



# BANWELL PRIMARY SCHOOL

**Belong Believe Achieve**

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3 December 2021

Dear Parents and carers,

I can hardly believe we are now in December and with just two more weeks of the term to go. Where has this year gone?!

I know that parents and carers are eager to know the arrangements for the Nativity and Carol Service next week. We have deliberately held off making definite decisions about whether we would be able to invite parents to these performances due to the unfolding COVID situation over the last couple of weeks. We have now agreed to the arrangements set out below. We are aware that some local schools are not allowing visitors in but we are confident that with the arrangements we have made, and full compliance from everyone we can mitigate risk as far as possible. Please could I therefore respectfully ask that everyone complies with the requirements.

### **Nativity Play (Puffin & Kingfisher classes)**

We will be allowing a maximum of 2 people per family into school to watch the Nativity next week. As you are already aware there are two performances and tickets should already have been reserved. Seating will be arranged in socially distanced pairs and parents / carers must wear a face covering at all times whilst in school. This is in line with updated government guidance which was issued last weekend. The hall will be well ventilated but this may mean it is on the chilly side. Please therefore wrap up warm. We will also be asking everyone to sanitise their hands on arrival.

### **Carol Service (Robin & Falcon classes)**

Due to the social distancing measures we need to have in place **we are only able to invite parents from Robin and Falcon class to the Carol Service this year**. The children in these classes are the children who perform the Christmas story. Children in Hawk and Eagle classes support with the singing only. Children in Puffin and Kingfisher class will not be going to the Carol Service this year due to limited space. Seating in the pews will be arranged in socially distanced pairs and parents / carers must wear a face covering at all times whilst in the church. This is in line with updated government guidance which was issued last weekend. The church will be ventilated as much as possible but this may mean it is on the chilly side. Please therefore wrap up warm. We will also be asking everyone to sanitise their hands on arrival. We will confirm the timings with parents in these classes next week.

### **Christmas Parties (all classes)**

Christmas parties will follow the week after and we will send more information about this nearer the time.

**PLEASE NOTE: THESE ARRANGEMENTS MAY ALTER IF GOVERNMENT GUIDANCE CHANGES**



It has been a long time since I have updated parents and carers about the progress being made with our conversion to academy status and joining the Extend Learning Academies Network (ELAN). Unfortunately, there continue to be a number of complex premises issues to resolve and this all takes time. We are expecting to join ELAN in the early part of next year.

As previously informed, we will be saying a fond farewell to Mrs Sarah Kent and Mr Andrew Venn at the end of this term. Mrs Kent has been at Banwell for 26 years so it will seem very strange without her around. Whilst Mr Venn has only been with us for 2 years he has very quickly become a popular member of the team. We wish them both well as they move to new chapters in their lives. We have held interviews this week for their replacements and are in the process of finalising these appointments. I will update parents further next week once all arrangements have been confirmed.

I am sure you will all join me in thanking Jo Arnold for her tireless efforts in collecting selection boxes for the Chocs for Champs charity over the last couple of weeks. The school and local community have been incredibly generous with their donations and at last count we were at over 600 selection boxes! Thank you to each and every person who has kindly donated.

Finally, can I give a reminder about the importance of being at school on time every day please. The children are led into class by their teacher from the playground and being late can upset the day for the child. If you are late, please buzz the gate and the office will let your child in. They will need to walk to their classroom on their own and the office will phone the classroom to let them know a child is on their way. We cannot allow parents in to accompany late children as this is disruptive for the class and also poses a safeguarding risk. Thank you for your cooperation with this.

Have a lovely weekend!

Claire Pocock

Headteacher



### Christmas Dates for your Diary

Tuesday 7 <sup>th</sup> Dec	KS1 Nativity 2pm
Wednesday 8 <sup>th</sup> Dec	KS1 Nativity 9.30am
Friday 10 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Christmas Jumper Day & KS2 Carol Service 2pm
Monday 13 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Puffin & Kingfisher Christmas Party
Tuesday 14 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Robin & Falcon Christmas Party
Wednesday 15 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Hawk & Eagle Christmas Party
Thursday 16 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Christmas Dinner Day – Wear Christmas Jumpers
Friday 17 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Last Day of Term – Non Uniform Day

