



Newsletter

November 2018



Rear of Banwell Primary School, West Street, Banwell. BS29 6DB.

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www.banwellbuddies.com

Dates for your diary

Print off the page and keep it somewhere safe!

All our term dates are on our website on our 'Further reading' page.

Christmas Market at Buddies: Thursday 29th November

Christmas dinner at Buddies: Friday 14th December

Santa's visit: TBC!

Festive Week: Monday 17th - Thursday 20th December

Last day of term 2: Thursday 20th December

Inset days for 2018-19:

Friday 21st December 2018

Monday 18th March 2019

Monday 22nd July 2019

A big thank you!

To all parents for parent consultations. It really helps the staff to get to know the children better by talking and encouraging great relationships between parents, children and their key worker.

News from the playroom

An update on some of the ways we've been learning recently.

Despite the cold, children have been making pretend ice-creams. They sold them in a pretend shop, giving the parents pretend money to buy them with. They made lots of pretend money!

We had a spooky time at Halloween! The children had a great time making spiders, play dough pumpkins and did some printing with pumpkins too.

Nutrition/health board: Our new board is on the door to the playroom. There's a new recipe up each week. Please ask a member of staff if you'd like a copy!

The children are having a great time baking! We've recently made scones, pizza, bread and shortbread. Keep those recipes coming in.

Santa Needs a Wee! Our new book looks at what happens when Santa is too polite to refuse all the drinks that the children leave out for him. Look out for the book and activities coming home to you soon.

Quality Improvement

We're always working hard and trying to improve what we do to make our preschool setting the best it can be for your little ones.

Staff have been offered more permanent roles following a trial period. Kirsty is now our Lead Early Years Educator, with Jo and Helen taking the Deputy Early Years Educator role between them. We're all thrilled with how well the team are working together.

Staff training: Kirsty, our Lead Early Years Educator, is studying at University for her Early Years Foundation Degree. Nicola is also studying for her level 3 Childcare qualification. They're working super hard at the moment!

We currently have a vacancy for an Early Years Educator to join our team. If you know anyone who might be interested, please direct them to the 'vacancies' page on our website.

Staff have worked on the organisation of the playroom, leaving more space for free play. They've also looked more closely at carpet-time, introducing different activities to make it more engaging. Children are being encouraged to stay hydrated throughout the day.

The term there has been a focus on well-being, with the staff completing questionnaires and time in staff meetings set aside to talk about the well-being of the children. Regular cooking activities have been received enthusiastically by the children! Yoga sessions have been introduced into the timetable to give the children some quiet, mindful time.

Don't forget!

It's really cold, brrrrr! Please remember to bring hats and gloves and a warm coat for your children so they can still play outside.

Emergency Closure: We recently reviewed our procedure and emailed it out to all parents. Please familiarise yourself with the document and make sure that we have all your up to date contact details.

We want to keep everyone safe, family members too. So please always use the bottom gate at the entrance to the school. Please note that the school drive is no longer accessible to cars due to new security measures in place at school. This also applies to lunchtime collections and drop offs as we've noticed some parents still using the drive at these times.

Our lending library! Even if you already have books at home, encouraging the children to choose a new one and reading it with them will help to foster a love of reading. Each child has a library card, colour coded according to their key worker. Just fill the card in when you take a new book.

We need to pair the children up with the adult who is collecting them. So please collect your child from the carpet so the staff can clearly see who is going home with who.

Drinks: Please make sure that water bottles only contain water, unless previously organised with staff. Water bottles should not have juice or squash in them.

Fundraising

We've previously emailed you a letter about our committee and why we need to fundraise. These are just some of the ways you can support our preschool, from shopping online, to baking and collecting spare items at home!

Easyfundraising link: <https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/banwellbuddies/>

We would like to fundraise specifically for our storytelling project in the next few months. The money raised will pay for storytelling resources and hopefully a visit from our storytelling expert, Mike Akers.

Our Christmas Market is tomorrow! The focus is the children this year, so there's lots for them to do. Please come along with your children, and encourage your friends and neighbours to come too.

The Winter Bonanza Raffle is also taking place at the Christmas Market. It's a great way to grab yourself some amazing prizes at a bargain price. We've been incredibly lucky with our donations this year so make sure you come along to the market to get your tickets.

Due to Gambling Commission laws we are only able to sell tickets at the actual event, so we'll see you there!

The Tubes for Storytelling fundraiser will begin in the New Year.

We always welcome new fundraising ideas. Do get in touch if you have any ideas, big or small!

Tickets for our Buddies Winter Bonanza Raffle on sale on the night!

Banwell Buddies Christmas Markets

Thursday 29th November 5-7pm
at Banwell Buddies Pre school

- * Lots of Christmas activities for children!
- * Bargain stocking fillers
- * Christmas gifts for sale from local craft makers
- * Festive refreshments

Raffle prizes include tickets and vouchers for local attractions including Court Farm, The Grand Pier, Clip 'n' Climb, & Kaspas; a range of gifts; beauty bags and vouchers; baby massage voucher; hairdressing voucher; garden centre & DIY vouchers, and artwork. You have to be there to get a ticket, so don't miss out!

