

Bantaskin Blether



31st January
2025

Dates for your diary!

- *Thursday 13th Feb - Parent Council "Valentines Disco"
- *Friday 14th and Monday 17th Feb – school holiday
- *Tuesday 18th Feb– staff development day (children off)
- *Thursday 6th March (@2:30) – Open Doors Event (in classrooms)
- *Tues 11th /Thurs 13th March – Parents Consultations
- *Thursday 3rd April – Start of Easter holidays (last day of term for children)
- * Friday 4th April– staff development day (children off)
- *First day back – Tuesday 22nd April
- *Monday 5th May – Bank holiday Monday , school holiday
- *Friday 27th June – last day of term

Storm Éowyn

We hope that everyone has recovered after the storm last week – and that any damages have been minimum. You may have noticed that a section of the roof (the top layers) above Primary 1 had come down. This has now been replaced by Falkirk Council. A small section of the metal gable-end roof above the gym hall has been bent in the wind. It is safe and will be repaired shortly.

Ready
Respectful
Kind
Safe

Parking outside school.

Please remember that outside the school there are double yellow lines preventing parking. This is to keep the area safe for all people accessing the school building – in particular your children! Where possible can we encourage everyone to use different 'Active Travel' methods or if a vehicle is needed then park further away from the school campus and walk that little bit extra. This is about the safety of your children and ensuring that crossing the road around the school is visible and safe to do so!

Children's Mental Health week

Next week is national 'Children's Mental Health Week' which the charity "Place2Be" is leading with the focus – "Know Yourself – Grow Yourself".

The following clip was shared with the children at assembly to start the conversation around understanding what makes you feel happy and settled and what you can then do to help yourself when you notice that you are not feeling in a good place. (You will also find these on the website)

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oz1S66_pYTw

@bantaskinps

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School attendance

As we all know good attendance at school is essential for many different aspects of each child's development. As well as being directly linked to achievements and attainment both now and throughout their school lives, good attendance also develops –

- Social skills
- Maintaining and developing friendships
- Forming good habits for later life
- Structures for career pathways

Linked to this is **time keeping** – being at school (and later on your place of work) on time. Whilst we all recognise that there can be mornings when getting everyone organised and out of the door on time can be a challenge, it is important that all children start the day on time - together with the rest of the class. Those first 15 minutes of the school day is the time when staff support children to think through the structures of the rest of the day, have emotional check-ins with children and be part of the social structures that exist in school life. Not being part of that at 9 o'clock can be very unsettling for children and can result in them missing out on large sections of their learning.

Safeguarding and Child Protection

Each day we start expecting all children to be with us in school. If for any reason your child is not able to attend we need you to let us know – if not before 9am then very shortly after the school day has started. Either phone the school (leaving a message if there is no-one available at that point to take the call) or email the school to inform us that your child is unable to join us that day. Please state why they are absent and when you expect them to return. The school records attendance (and late coming) on a national database that the Scottish Government reviews. Legally it is the duty of every parent to ensure that their child attends the school that they have chosen for their child to be part of.

To know that each child is safe, for any child whom we haven't been informed of their absence we will contact families - via Groupcall – to enquire about their absence. It is essential that you let us know of your child's absence on or before that day. If we are not informed of absence from the primary contact we will then contact all adults who are listed as contacts to enquire after the safety of each child. If we are still unable to make contact we will have to follow safe guarding procedures through Social Work and Police Scotland.

ATTENDANCE

WHY IS IT IMPORTANT?

ABSENCE FROM SCHOOL

Children are required by law to attend school 190 days per year. The Government states that every pupil's attendance should be at least 95%.

How do YOU measure up?

Attendance	Days Absent	Weeks Absent	Lessons Missed
95%	9 Days	2 Weeks	50 Lessons
90%	19 Days	4 Weeks	100 Lessons
85%	29 Days	6 Weeks	150 Lessons
80%	38 Days	8 Weeks	200 Lessons
75%	48 Days	10 Weeks	250 Lessons
70%	57 Days	11.5 Weeks	290 Lessons
65%	67 Days	13.5 Weeks	340 Lessons

89% & Below
Drastic effect on
academic achievement

95%-90%
Cause for
concern

100%-96%
Excellent



8:55

Your child arrives in time
to meet friends and be
ready for the school day.

9:00

The school day starts.

9:02

Your child is now late for the
start of the school day.

9:05

5 minutes late means about 3
lost school days a year.

9:10

10 minutes late means about 5
lost school days a year.

9:15

15 minutes late means about
8 lost school days a year.