

Bantaskin Blether

1st September
2023



Meet the teacher

A huge thank you to everyone who was able to join us in school on Tuesday evening. We hope you enjoyed the chance for your children to take you around their school. For anyone who wasn't able to come in the presentation that was shared will be emailed out to everyone next week. There will be many more opportunities to come in to school to share learning with your children over the course of the year – a list of these events will be with you next week. Next year we will consider a different structure to the event to allow everyone the opportunity to participate in and listen easier to the key messages being shared that apply to the whole school.

School lunches

All lunches now need to be ordered **a week in advance online for all children** – whether you are entitled to receive a free school meal or you pay for it! You also indicate on the system if your child is bringing a packed lunch with them. The structure will be as follows –

- All lunches will need to be ordered by midnight each Monday evening for the following week.
- If lunches are not ordered by midnight on the Monday then you will need to provide a packed lunch from home each day during the following week.

These orders now go direct to the school kitchen who need a week in advance to place orders for the food.

Ready
Kind
Safe

Homework

Following feedback from families last session we will be introducing homework tasks this year for children to work on independently. Each child will be issued with 2 grids of suggested activities on a termly basis. We suggest that each child chooses 1 task from each sheet each week and then share their learning with the class/teacher on 'Well Done Wednesdays'. The tasks will be shared on the children's TEAMS account – information about this should have come to you by now. (see the 'homework' letter for further details). If you find supporting this digitally is difficult then please speak to us and we will find another way to help you with it. Thank you

Communication

From time to time there will be information that you want to share with the school or something that you would like to ask. The best way for you to do this is either by contacting the school office (01324 508500) and leaving a message for the appropriate person or by emailing the school on bantaskinprimaryschool@falkirk.gov.uk and your message will be passed on to the appropriate person to respond or deal with any matter that needs support. Thank you.

@bantaskinps

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Place2Be

Place2Be is a children's mental health charity that support children and families in person and online. Their website offers extensive support for families in supporting many aspects that concern adults in managing the modern world. Type in the link below to see what supports they have for the whole family.

<https://parentingsmart.place2be.org.uk/>

Dates for your diary!

- * Parent Council AGM 7th September @3:15 in school
- * Monday September 11th – September holiday
- * 27th-29th September – P7 to residential camp at Dalguise
- * Friday 6th October – last day of term (returning on Monday 23rd October)
- * Friday 24th November – Staff Development Day (holiday for pupils)
- * Friday 22nd December – last day of term (1:30 finish – returning to school on Monday 8th January)

Entering school in the morning – P1-3

At the start of the day it can be very congested in the front playground as people drop children off and others arrive at the building. To help the safety of all children and prevent them from feeling anxious within the crowd, can we ask that all adults stay outwith the newly marked green lines and that the children gather within them. Staff will then support the children in to the building as soon as the school day starts. (P3N will gather on the ramp outside the school office) If you need to share anything with a member of staff can you please come to the school office. Thank you.

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Social Media

All our classes have their own 'X' (Twitter) account so you can see the learning, teaching and experiences happening throughout the week. Please link in with your child's class to see examples of the experiences that are taking place.. All class accounts can be found on our school website under 'class news'.

Strike Action

You may be aware from national media that there are some members of UNISON and GMB (staff across various sectors of council employment – non-teaching staff) involved in a dispute with Local Authorities around pay that could lead to strike action on 13th/14th September. At present we are unsure as to whether this will affect schools in any way – if it will be the case this will be communicated directly with you from Falkirk Council next week.

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