



Website: www.bansteadinfant.co.uk
Learning Platform: <https://fronter.com/surreyml>



Banstead Infant School Newsletter January 2018

Dear Parents,

I hope you all had a lovely Christmas break. I would like to wish you all a very happy new year and hope that 2018 will be as successful as 2017! Thank you very much for all your support last term. I hope that you all enjoyed the Christmas Productions, we were so proud of all the children, they were so determined and adventurous, whether they were narrating, dancing, singing or acting. Thanks to your generous donations we could give £586 to the Princess Alice Hospice.

The children have come back to school so enthusiastically; it is lovely to see them so excited by their learning. They have been showing their Jammie Dodger hearts in so many ways too. Thank you for all your support at home, it is very much appreciated. I look forward to seeing lots of children at Golden Tea!

It is wonderful to see how quickly the children are growing up. We would like them to be as independent as possible when they come in to school now. Year 2 children should come in on their own now. If you need to talk to the teacher urgently in the morning, then please do so but otherwise please arrange to see them after school or send messages via the school office. Please encourage your Year 1 or Reception child to come into the cloakroom on their own. If you need to come in, please could you leave pushchairs outside as it is becoming very congested, particularly in the large cloakroom at the back of the school?
Thank you

Staffing News

We welcome Mrs Kate Maginess to Banstead Infant School. Mrs Maginess is teaching Orange Class on a Thursday and Friday. We hope that she will be very happy with us.

Best wishes

Stephanie Storrar

Stephanie Storrar
Head Teacher

PTA

Once again thank you so much for your hard work. Santa's Funtime involved a lot of time, worry and energy on the part of the committee but thanks to their commitment and your generosity it was a great success. It raised £3987! Thank you too for your generous donations for the refreshments you bought before the plays. We raised £275. Your generosity is much appreciated.

Thanks to everyone's hard work and generosity, we have been able to replace the Interactive Whiteboard in Purple Class with a new LED screen. These screens are more cost efficient as they do not need a projector. Projector lamps have to be replaced regularly and are an ongoing cost for the school. The LED screen will improve the quality of images and video and enable children to use it collaboratively to explain their ideas. We are also hoping to buy another tablet for each class and more laptops. This is a fantastic achievement. The PTA has also provided £100 per class for teachers to buy resources to support our creative curriculum. The children are very lucky to have these resources which we could not afford without your help. These high quality resources enhance the children's learning and help to make our curriculum exciting and vibrant. Your money really makes a big difference to the quality of experiences the children have at our school. Thank you.



The PTA have also arranged for us to be included in the Waitrose green token scheme at Banstead Waitrose. Please tell everyone you know so that we can collect as many tokens as possible. The token collection point says that the tokens are to purchase a climbing wall. As you know, we already have the wall but would like to investigate other ideas for improving the playground.

Parent Consultation Evenings –7 & 8 March 2018

This is the most important consultation meeting of the year. The year 1 and 2 children will have met with their teachers to discuss their progress and to devise targets for the coming term. You will have the opportunity to see your child's learning and to discuss your child's progress and targets. We will be using Parentmail X for the online appointments again. Please make sure that you sign up as soon as possible after the times are released. *Please note that Wednesday 7 March is early closure – school will finish at 1.30pm.*

Value for this half term - Honesty

This half term we will be teaching the children the value 'Honesty' whilst also continuing to remind the children of the importance of respect.

We will tell the children – To be honest you need to:

- Know right from wrong
- Be brave
- Tell the truth

I hope this will be helpful to you at home too.

Learning to Learn - Reflective

At our school we are teaching the children the skills needed to be a successful learner. This term we will be reminding/teaching the children to be 'reflective' when they are working. We tell the children to think about and plan their work. We also ask the children to reflect to see if they can make changes to their work to make it better. The children are taught to think back to what they have learned before, to see if this will help them with their new learning. We have an animal to help the children to understand the concept. This is an owl, as in most stories, the owl is a very reflective and thoughtful bird!



ATTENDANCE – Please try to make sure that you make all dental and non-urgent medical appointments outside school hours. These appointments have an effect on your child's attendance records and the chance of gaining a '100% Attendance Award'. Morning and afternoon registration marks must be recorded in order to achieve 100% attendance.

Attendance Reminder: Please note, any holidays taken during term time may incur a Fixed Penalty Notice (£60 per parent, per child).

Chess Club

This term chess club will be taking part in the World's largest Chess tournament, the UK Chess Challenge. Over 45,000 children take part and win prizes (badges, gold spots, mascots, chess books, trophy for the winner etc.) and qualify for the Megafinal tournament. Children love the adventure of a tournament; they learn how to win gracefully, as well as how to lose. We wish them every success in the tournament.

Chicks

Every year we incubate eggs and watch the chicks hatch. This is an amazing experience for the children. The eggs will arrive on Monday 19th March. Please come in and see them – they will be in their incubator in the atrium. In their classes, the children stroke and hold the chicks. They stay with us for two weeks – they grow remarkably quickly!



Uniform

Labelling clothes

Please ensure that **all** items of your child's uniform are labelled so that they can be found quickly and easily if they are misplaced. It is also important that coats, hats and gloves are labelled so that they can be identified easily in the cloakroom. A lot of time is wasted trying to find names in coats.

A reminder please: no hair gel or earrings to be worn in school. The children should not be wearing nail varnish or have 'tattoos'.

Parking

Thank you to all those parents who park considerately; your support is much appreciated. Unfortunately, parking continues to be a problem. Please do not park on the pavements. I have sought advice from the police who have told me that the most effective way to instigate action is to complain to them. The more complaints they receive, the more likely they are to take action.

Please remember that spaces such as the Bentley Day Centre are for staff and not for public use. Parking there can mean that some of the users of the centres cannot get to their transport. Many of them have physical and sensory impairments and learning disabilities and are in danger from cars that are being driven too fast around the Horseshoe as well as the inconsiderate parking. Please help us in keeping these vulnerable members of our community safe from harm. Thank you.

Bikes and Scooters

Please ensure that your child dismounts his/her bike or scooter at the top of the drive and walks it down to the bike rack. Please also be aware of the safety of pedestrians whilst riding to school.



Umbrellas!



If your child brings an umbrella to school, please could you ensure that you take it home with you as we have had several incidences of children trying to put them up indoors and then take them out to play!

Possible Expenditure for this Term

Event	Cost
Individual photos – 7 February	£8.50 approx.
Sport Relief – 23 March	£1
PTA Sport Relief disco – 23 March	£5

Healthy eating

We encourage all children to have a school lunch. The lunches are carefully planned to be healthy and nutritious. We also encourage the children to be adventurous and try new foods; they are a little reluctant to start with but as they become more used to new tastes they do enjoy them. If your child does have a packed lunch it is important that it is as healthy as possible. The British Nutrition Foundation has guidance on how to provide a healthy lunchbox here:

We teach the children about healthy eating during citizenship. They can explain what makes a healthy diet and how to keep fit. The most recent research has shown that children are consuming more than the recommended amount of sugar. There is a new app which can tell you the amount of sugar, salt and fat is contained in your food and drink.

The Change4Life website has lots of helpful information:



[https://www.nhs.uk/change4life-](https://www.nhs.uk/change4life-beta/be-food-smart#zlp5EMoWhvVJIgoS.97)

[beta/be-food-smart#zlp5EMoWhvVJIgoS.97](https://www.nhs.uk/change4life-beta/be-food-smart#zlp5EMoWhvVJIgoS.97)

Other links include:

'Eat well' plate display

<http://www.nhs.uk/Livewell/Goodfood/Pages/eatwell-plate.aspx>



Learning platform <https://fronter.com/surreymle>

- Details of the children's learning for this term are in the curriculum letters in the 'Useful Information' room.
- The learning platform is an important part of your child's learning. They can use it to visit websites which support their learning in English and Mathematics. They can also talk to you about their learning in the classroom and share some of their work with you. The children are very proud that their learning can be shared with you; please try to make time to share it with them.
- The photo gallery has photos of children chosen for Head Teacher's Awards and Golden Tea as well as school events.
- It is also a vital source of information as the virtual office has copies of letters in case you have misplaced them and the news section gives up to date information on school events, including advice about bad weather.
- The 'Useful Information' Room has copies of policies and online safety advice too.
- If you would like help to keep your child safe online [Parentinfo](#) has lots of useful information.
- [Child safety online guide for parents and carers](#)
- [Online safety evening list of useful websites](#)



- We hope you enjoy using this valuable resource. I welcome feedback on ways to improve it!

THANK YOU FOR TAKING THE TIME TO READ THIS NEWSLETTER