



**Bankside
School**

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Visible Consistency, Visible Kindness

An interesting week involving a trip for some of our KS4 pupils to the Life Beyond School event at Sixways, the introduction of lunchtime clubs for all to engage in and tea and cake during Assembly time today to mark Mental Health Day.

We have seen some good work this week across lots of different subject areas and pupils moving their own learning forward.

We look forward to welcoming you to Parents' evening this coming Tuesday and discussing how your child is engaging in their learning and education at Bankside.

Enjoy your weekend!

Word of the Week

As a school we continue to follow our 'Word Aware' focus. Each week we pick a word and explore it's meaning to extend vocabulary and to develop understanding of more complex words.

Next week, our Word of the week will be "Prejudice"

Just as a reminder we are a **NO NUT** School, we have a number of pupils who have allergies, this includes for some pupils, coconut allergy, please be mindful of pupils using sprays or body lotions as they can be sensitive to this.

Important Dates

Autumn Term

Autumn Term: 3rd September 2025 – 19th December 2025

Half Term: 27th October 2025 – 31st October 2025

Tuesday 14th October: Parents Evening – **3:30 – 6:30**

Please note that our TED day is the **21st of November**

Nominations

Star Learners: For outstanding effort and focus in lessons:

- **Hannah W** - for outstanding effort and focus in music this week. Hannah put her knowledge into practice producing music in BandLab and finishing off her first AQA unit and for showing increasing confidence with her Maths learning.
- **Ola D** - for always attending her maths lessons on time and being fully engaged throughout.
- **Daniel R** - for engagement in his PSHE lesson. Well done!
- **Ollie V** - for his excellent understanding of perspective and recreating a character's voice in English.
- **Harrison S** - during science this week, Harrison has completed some amazing work in class. The subject area has been really complicated, and he has managed to complete some amazing quality work around the subject!
- **Tom N & Daisy H** – Great engagement and debating in History options.

Kindness Champions:

For showing compassion, helping others and lifting the mood of those around you:

- **William E** - for helping his classmates with technical issues whilst remaining calm and treating them with kindness.
- **Archie Ho** - for showing kindness and consideration to others on several occasions throughout this week.
- **Sylvie U** – For showing kindness to younger students and supporting them to feel happy in school.

Progress Heroes:

For making visible strides in learning, behaviour and confidence:

- **Sammy T** - for showing loads of confidence in his drum lessons and letting his determination shine through!
- **Jake Lang** - for completing 6 weeks of Maths lessons and making some excellent progress towards his GCSE.
- **Becca C** - For starting to improve her attendance to maths lessons, in a few short weeks she has massive progress in Maths knowledge and confidence.
- **Lewis J** - not only has he progressed to coming into my classroom, but the work also that he's been doing is really very good. He has slowly increased his exposure to school and the learning during lessons. Great work, Lewis!!!
- **Harrison S** - for developing his stamina for writing extended pieces with greater independence.
- **Ewan L** – A fantastic representative of Bankside School at the Life Beyond School event. Showing huge confidence when approaching unfamiliar people and fully using the opportunity together information that was relevant to him. Several providers commented on how engaging and articulate Ewan was.
- **Lucas S** – Returning to school and engaging well in lessons! Building Resilience!!

Functional Skills Exams & Access Arrangements

Functional Skills exams are scheduled to take place in mid-November. As part of our preparations, we are currently seeking parental consent for access arrangements. These arrangements are designed to support our students who may need additional help during exams, and they apply to all qualifications. Even if your child has not previously used access arrangements, we want to ensure everything is in place should the need arise. Please look out for the consent form and return it promptly. If you have any questions, feel free to contact us.

Lunchtime clubs launched!

This week has seen the introduction of Lunch time clubs. Everyday there are opportunities for pupils to link into an activity of their choice. They do not have to sign up for the term, they can just turn up on the day and choose different clubs each week.

	Lead Staff		
Textiles	CaPe/ChHa	Monday	Rm 7 (CaPe)
Badminton	JaLe/EmCo	Monday	Chapel
Logic Club	JoKn/JaBe	Monday	Rm 10 (JoKn)
Lingo Legends	CoCh/ZoFi	Tuesday	Rm 4
Cartoon club	TrPr/TA	Tuesday	Rm 9 (TrPr)
Kindness Club	DoCh/TA	Wednesday	Rm 2 (DoCh)
Mindfulness Music	ToDo/TA	Wednesday	Rm 8 Music Room
Science	SiSh/TA	Thursday	Rm 5 Science Room
Tech Club	NiBe/TA	Thursday	Rm 9 (TrPr)
Dodgeball	JaLe/EmCo	Friday	Chapel
Art	CaPe/ChHa	Friday	Rm 7 (CaPe)
Quiet space	Clinical Team	Every day	Rm 6 (LaSt)

Parents Evening 14th October – 3:30 – 6:30

Just a reminder that you can now book your book parents' evening slots with your young person's subject teachers. Tutors are resending your child's timetable out so that you know which teachers you would like to book slots with. Each slot will be 10 minutes long so please only book slots at least ten minutes apart.

TIP

Effective Trauma Informed Practice is to support young people in environments across their whole day and week to achieve the best outcomes. This gives us rich opportunities to support a holistic and consistent approach in line with our Trauma Informed Practice Strategy. This is important for our education and residential colleagues, as well as parents and carers.

Many children and young people who have experienced trauma (early life, education and or/autistic trauma) during important stages of development may not have had exposure or been able to access a wide range of activities. Due to being in survival mode, they may not have felt safe enough to develop specific interests or passions and may have difficulty with choice and decision making. This can become a further barrier to developing a sense of their own self-identity.

Access to activities

Access to activities during evenings and weekends should never be restricted for young people as a result of behaviour (as long as they are safe enough to do so - they should then be offered an alternative instead). Supporting young people's engagement during these times will help build trust and relationships and enable them to feel better about themselves - which will improve emotional and behavioural regulation in the longer term.

This list is not exhaustive, however provides some helpful examples:

- **Games** - board games, construction games, card games, problem solving games, drawing games, guessing games
- **Music activities/clubs** - singing, musical instruments, musical appreciation for different genres, focussed listening to different types of music
- **Nature activities/clubs** - forest school activities, gardening project- sensory or vegetable, scouts/cubs/guides/rangers (if able to access externally)
- **Crafts & creative project** - sewing, weave friendship bracelets, beading jewellery, mosaic, photography, collage, paper mâché, modelling clay
- **Arts** - painting, card making, paper making, colour by number, relaxation colouring in books, scrap book/journaling, create mood boards
- **Reading or listening to audio books**
- **Exercise** - yoga, gym, bike riding, nature walk, dancing, jump on a trampoline, running, walking
- **Sports** - recreational and team sports, football, basketball, netball, swimming, aerobics, tennis
- **Group games** - capture the flag, treasure/ scavenger hunt, charades, rounders
- **Problem solving** - sudoku, word search, crosswords, brain teasers, puzzles, memory game
- **Baking & cooking activities** - research recipes, bake for class or home, cook a meal, cake decorating and icing
- **Making and playing with playdough** - make playdough of different colours and add some drops of vanilla or essential oils to it (keep in an airtight container)
- **Swings and outdoor playground** - swinging, climbing, jumping, balancing, park gym (relies on body resistance)
- **Spend time with class pet, therapy dog or animals on site** - groom animals, muck out stalls, move hay, clean cages (with appropriate supervision), research animals if special interest
- **Helpful chores** - Washing a car, vacuuming, sweeping the courtyard, helping tidy up the classroom or care home, sorting and organising supplies, basic cleaning
- **Personal care** - braid and style hair, paint nails, nail art, pamper session.

Life Beyond School Event

Six pupils attended the Life Beyond School Event at the Sixways Stadium last Tuesday and engaged well with numerous stall holders. There were representatives from FE Colleges and Businesses offering information and advice about careers, college courses and apprenticeships.

Our pupils were a credit to the school and asked lots of interesting questions. They all evaluated the trip very positively.



Parent Partnership Request: Road Safety and Carpark Use

Dear Parents and Carers,

We are reaching out to ask for your support in improving road safety around our school and college site. As many of you will be aware, the current speed limit and signage on approach to our entrance do not adequately reflect the needs of a specialist setting serving children and young people.

We are actively seeking a reduction in the speed limit and the installation of additional signage to ensure safer entry and exit for all vehicles, especially during busy drop-off and pick-up times. To strengthen our case with the Local Authority, we need your help.

If you share our concerns, we encourage you to:

- Share your experiences or observations with us directly
- Support our request by endorsing future petitions or consultations

Your voice matters. The more we can demonstrate community concern, the more likely we are to secure meaningful change.

We also kindly remind all families of the appropriate use of the carpark, particularly:

- Disabled bays must only be used by vehicles displaying a valid Blue Badge
- Please avoid blocking access routes or parking in undesignated areas
- Drive slowly and remain vigilant for students and pupils getting into their vehicles

Thank you for your continued partnership in keeping our community safe and inclusive. If you have any questions or would like to support this initiative further, please contact the school office.

World Mental Health Day!

Today we recognise World Mental Health Day!

Today we raise awareness of, and drive positive change for, everyone's mental health. It is also a chance to talk about mental health, how we need to look after it, and how important it is to get help if you are struggling.



Clinical

With world Mental Health Day falling on 10th October, this week students, families and staff have an opportunity to focus on emotional and mental wellbeing. We know that mental health is always relevant but can be overlooked, so on Friday lots of organisations are championing the small things we can do regularly to keep ourselves well.

Sometimes it can be hard to know where to start, thankfully there is lots of accessible support and guidance online. For example, the mental health charity Mind provide tips on how to cope when things are tough and how to support the people we care about when they are struggling. Ideas might include...

Getting out into nature

Spending time with a beloved pet or close friend

Doing regular physical activity

Challenging negative thoughts

Scheduling time in everyday for enjoyable activities

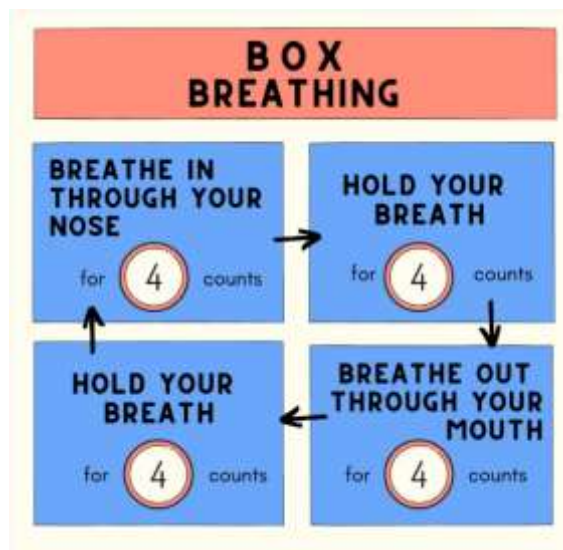
To get conversations started you might say...

'Hey, I'm here if you want to talk'

'I know it can feel weird talking about feelings, but I care about how you are doing'

'I remember when that thing upset you last week/yesterday, how do you feel now?'

Why not try a relaxing breathing exercise that helps calm the mind and body called Box Breathing



Photographer On Site

We have a photographer on site on Tuesday 14th October, he will be doing a combination of photos of the school, grounds and student photos.



BRIDGES OF LIGHT.

Presented by Severn Arts
Part of the Local Voices Creative Choices programme



Worcester City Centre

Free to Attend

**29 and 30
October
6pm-9pm**

Bridges of Light is a new, two-day light festival, with a focus on communities, creativity and collaboration.



Through high quality light artwork, we invite you to share in our community stories. Visit our light installations, take part in our interactive artworks, grab a bite to eat, and enjoy Bridges of Light with family and friends.

Visit our website to discover more about Bridges of Light - meet the artists, explore their work, and find out how to navigate Worcester City Centre during the festival.



Share your videos and photos by tagging
@SevernArts and using the hashtag
#BridgesofLightWorcester

Funders and Supporters

