuries outside of school hours to notify your class teacher via class dojo. We may also contact you if we observe a bump, bruise or graze that we believe has not occurred whilst in school and ask you to verify the injury occurred at home and to establish if your child requires any further first aid throughout the school day



## ▪ VOLUNTEERS IN SCHOOL



Visitors and volunteers at our school bring with them a wealth of skills and experience that can enhance the learning opportunities of the children. Banks Road welcomes and encourages them.

We regard all our helpers in school as part of the Banks Road Team and have a professional duty to you in this capacity. We now have a policy in school for all volunteers / visitors and parent helpers. As part of the process of welcoming your invaluable contribution to the learning of our children, we are hold an 'induction' which will include : our aims and values, confidentiality, supervision, health and safety and safeguarding. All 'new' volunteers in school will be required to attend this induction meeting led by myself, Mrs Clemens, before they are able to volunteer in school. If you have already attended this induction at any time that your child has been at Banks Road, you are not required to attend again.

There will only be 2 induction meetings for this year. If you think you will be able to help at any point during the course of your child's time at Banks Road (including off-site visits) you will have to attend one of these meetings. The dates are Wednesday 28th September at 6.15 p.m and Thursday 29th September at 9 a.m. Please notify the office if you would like to attend one of these meetings.

Your help is always greatly appreciated and we hope that you will gain much from your experiences. We welcome grandparents and parents and carers too! Thank you for your continued support.

## ▪ FRIENDS ASSOCIATION



The **Friends** is the PTA group for Banks Road Infant & Nursery School. They are a registered charity, run entirely by volunteer parents & representatives of the teaching staff. Their aim is to raise funds for the school and nursery to provide extra items not covered by the school's budget, as well as arranging a wide variety of fun social events throughout the school year for the parents and children.

The money the Friends have raised in the past has provided our children with experiences and resources that our budget can simply not stretch to and we are so grateful. This year they have raised funds to buy a Selection Box for each child, a Christmas Tree for the school hall, a Book for each child from Santa and a Chocolate egg for each child for the Easter Egg hunt. The biggest contribution was to create our developing sensory garden in the corner of the playground. We are so **very** grateful.

'Every little helps' and you may be able to support at organised events throughout the year by baking or offering half an hour of your time to sell drinks or sweets etc.



**Friends of Banks Road Infants School/ or contact them via email: [friendsofbanksroad@gmail.com](mailto:friendsofbanksroad@gmail.com)**

## ▪ CONTACT DETAILS

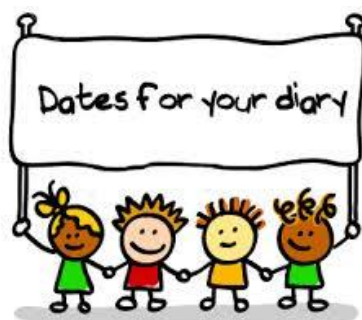


**Please ensure that you keep us up to date with any changes in your contact details, especially mobile phone numbers. This is essential in case of an emergency and we need to contact you.**

Thank you for taking the time to read this newsletter.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Carole Clemens'. The signature is written in a cursive style with a large 'C' and 'C'.

Carole Clemens  
Head Teacher



### **Autumn Term 1 2022** **Dates for your diary**

1<sup>st</sup> September – INSET Day (no children in school)  
 2<sup>nd</sup> September – INSET Day (no children in school)  
 5<sup>th</sup> September – Autumn Term starts  
 5<sup>th</sup> September – Values week starts  
 10<sup>th</sup> September – E-Safety assembly  
 14<sup>th</sup> September – Reception parents coffee afternoon (2pm) and meet the Teacher (2.45pm)  
 19<sup>th</sup> September – Walk to School week starts  
 28<sup>th</sup> September – Volunteer Induction meeting (6.15pm)  
 28<sup>th</sup> September – Friends of Banks Road AGM (6.45pm)  
 29<sup>th</sup> September – Volunteer Induction meeting (9am)

4<sup>th</sup> October – Individual school photographs  
 5<sup>th</sup> October – Flu Immunisations (Reception, Year 1 & Year 2)  
 6<sup>th</sup> October – Try a school dinner day  
 7<sup>th</sup> October – Year 2 Parents ‘Stay & Play’ Maths theme  
 10<sup>th</sup> October – Wear a Rainbow for World Mental Health Awareness Day  
 10<sup>th</sup> October – Harvest Festival week – collection of food for Hope  
 12<sup>th</sup> October – Phonics Information Evening for parents of Reception, Year 1 & Year 2 (6.15pm)

14<sup>th</sup> October – School closes for Half Term  
 17<sup>th</sup> to 21<sup>st</sup> October – Holiday Club

### **Autumn Term 2 2021** **Dates for your diary**

31<sup>st</sup> October – Back to School  
 4<sup>th</sup> November – History & Archaeology day (Reception, Year 1 & Year 2)  
 5<sup>th</sup> November – Prospective parents information open morning (9.30am – 11.30am)  
 9<sup>th</sup> November – KS1 Parents open afternoon  
 11<sup>th</sup> November – Remembrance Assembly  
 14<sup>th</sup> November – Parent Consultation meetings week (appointment only)  
 14<sup>th</sup> November – Anti-bullying week starts – wear odd socks to school  
 18<sup>th</sup> November – Children in Need Day  
 25<sup>th</sup> November – Year 2 Parents ‘Stay & Play’ English theme  
 30<sup>th</sup> November – St Andrews Day – serving Beavers/Rainbows/Cubs/Brownies uniforms may be worn

1<sup>st</sup> December – Christmas pound shop opens  
 6<sup>th</sup> December – Christmas Show for Chestnut Class & Acorn Class parents (2pm)  
 7<sup>th</sup> December – Christmas Show for Willow Class parents (9.15am)  
 7<sup>th</sup> December – Christmas Show for Birch Class & Acorn Class parents (2pm)  
 8<sup>th</sup> December – Christmas Show for Oak Class parents (9.15am)  
 8<sup>th</sup> December – Christmas Show for Maple Class parents (2pm)  
 9<sup>th</sup> December – Christmas Show for Cherry Class parents (9.15am)  
 15<sup>th</sup> December – Christmas Party Day & Christmas dinner  
 16<sup>th</sup> December – Christmas Jumper Day & Magic Freddie show  
 16<sup>th</sup> December – Christmas Disco  
 20<sup>th</sup> December – Key Strings – entertainment in school  
 21<sup>st</sup> December – School closes for Christmas

4<sup>th</sup> January – INSET Day (no children in school)  
 5<sup>th</sup> January – School re-opens for Spring Term

***These dates may be subject to change at short notice, which will be notified via the weekly newsletter.  
 More information on specific events and meetings will be provided closer to the date.***