

BANDON HILL BULLETIN



Headteacher Update



Issue 79

Friday 17th April 2026



Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back to the start of the Summer Term! I hope you all had a restful and enjoyable break.

We have had an absolutely fantastic first week back here at Bandon Hill Primary School. The children have returned with brilliant energy, huge smiles, and a wonderful readiness to learn. They have settled straight back into their routines, and it has been a joy to walk the corridors and see them so engaged in their classrooms.

SUMMER

It has already been an action-packed start to the term! Earlier this week, our Key Stage 2 children were treated to some incredible Kung Fu demonstrations. The children were completely captivated, and it was a brilliant way to kick off our first week back with focus, discipline, and a lot of fun.



Looking ahead, we have an incredibly busy and exciting term planned for the children across the school. Just a few of the fantastic activities and events coming up include:

Year 3 Roman Workshop: An immersive, all-day event where the children get to enjoy a full dress-up day!

Mini Medics: Essential life-saving and first aid workshops for our pupils.

Year 4 High Ashurst Residential: A wonderful outdoor adventure trip.

Art Exhibitions: Showcasing the amazing creative talents of our children.

Drama Workshops: Bringing the magic of the stage to school with our 'Peter Pan, Adventures in Neverland' sessions.

Bikeability & Swimming: Vital life skills and physical education in action.

Year 6 PGL Residential: A fantastic, memory-making trip for our oldest children before they transition to secondary school... and the list goes on!

SUMMER



Please look out for separate letters and calendar updates with specific dates and details for your child's year group.

I would also like to take this opportunity to let you know that there will be upcoming vacancies in our PSA. The PSA does phenomenal work raising funds and creating special memories for our school community. We are planning a meeting later this term to discuss these opportunities and allocate new roles. Please keep your eyes peeled for more information regarding this—we would absolutely love to welcome some new faces to the team!

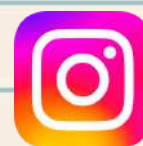
SUMMER

Finally, I would like to extend a huge thank you to all of you for your continued support. We deeply value our partnership with our school community. Please keep giving us feedback on how we can continue to support our children and families in any way that we possibly can.

I hope you all have a wonderful weekend as the beautiful summer weather finally starts to arrive!
Warmest regards,



Mr. Hopkins



Don't forget to check out our Instagram account if you have not done so already!
bandonhillprimary



PSA Updates

Bandonhillschoolpsa@gmail.com

Instagram @bandonhillschool_psa



Friday 15th May
Donation Mufti:
Snacks and
Bottles



*Helpers Needed
If you're free
Saturday 13th June
Please let us know*

*Stall Holders Wanted
If you have a product
to sell and would like
a stall please get in
touch via email*

Read for Good

Readathon!

Raising money for a good cause through reading.

Thank you to everyone who participated in our Read For Good Readathon prior to the Easter break. BandonHill logged an amazing 44,770 reading minutes and we raised £852.50 to help provide books and storytellers for sick children in hospital. Thank you for your support and generosity.

Join the **Reading Hour** this **World Book Night**

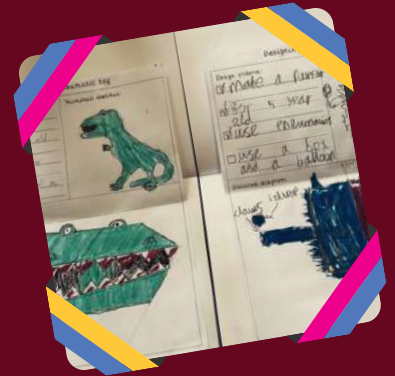
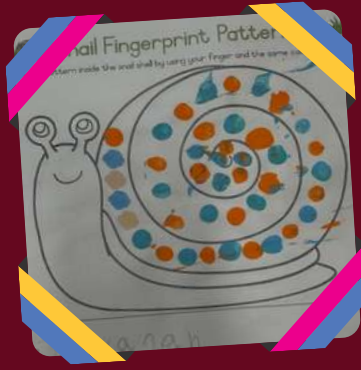
7-8pm. 23 April



World Book Night is a national celebration of reading and books that takes place on 23 April every year. As part of this National Year of Reading and to promote reading for pleasure, we're encouraging everyone to join in the #ReadingHour from 7-8pm on Thursday 23rd.

Enjoy a bedtime story with your family, read on your own, read somewhere different or read something different! This is a great opportunity to enjoy stories and books.

You can read a printed book, an e-book, or listen to an audiobook. It doesn't matter what, how, or where you read, as long as you enjoy it!



Around our school
this week



House Points

Mason House

Shanahan
House

Weir House

Widdowson
House

4488

4418

4436

4643

Upcoming dates

Date	Year Group	Event
29.04.26	Year 3	Class Assembly 2:30pm
15.05.26	All	Mufti Day (Bottles of drink or sweets)
13.06.26	All	PSA Summer Fair
02.07.26	Year 1,2,3,4,5,&6	Sports Day
07.07.26	Reception	Sports Day

Bandon Hill Primary School
Term Dates 2025/26

Friday 29th August 2025 - INSET Day 1
 Monday 1st September 2025 - INSET Day 2
 Tuesday 2nd September - First Day of Term
 Friday 17th October 2025 - Finish at 3.15pm
October half term
 Monday 3rd November 2025 - First day of term
 Friday 19th December 2025 - Finish at 1.00pm
Christmas holidays
 Monday 5th January 2026 - First day of term
 Friday 13th February 2026 - Finish at 3.15pm
February half term

This academic year

Next academic year

Monday 23rd February 2026 - INSET Day 3
 Tuesday 24th February 2026 - First day of term
 Friday 27th March 2026 - Finish at 1.00pm
Easter holidays
 Monday 13th April 2026 - First day of term
 Friday 22nd May 2026 - Finish at 3.15pm
May half term
 Monday 1st June 2026 - First day of term
 Friday 17th July 2026 - Finish at 1.00pm
Summer Holidays

Bandon Hill Primary School
Term Dates 2026/27

Tuesday 1st September 2026 - INSET Day 1
 Wednesday 2nd September 2026 - INSET Day 2
 Thursday 3rd September 2026 - First Day of Term
 Friday 25th September 2026 - First Day of Term
 Friday 23rd October 2026 - Finish at 3.15pm
October half term
 Monday 9th November 2026 - INSET Day 4
 Tuesday 10th November 2026 - First Day of Term
 Friday 18th December 2026 - Finish at 1.00pm
Christmas holidays
 Monday 4th January 2027 - First day of term
 Friday 12th February 2027 - Finish at 3.15pm
February half term
 Monday 22nd February 2027 - First day of term
 Thursday 25th March 2027 - Finish at 1.00pm
Easter holidays
 Monday 12th April 2027 - First day of term
 Thursday 27th May 2027 - Finish at 3.15pm
 Friday 28th May 2027 - INSET Day 5
May half term
 Monday 7th June 2027 - First day of term
 Thursday 22nd July 2027 - Finish at 1.00pm
Summer Holidays

Curriculum

Update - EYFS

Welcome back to the Summer term, we hope you and your families enjoyed the Easter break.

The children have settled back very well and enjoyed planting sunflower seeds this week. We will care for these plants in school until they begin to grow and then we will send them home.

Your child will have brought home a guide to our phonics sounds this week, please use this at home to support your child with their phonics work.

Thank you to everyone who donated £3 to the Nursery fund last term. We are now collecting for Summer 1, thank you in advance.

Have a lovely weekend!



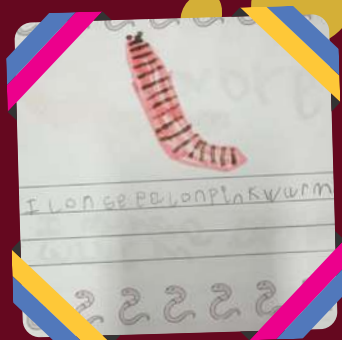
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We were super excited to welcome you all back to the Summer term, we hope you and your families enjoyed the Easter break. All the children have settled back in well and we have enjoyed starting our minibeast topic and learning all about worms, snails and slugs. Children used their skills to create colour pattern snails, produce some fantastic sentences and save the worms from the soil using tweezers. Next week, we will look at spiders, beetles and ants.

Please ensure you are reading and practicing phonics and numbers with your children at home. This can be done in a fun way by playing games like a number or sound hunt!

Thank you to everyone who donated £3 to the Reception fund last term. We are now collecting for Summer 1, thank you in advance.

Have a lovely weekend!



Curriculum Update KS1

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1



PE Days - Summer term

Goodall - Tuesday & Thursday
Attenborough - Tuesday & Friday

We hope you all had a lovely break and it was lovely to see how grown up the children have been after the holidays! They were ready to learn.

In English, we read the story 'My Monster and Me.' We used this story to create our own monster and used adjective to describe our monsters.

In maths, we are learning to count in 10s to 100. Can you practise counting in 10s with your children.

Over this term, we are learning about animals in Science. We are going to learn about different animals and their habitats. We learn the 5 main types of animals groups.

In History, we will look at how past explorers have changed the world. We will look at some famous explorers such as Christopher Columbus and Matthew Henson.

In Year 2 this week, the children got stuck in with our Wellbeing day on the first day back! We looked at small and big problems and how to deal with disagreements and learnt a wonderful song to help us feel better! They also enjoyed making up their own monster for the Monster Mayhem competition!

In our PE lessons this week, the children enjoyed practising their athletic skills on Monday and how they use their creativity to create different shapes and move in different ways!

Can you name the 5 continents? This is what we learnt this week in geography. We even learnt a catchy song to help us remember!

In English, we introduced the children to our next book; 'Toys in Space'. They have started to plan their own character descriptions based a toy they have created, using lots of descriptive language.

In maths, we have begun looking at measurement - length and height. The children learnt the difference between centimetres and metres and were able to compare and order different objects based on their length or height.

PE days - Summer Term
Ali & Owens Class - Mondays and Wednesdays



Attendance and Punctuality this week



EYFS/KS1

Attendance: Donaldson 100 %
Punctuality: Ali, Attenborough,
Jeffers

KS2

Attendance: Kahlo 100%
Punctuality : Frank & Curie

Celebration Assembly



Curriculum Update KS2

3

Welcome back! we hope you all had a lovely Easter break.
A reminder of a couple of upcoming events.

Tuesday 21st April - Roman workshop day. A letter was sent out before Easter with details and payment information. Any problems with making the payment, please speak to the school office.

Wednesday 29th April - Year 3 Class assembly at 2:30pm. This will be a celebration of some of the learning and activities the children have taken part in so far this year and we'd love for you to come and share it with us.

Also, our PE days will continue to be Thursday and Friday for both classes.

We've had a busy first week back with starting a new book as our focus for our English lessons. This half term we are working on "Zoo" by Anthony Browne. The children have begun to plan a diary entry based on the story. We are also beginning our new topic all about the Romans and this will be our history focus over the next few weeks. The children have already shared some of the facts they know and we are looking forward to finding out some more together! Have a wonderful weekend.



On our first day back this half term, the children took part in the 'Ridiculous Writers' competition by creating imaginative 100 word mini-stories. They thoroughly enjoyed inventing quirky characters and humorous plots, while also being challenged to write a complete story with a clear beginning, middle and end within a limited word count.

In Geography, our focus is on maps. The children will be learning about different types of maps, how to read them, and how they are used in the wider world. In English, we have begun reading The Legend of Podkin One-Ear. As part of this, the children will be writing character descriptions, starting with the Bard - a storytelling rabbit who shares Podkin's tale.

In Maths, we will continue developing our understanding of decimals, while in Science we are exploring the different states of matter. Our PE focus this half term is athletics, where the children will be developing skills such as running, jumping, and throwing through a range of engaging activities.

PE days for Summer 1: Frank = Monday and Wednesday; Keller = Tuesday and Thursday



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Wrap around care



Wrap around care at Bandon Hill provides pupils with:



- ✓ Child Led Nurturing Activities
- ✓ Homework and Reading Support with experienced and qualified TA's
- ✓ Opportunities to Socialise and Learn Social Skills
- ✓ A start and/or end of day reflection to motivate and encourage
- ✓ Snacks and Drinks

For pricing and to book, please contact the main office.



Our wrap around care offer ensures that we are supporting not just our own pupils, but their whole family to..

Dare to Dream



Telephone: 020 8647 5377

or

E-mail: office@bandonhillprimary.co.uk

for further information. and terms and conditions



Curriculum Update KS2

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It's been a busy first week back with more new topics and an extra special PE demonstration in Kung Fu!

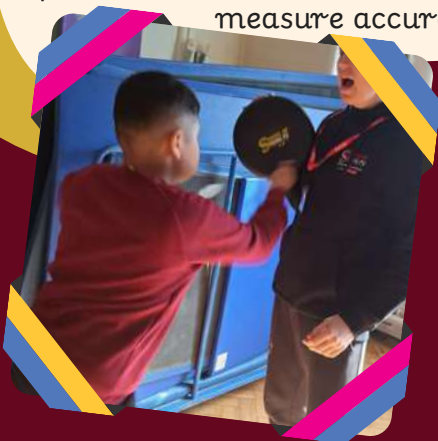
This half term in English we will be looking at texts from 'The Sister Who Ate Her Brother' and other Gruesome Tales which 'lends a modern edge to fairy tale collections for young readers.' The children will begin by writing the ending to a narrative based on the The Woman and the Glass Mountain where they will consider cohesion and dialogue as well as looking at the perfect progressive tense.

For their computing unit this half term the children will be looking at stop motion animations. They will begin by looking at early animation by creating their own in the form of a flip book, zoetrope or thaumatropes before looking at modern methods.

In science the children will be looking at reversible and irreversible changes and will be conducting a variety of experiments.

A reminder that our PE days have now changed to Tuesdays and Wednesdays. Please ensure that children wear hats and sunscreen as the weather gets warmer - thank you.

Finally we will be looking at area and perimeter in maths and ensuring that we can measure accurately.



We have had a lovely first week back!

In English this week, we have begun to plan and draft a balanced argument on whether the 'Soak the Teacher' stall should go ahead at the Summer Fair and have discussed many interesting reasons both for and against.

In maths, we have revised how to calculate fractions of amounts, percentages as well as converting between fractions, decimals and percentages.

In science, we have continued to look at the classification of living things by studying taxonomy (the science and practice of classifying, naming and organising organisms) and researching Carl Linnaeus (a famous taxonomist).

This half term, in history, we will be learning about the census and how the information can help historians to discover what life was like in an area over different time periods.

We have also started our SATs revision sessions which take place in the afternoons. These sessions will focus on reading skills, arithmetic and grammar, punctuation and spelling (GPS).

Gandhi had the first of their weekly visits to Dymond House Care Home where they took part in music activities with the residents.

Well done to Neil, Tejaswi, Laksh and Beth who took part in the semi final of the Top of the Form competition. Unfortunately, we didn't get through to the finals but we are so proud of their efforts!



MCAS Updates



If you are not receiving notifications, try deleting the app and reinstalling it. Log in again and ensure notifications are turned on.

1. What do I need to use the MCAS App?

To use the MCAS App you will need access to a Smart Phone, Tablet, iPad or PC.

2. Where can I get the MCAS App?

You can find this on the App Store on an Apple device or Play Store on an Android device. If accessing on a PC you need to search www.mychildatschool.com.



3. I'm inputting a new password but MCAS won't accept it?

Passwords need to be a minimum of eight characters long and must contain a Capital letter, a number and a special character (i.e. !, ?, £).

4. My child at another school uses MCAS so I already have an account. Do I need to set up a new account?

No, you don't need to set up a new account. Parents with siblings already registered with MCAS just need to add their child on at login.

5. I am not receiving pop-up notifications?

Depending on what device you are using you would need to go Settings, Notifications, and activate for the MCAS App.



6. I am unable to change my personal details?

The only details which you are able to change on MCAS are: Address, Telephone Number and email. Any other details which you require to be changed (i.e. name) will need to be requested via the school office.

7. What do the colours mean on the Academic Calendar?

- Green – normal school day
- Yellow – school holiday
- Red – school event

8. Can I send a message directly to my child's class teacher from the MCAS App?

No. If you send a message from the MCAS App this will be sent automatically to parents@stbedeacademy.org and will be forwarded to your child's class teacher.

9. What can I pay for using the MCAS App?

At the moment we can only receive payments for dinner money via the MCAS App. We need to do further work setting up the system to receive payments for other things, such as snack money and trip money, which need to continue being paid for by cash or cheque in the meantime.

10. Since I have signed up to MCAS I no longer receive emails from school, should I still be receiving emails?

No. When you sign up to MCAS, all communications sent from school are sent through Bromcom, which means you will receive the notification via the MCAS App. Please ensure that you have set your phone to receive notifications (see Question 5).

11. I don't want to use the MCAS App, how will I receive communications from school if I don't sign up?

Although we encourage as many parents as possible to use MCAS, if you would really prefer not to you will continue to receive communications via email. We also have other communication channels such as Twitter, Facebook and our school website.





SPELLINGS

Year 1

eye
were
says
made
treat
like



Year 2

Group 1: key, donkey, monkey, chimney, valley, trolley, journey, turkey, jockey, kidney

Group 2: about, that, with, all, we



Year 3

Group 1: teacher, stretcher, dispatcher, catcher, butcher, richer, scorcher, preacher, cruncher, watcher.

Group 2: **book, cook, foot, wood, good**, wool, shook, brook, stood, took

(Group 3 to learn the 5 spellings highlighted in red)



Year 4

Group 1: scene, who's, affect, hear, whose, heal, effect, here, heel, seen

Group 2: teacher, stretcher, dispatcher, catcher, butcher, richer, scorcher, preacher, cruncher, watcher

Group 3: Kent, sketch, kit, skin, frisky, skill, risky, kettle, kilt, skin



Year 5

Grp 1: advice, advise, device, devise, licence, license, practice, practise, prophecy, prophesy

Grp 2: teacher, stretcher, dispatcher, catcher, butcher, richer, scorcher, preacher, cruncher, watcher

Grp 3: from, get, go, got, had



Year 6

Group 1: accompany, desperate, immediate, recognise, knight, wrestling, signature, lamb, wait, led.

Group 2: teacher, stretcher, dispatcher, catcher, butcher, richer, scorcher, preacher, cruncher, watcher.



Nurture Update



This week, our focus in Nurture 1 was on identifying and understanding the different emotions we carry. We took a deep dive into body language, observing how the same feeling can look very different on different people's faces and through their movements.

To help manage these big feelings, we've started building a Personal Toolbox. So far, we've created:

- Dough Putty: Perfect for when we need a "hard squeeze" to release frustration.
- Orbeez Stress Balls: Great for those moments of uncertainty when we just need to keep our hands busy.

Next Week: We are diving into the science of calm by making Lava Lamps. If you have any empty, clear plastic bottles (roughly 500ml), please send them in with your child.

In Nurture 2, we've been exploring the transitions between home and school, discussing what stays the same and what feels different.

The group did some incredibly brave work this week. We discussed things that make us feel happy, but also things that make us feel uncomfortable. The children practiced "sitting with" those tricky feelings and analysed their internal dialogue:

- What was my brain saying at that moment?
- How did my body react?
- What tools can I use to shift from uncomfortable to comfortable?

Sitting with discomfort is a difficult skill, but the children worked together beautifully to brainstorm solutions. Like Nurture 1, they are also building their own toolkits, which now include the focused, calming art of origami.

Our Little Free Cupboard

"Give what you can,
take what you need."



We are very grateful to Neighbourly and Lidl for the 'Go Give a Fridge' grant last year. This allowed us to purchase a large freezer to store our food donations from Marks and Spencer, Sutton.

If you wish to access this frozen food, please ask in the office or a member of staff on the gate.

Additionally, if you are struggling at this time and need any particular food/household items, please contact Mrs Stirrat.

istirrat@bandonhillprimary.co.uk

Here is a little reminder of our community larder guidelines:

- This larder is for the Bandon Hill community.
- Help yourself to anything you need, but don't hoard!
- Please add to the cupboard if you have food at home you won't eat or can afford a few extra items in your weekly shop.
- Do not add food which has been opened or is past its 'use-by' date.
- Adults only! Do not let your children take food.
- It is your responsibility to check food is fit to eat.
- **Do not eat any unpackaged items if you have allergies.**
- Please keep the cupboard tidy and put any stale items in the bin.
- Feel free to contact Bell Stirrat with any feedback/questions/comments.

Summer Term Lunch Menu

Week 1

MONDAY	Cheesy Pasta 2, 6	Cheese Pizza 2, 6 ✓	Mixed Vegetables A/F	Chocolate Brownie 2,3
TUESDAY	Pasta Bolognaise 2	Plant balls in Tomato sauce 2 ✓	Peas & Garlic bread A/F	Fruit Jelly A/F
WEDNESDAY	Roast Chicken Yorkshire 2, 4,	Vegetarian Parcel 2, 6 ✓	Cabbage & Carrots A/F	Apple Crumb Cake 2, 4
THURSDAY	Chicken Focaccia 2	Cheese & Tomato Pinwheels 2, 6 ✓	Broccoli & Carrots A/F	Vanilla Shortbread 2
FRIDAY	Fish Fingers or Salmon Fish Fingers 2, 4	Vegan Fingers 2 ✓	Chips Peas or Beans A/F	Selection pf Pudding

AVAILABLE DAILY

Wholemeal bread, fresh salads, a variety of seasonal fresh fruit, yogurts & jacket potatoes. Please note that all our dishes can be adapted to suit the majority of dietary requirements

Week 2

MONDAY	Cheese and Tomato Bake 2, 6	Pinwheels Beans & Cheese 2, 6 ✓	Broccoli & Carrots A/F	Strawberry Mousse 6
TUESDAY	Beef Burger 2,	Veggie Burger 2, ✓	Wedges & Sweetcorn A/F	Ginger Cake 2,6
WEDNESDAY	Turkey Roast Yorkshire 2, 3,6,	Quorn Sausage Roast 2, 6 ✓	Cabbage & Carrots A/F	Shortbread 2, 6
THURSDAY	Chicken Curry 2, 6	Creamy Chickpea Coconut Curry 2, 12 ✓	Mix Vegetables Rice	Citrus Drizzle Cake 2, 3
FRIDAY	Fish Fingers or Salmon Fingers 2, 4	Quorn Nuggets 2 ✓	Chips Peas or Beans A/F	Selection of Pudding

AVAILABLE DAILY

Wholemeal bread, fresh salads, a variety of seasonal fresh fruit, yogurts & jacket potatoes. Please note that all our dishes can be adapted to suit the majority of dietary requirements

little bites for every future

ing provided by Greenshaw Learning Trust: All
facts are locally sourced wherever possible. All food is
and fresh on the school site each day.
are dedicated to minimising our carbon footprint by
ely reducing food waste throughout our operations,
sourcing to serving. Through staff training, supplier
boration, and customer engagement, we are
mitted to making a positive environmental impact.*



ALLERGEN KEY

- | | | |
|-----------|-------------|-------------------|
| 1. Celery | 6. Milk | 11. Crustaceans |
| 2. Gluten | 7. Molluscs | 12. Soybeans |
| 3. Eggs | 8. Mustard | 13. Sulphites |
| 4. Fish | 9. Peanuts | 14. Tree nuts |
| 5. Lupin | 10. Sesame | A/F Allergen Free |



Education
Wellbeing
Service

Parent/Carer Webinars

Primary Summer Term Schedule

Scan the QR code to sign up to any of these
free local NHS webinars for Primary parents & carers

We also provide free 1:1 early support
for parents of primary aged children
to support their child's common
worries and anxieties, or support
children's everyday challenging
behaviours.
Speak to your school to find out more.



**Encouraging Healthy Habits
in Children with Autism**

29TH APR 12.00PM-1.30PM

11TH May 7.00PM-8.30PM

**Supporting Primary School
Children with Toileting
Problems**

12TH May 1.30PM-3.00PM

Problems

**Understanding and
Managing Screen Time for
Primary School Children**

10TH Jun 7.00PM-8.00PM

11TH Jun 1.00PM-2.00PM