



Banks Lane Junior School

Communication, Collaboration, Curiosity, Resilience, Reflection



The Weekly Roar!

Friday 27th November 2020

306th Edition

PLEASE REMEMBER - DROP OFF AND GO, PICK UP AND LEAVE

A MESSAGE FROM MR MILNER

As you will no doubt be aware, we have had a challenging week at Banks Lane. We are lucky to be a large full school - but that unfortunately means that every single day there are over 400 individual people walking into our school, potentially carrying COVID - more often than not, without symptoms! I am really proud that as a community we have been able to keep everyone safe since March and we only had our first confirmed case last week. Thank you again for all your support.

We currently have two classes isolating due to confirmed positive COVID cases. Unfortunately, more cases in those classes have been confirmed during this isolation. I would like to wish everyone with symptoms a speedy recovery as I am aware that some people are very unwell.

You may also know that we've had to send further teachers home because the NHS track and trace 'app' has falsely identified them as close contacts to a positive case - I can confirm, staff contacted through the app have had no direct contact whatsoever. They have been sent into isolation due to the proximity of their phones and blue tooth connectivity through classroom/stockroom walls and would face a potential fine of £1000 if they came to work. This is hugely frustrating - but we must follow the guidelines. For their period of self-isolation we have two supply teachers to cover the classes - Mr Edgell and Miss Hussain. Although this is not ideal, I had to make the difficult decision between bringing in teachers or sending home a further 60 children (none of whom have been in contact with COVID positive cases within school).

Following on from the class closures, as a precautionary measure the Local Authority authorised all members of staff to take a COVID test. I can confirm that all staff actively supported this request and all staff who were not already in isolation tested negative for COVID-19. I do hope this offers some reassurance to you all - as it has for me.

I have been in daily contact with staff who are teaching from home and I am so impressed by the levels of remote learning undertaken by all of the children currently isolating. I also had the pleasure of joining their daily Google Meet session this afternoon. The children are a credit to both you and our school - keep up the good work!

I wish I could say I know what the next few weeks will bring, but please be assured we will continue to follow all of the measures we have put in place to ensure BLJS is as safe and sanitised as possible. Pupil and staff safety will always come first. Unfortunately, I think it is inevitable that we will have more positive cases and therefore need to close further bubbles in the future. Our risk assessment means that we are well placed to control any outbreaks as much as possible, therefore limiting the impact bubble closures have on the community. If we do need to close a class or bubble, you will be informed by text and email.

If your child tests positive please inform us as quickly as possible using the admin@bankslane-jun.stockport.sch.uk email address. This will be checked daily and on a Sunday to support efficient bubble closures.

Finally, I would like to thank you, our parents and carers for the incredible levels of support you have shown throughout this whole pandemic so far. I'm sure we will continue to grow stronger as a whole school community. For now, take care.

Mr Milner

CHRISTMAS FOODBANK APPEAL


This year, more so than ever, there are many local families in need of extra support. We have been in touch with Stockport foodbank and have pledged our support of their Reverse Advent appeal. For us to be able to do this we are asking for your help;

For the vast majority, Advent is a time of opening windows on a calendar and watching the children's faces as they devour the piece of chocolate! However, rather than Advent being a season of 'taking', can we turn it around to be a season of 'giving'?

Rather than 'taking a piece of chocolate' could we put something back into the lives of those less fortunate than ourselves?

Reverse Advent encourages us to do exactly that.

If possible, when doing your shopping could you perhaps add one or more of the items listed and send them into school - either with your child, or to the drop off point in the school foyer before Wednesday 16th December. We will then donate all items together - this really could make a huge difference to someone's Christmas.



REVERSE ADVENT

As we approach Christmas, could we ask you look at Advent differently?

During this time children (and adults!!) enjoy taking a treat from their calendar – but perhaps this year can we ask you, your family or work colleagues to put something back into our community to help those in need?

Could you add a daily food item into a collection bag and donate it to Stockport Foodbank?

We'd welcome donations of:

Long life milk and orange juice, tinned meats, tinned vegetables, tinned potatoes and tinned puddings, rice pudding, biscuits, snacks and toiletries incl soap, shampoo, toothpaste and toothbrushes.
Please, no Christmas puddings.

Your donations can be dropped off at:

Hazel Grove Foodbank, Baptist Church SK7 4EX

Mondays	12.30-2.30pm	Thursdays	10am-12noon
Wednesdays	10.30am-2pm	Fridays	11.30am-2pm

St Martin's Norris Bank, SK4 2JE
Sat 19 Dec 9am-12noon

For more information please
email: foodbank@stockportfoodbank.org.uk Tel: 07483 115349

stockport.foodbank.org.uk

If you and your family are in need of support this Christmas, or you know of a family in our school community who does, please can you get in touch with us confidentially via admin@bankslane-jun.stockport.sch.uk or 01614802330 and we will do our very best to help.

REMOTE LEARNING

Over the past week, we have had our first classes using our remote learning platform Google Classrooms. This is brand new to us as a staff and we have learnt a lot during this time. Here are some points which may help remote learning run as smoothly as possible;

- Please can all children log in to Google Classroom this week to check they know how to do this. The login information is in the packs which were sent home a few weeks ago. If you have any problems, please let their class teacher know through the year group email.
- If you are unable to access Google Classroom as you do not have internet access or a computer or tablet, please let your child's class teacher know.
- We have found Google Classroom works best when opened through an internet browser rather than the Google app.

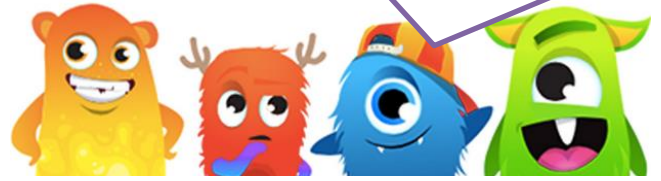
The children who have been working from home have shown a lot of resilience and it has been great to see the effort and enthusiasm they have put into their work.

WEEKLY AWARD WINNERS

Headteacher Award

The Headteacher's Gold Award was given to Isaac from 6S for always working hard and being a fantastic role model to others. Well done Isaac!

Well done blue team, you are our weekly dojo award winners!



LEARNING POWERS WEEKLY MESSAGE

Hey guys, Captain Collaboration here. Even though we're all separate at the moment, it's great to see you all working together to follow the rules. Keep it up everyone!



FANTASTIC ATTENDANCE AWARD



This week's winners

1 st	5B
2 nd	3B
3 rd	6B

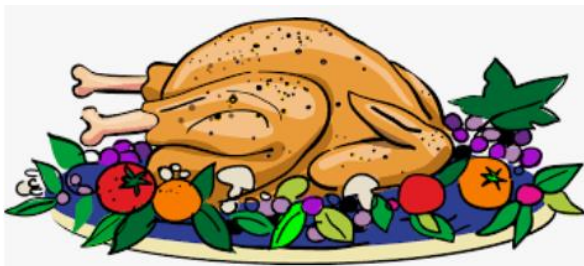
IT'S YOUR BIRTHDAY

Happy Birthday this coming week to,



Jack, 3S
Maria, 5S
Emmy, 3S
Holly, 6B
Benjamin, 4S
Holly, 6S
Ollie, 6S
Tilly, 3B
Evie, 4B

CHRISTMAS LUNCH



We will be offering all children the option of a Christmas lunch again this year, this will take place on Wednesday 16th December. More details will be emailed out to all parents on Monday.

READING CHALLENGE

Please find attached to today's Roar, a letter from Stockport Libraries inviting children to take part in the Winter Mini Challenge online.

Happy reading everyone!



This newsletter is emailed weekly to parents/carers. Please let us know if you would like us to email it to you.

It is also available on our website at www.bankslane-jun.stockport.sch.uk

If you have any queries or concerns, please email admin@bankslane-jun.stockport.sch.uk or phone the school office on 0161 480 2330



USEFUL WEBSITES FOR PARENTS

NSPCC NetAware

https://www.net-aware.org.uk/?utm_source=google&utm_medium=cpc&utm_campaign=Grant_shareaware2014&utm_term=nspcc_net_aware&gclid=EAIaIQobChMI6rq9lqCa1QIV77XtCh0n0w-aEAYASAAEqIawPD_BwE&gclsrc=aw.ds

Kidsmart

<http://www.kidsmart.org.uk/>

CEOPS

CEOP help young people who are concerned about on-line images and communications.

https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/11_13/help/CEOP/

Kidscape

'Preventing Bullying, protecting children'

<https://www.kidscape.org.uk/what-we-do/>

Netmums

The network offers information to parents about parenting on a national level. Amongst the topics are child welfare, maternity, playgroups, child health and child safety.

<http://www.netmums.com/>

Family Lives

Family Lives is a charity with over three decades of experience helping parents to deal with the changes that are a constant part of family life.

<http://www.familylives.org.uk/>

UK Safer Internet Centre

E-safety tips, advice and resources to help children and young people stay safe on the internet.

<http://www.saferinternet.org.uk/>

Guidance for Parents re Instagram

http://www.connectsafely.org/wp-content/uploads/instagram_guide.pdf