

BANDON HILL BULLETIN



Deputy Headteacher
update



Issue 94

Friday 2nd October 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

Today was that fateful day each year where the children had their individual photographs taken as well as photos with their siblings. Smart uniforms, brushed hair and angelic smiles were all on display as they walked their way in their lines to the photographers. Of course, they didn't look quite the same after their lunch break but I guess that is why we try to take all the pictures before they let off some energy in the playground!

Elsewhere in the school the children continue to settle into their new year groups and the work in their books for such a short amount of time is very impressive. This term I have really been tested by being challenged at lunchtime by various children to games of chess. I am amazed how well the children can reel off the names of strategies they deploy against me - Ruy Lopez, Queen's Gambit and Sicilian Defense are just some of the ploys they have inflicted on their Deputy Headteacher. How do I know? Because the children shout them out as they do them like an intellectual version of 'take that!' The competitive spirit in the children is quite admirable!

We have been very proud of a group of Bandon Hill Year 6 Students who took on the role as Ball Assistants at the Sutton United v's Forest Green Rovers match last Saturday 26th September. All children had a great time and they even got a photo with the Captain Jake Taylor! Have a great weekend.

Yours faithfully,

Mr Haddock



Parents and carers: Please update your MCAS App from home



Log in to the MCAS app

Use your registered email address and password. If you've forgotten your password, use the "Reset Password" link on the login screen.

Navigate to "My Child"



Once logged in, you should see a "My Child" dashboard.

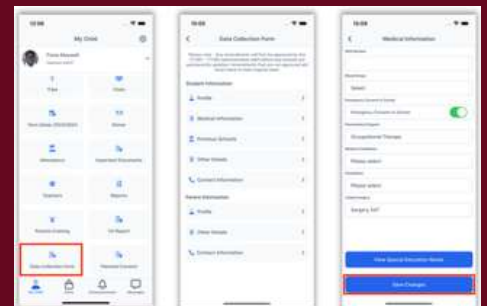


Find "Data Collection Form": Scroll down on the "My Child" dashboard to find the "Data Collection Form" module. Click on it.

Making Amendments:

Within the Data Collection Form, you can edit, delete, and add selected details for both your children and your own personal information. This typically includes:

Addresses
Email Addresses
Mobile Numbers
Medical Information
Other contact details



After making all your changes, make sure to click "Save Changes."



Ensure you have the latest version of the MCAS app installed on your device, or have auto-updates enabled. The app has recently undergone a new UI (User Interface) update.

If you experience any issues logging in, have forgotten your registered email address, or have questions about updating specific information, it's best to contact the school office directly at office@bandonhillprimary.co.uk.

By following these steps, you should be able to update your parent information on the MCAS app for Bandon Hill Primary School.



PSA Updates

Bandonhillschoolpsa@gmail.com

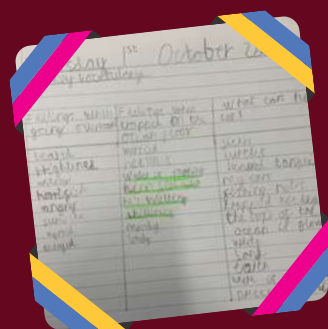
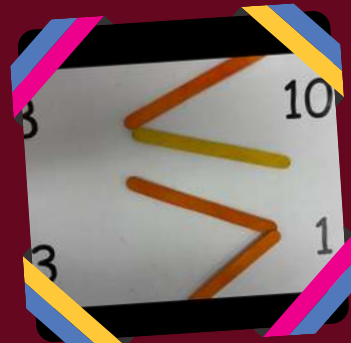
Instagram @bandonhillschool_psa



FRIDAY



We are still looking for anyone that may be interested in supporting the school via the chair, treasury or committee role; helping to support the school and children with fun activities whilst raising money for the school.



Around our school
this week



House Points

Mason House

Shanahan
House

Weir House

Widdowson
House

398

377

447

481

Curriculum

Update - EYFS

N We have had a lovely week in Nursery thinking about who lives in our house with us and drawing self portraits.

The children are now engaging in daily rhyme time sessions as part of our Little Wandle phonics sessions. We will begin to introduce sounds to the children after half term. We are also singing lots of number songs throughout the day, please feel free to do this at home to help your child (5 Little Ducks, 10 in a Bed etc).

Please can you ensure all of your child's belongings are named. We still have lots of water bottles, coats and jumpers without names which can make it difficult to make sure your child takes home the correct items. Thank you.

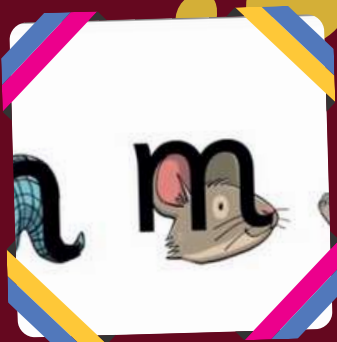
Have a lovely weekend!



R We have had a great week in Reception learning all about ourselves and how we are all different. Thank you for sending in the baby photos, we had a lot of fun guessing who was who! We are super impressed with how well the children are doing with phonics and maths. This week we learnt the sounds i, n, m, d. In maths, the children were encouraged to quantify sets of objects by subitising, rather than counting. When subitising, children can say how many there are in a small group of objects by 'just seeing' and knowing straightaway without needing to count. Next week, we will be talking about our families and who we live with.

To continue this learning at home you could take your child on a number and sound hunt. You could ask them how many ----- can you see? What sound does ----- begin with?

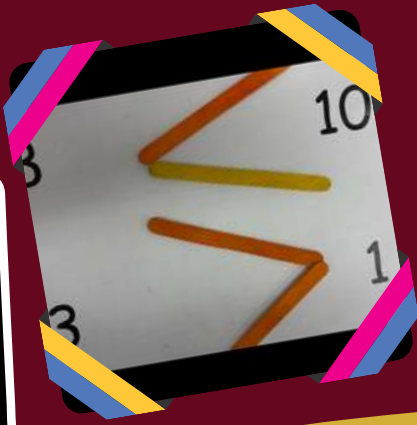
Have a great weekend!



Curriculum Update KS1

2

1



Well done to the children in Year 1 this week, they worked super hard with their phonics assessment. Showing lots of resilience and showing how much they have already learnt. We are so proud of them!

In maths, we have learnt to compare numbers using the terms 'more than,' 'fewer than' and 'equal to'. We have introduced the symbols $<$, $>$ and $=$ when comparing numbers.

In Art, we have been exploring work by Kandinsky and learning the techniques he uses. By the end of the term, we will create our own artwork inspired by Kandinsky!

Trip: St Michael's Church
Thursday 8th October 2026 9-11.30am

We have not received all permission slips back for this trip. Please write a message in your child's contact book if you would like your child to come on the trip. Thank you very much. If you are able to help on this trip, just let the class teachers know - that will be much appreciated!

Well done to all the children in Year 2 for another fantastic week of learning!

In PSHE, we have been exploring what keeps us healthy including being active and ensuring we get enough sleep. Linked to this, our daily Storytime sessions have featured the book *The Worrysaurus*. It carries a wonderful message about not letting ourselves worry about things that haven't happened yet - or may not even happen at all!

In English, we will be revising key word classes (such as nouns, verbs, and adjectives) to consolidate our understanding. Linked to National Poetry Day that was this week, we will also be writing our own acrostic poems themed around the Great Fire of London. In maths, our main focus is on addition strategies before we move on to subtraction.

Trip Reminder: Whitehall in Cheam

- Owen's class will be visiting on Friday 9th October 2026.
- Ali class will be visiting on Friday 16th October 2026.
- Please make sure to return any outstanding permission slips as soon as possible.
- A big thank you to everyone who offered to accompany us - we now have enough parent helpers for this trip and really appreciate your support.

Reading Books: These will be changed on Monday each week. Please feel free to keep and read the book a few times with your child before returning it the next Monday to be changed.



Attendance and Punctuality this week...



KS1

Attendance: Ali 99%

Punctuality: Donaldon, Attenborough & Ali

KS2 Attendance: Kahlo 100%

Punctuality: Kahlo, Hadid, Curie & Gandhi

Fantastic Effort!



Curriculum Update KS2

3

What a busy week we have had in Year 3. In reading, we have been looking at a poem called 'Walking with my iguana'. We had a go at performing the poem to a beat and the children loved clapping and tapping along.

We have finished writing our character descriptions in English this week. We created our own Stone Age style character and then used expanded noun phrases and similes to describe their appearance and personality. The children came up with some fantastic adjectives!

We have also been creating our own clay bowls using a coiling technique in our Art and Design sessions. The children produced some beautiful designs and thoroughly enjoyed getting messy with the clay.

Next week in English we will be looking at some poetry and also starting to learn about the features of letters. In maths we will be continuing our work on addition and subtraction of hundreds, tens and ones.

Coming up:
Tuesday 14th November: Trip to Paddington Experience in London
(payment by Friday 9th October please)



This week, we've continued to enjoy more of 'The Miraculous Journey of Edward Tulane'. The children have begun to plan their own narrative based on Edward's journey to the bottom of the ocean after being thrown overboard a cruise ship! We explored how he would feel and what he would find there. The children came up with some fantastic adjectives to describe what Edward could be feeling.

In maths, we finished off our unit on Place Value and explored rounding to the nearest 10, 100 and 1000. Next week, we move onto angles!

In R.E this week, we were finding out more about Hinduism. We explored why shins are important in Hindu homes and as a class, we thought and discussed what is special to us.

Upcoming Workshop: Saxons - Wednesday 25th November. If they wish to, children can come dressed as a Saxon! (optional)



4



Celebration Assembly Winners



Every Friday, we come together as a community to applaud these individuals. It is a moment of pride for the children, their teachers, and their families, reinforcing the idea that hard work and a positive attitude are the keys to success at Bandon Hill.

"A DREAM certificate isn't just a piece of paper; it's a testament to a child's character and their dedication to being the best version of themselves all week long."



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

5

6

Can you believe we are at the end of September already? Time flies when you're working hard - which is exactly what year five have done this week!

The children have finished their narratives based on The Explorer. They have worked hard to include factual information along with speech and description which have been our focus for this piece of writing.

In maths, we have finished our first unit on place value and will be moving on to addition and subtraction. We will also be using our maths meetings to address any whole class gaps in knowledge based on the place value mini quiz. If the children are able to do some practice at home whether it Time Tables Rockstars or questions whilst getting ready it all helps - thank you.

The children had the opportunity to create their lino patterns this week based on the work of our artist Jamaal Barber and will be using them to create their backgrounds next week. The children have learnt how to use the cutting tools safely along how to achieve lines and curves.

In PE, it's been all about the balance as the children have been creating their own routines made up of symmetrical and asymmetrical balances. Please remember to provide tape for earrings as a matter of safety. Thank you and have a lovely weekend.

What a brilliant week it's been in Year 6!

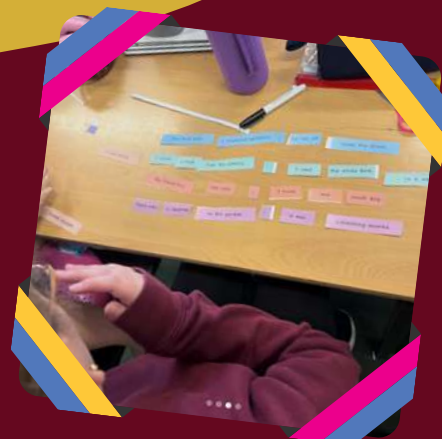
The children completed their very first round of mock SATs, and we couldn't be prouder of them. Every child showed fantastic hard work, focus, and resilience from start to finish. They gave every single paper their best. Well done Year 6!

Alongside our assessments, we've been just as busy with our daily learning. In maths, we've been tackling long multiplication and building confidence with multi-digit calculations.

In English, the children have been polishing up their skills ready for our next writing topic. They've been learning how to use semi-colons to link ideas, as well as exploring synonyms and antonyms to make their descriptive writing more exciting.

Our other subjects have given us plenty to think about too. In Science, we investigated how shadows are formed when light rays are blocked by objects. Meanwhile, in PSHE, we took a close look at nutritional information on food packaging, learning how to read labels so we can make healthy, informed choices about what we eat.

Have a lovely weekend 😊



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.



Upcoming dates

Date	Year Group	Event
05.10.26	All	PSA Penny Wars begins
08.10.26	Year 1	Trip to St. Michael's Church
09.10.26	All	Book Fair
09.10.26	Owens Class (Year 2)	Trip to Whitehall (Cheam)
09.10.26	Year 1	Stories from Africa Workshop
12.10 & 13.10	Luther-King	Parents' Evening
14.10.26	Ali, Hadid, Gandhi	Parents' Evening
14.10 & 15.10	Nursery - Year 5	Parents' Evening
23.10.26	All	PSA Favourite Fridays (Mufti Day)
26.10.26	All	Half term starts
10.11.26	All	Return to school



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 - INSET Day 3
 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



SPELLINGS

Year 1

no, right, into, the, hard,
hear



Year 2

old, cold, hold, gold, told



Year 3

Group 1: treasure, measure, leisure,
pleasure, pressure, exposure, enclosure,
closure, disclosure, composure

Group 2: bank, honk, tank, pink, think, kit,
skin, mask, stretch, basket

Group 3: came, can, children, come, could



Year 4

Group 1: **subdivide, subheading, subject,**
submarine, submerge, submit, substandard,
subtitle, subtropical, subway

Group 2: Those highlighted in red

Group 3: came, can, children, come, could



Year 5

Grp 1: circumstantial, confidential, essential,
impartial, influential, potential, preferential,
residential, substantial, torrential

Grp 2: subdivide, subheading, subject,
submarine, submerge, submit, substandard,
subtitle, subtropical, subway

Grp 3: came, can, children, come, could



Year 6

Group 1: achieve, bargain, controversy,
disastrous, foreign, interfere, nuisance,
programme, secretary, temperature

Group 2: treasure, measure, leisure, pleasure,
pressure, exposure, enclosure, closure,
disclosure, composure

Group 3: It's, just, like, little



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.

Parent/Carer Webinars

Primary Schedule 26/27

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.



Through the school gates - overcoming daily challenges getting into school

Understanding and supporting your child's sleep

Supporting big emotions at home and school - the zones of regulation

Understanding and managing screen time for primary school children

Encouraging healthy habits in children with Autism

Supporting common child anxieties and worries including around exams

Parent/Carer Webinars

Early Years Schedule 26/27

Scan the QR code to sign up to any of these
free local NHS webinars for Early Years 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.



**Toilet Time Basics: Supporting your pre-school child
with potty/toilet training**

Feeding and its difficulties in the early years

**Building Strong Bonds: How to build healthy and secure
attachment/relationships with children**

Understanding and supporting your child's sleep

**Managing big feelings in small people; tantrums, aggression
& how to respond**

**Finding your feet - supporting your child's emotional
wellbeing when starting school**