



Bankside School

Headteacher: Kate Jasper
The Rhydd (on B4211 Road), Hanley
Castle, Worcestershire, WR8 0AD
Telephone: 01905 388 897
Email: info@banksidecollege.co.uk
Website: www.banksideschool.co.uk

Newsletter: 21st November 2025

Visible Consistency, Visible Kindness

Our newsletter this week highlights a Humanities trip embarked upon by our Year 7s, some great Science exploration work and a project update from our Kindness Club. As usual, it is always gratifying to recognise the positive progress and achievements of our young people across the school.

This week we have welcomed two new members of staff to the team, Jackie Cashmore, as our Catering Teacher, and Paul Childs, as our new Outreach Teacher. Both bring a wealth of experience to the team from both the education field and the world of business. We warmly welcome both of them to Bankside School.

We look forward to welcoming many of you to our PFA Workshop on Friday 28th November. Details are included below and there are still spaces if you wish to attend.

The weather is beginning to turn so please remember the Inclement weather procedures.

Best wishes from the Bankside Team!

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

PfA Workshop: Friday 28th November (still time to sign up)

Panto Trip: Tuesday 16th December

Parents Christmas Celebrations: Wednesday 17th December

Christmas Jumper Day: Thursday 18th December

Christmas Party / Last Day: Friday 19th December

Last Day of Term: Friday 19th December

Nominations

Star Learners: For outstanding effort and focus in lessons:

- **LaSt Class** - For their brilliant behaviour on our class trip to Great Malvern Priory.
- **Harrison S** - for showing great application of Maths knowledge to a selection of mathematical problems and questions this week.
- **William E** - for showing great application of Maths knowledge to a selection of mathematical problems and questions this week.

Kindness Champions:

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

- **Oliver H** - You really helped to support another student on Tuesday, trying to talk him down after they were upset.
- **Daniel R** - Last week during the graffiti incidents he walked around helping me collect pencils and kept me smiling.
- **Fynn M** - Fynn showed thoughtfulness and kindness to another student. Thank you, Fynn, for being such a fantastic friend.
- **Oliver H** - For your courage, resilience and diplomacy in providing anti-bullying support
- **Daniel R** - For your courage, resilience and diplomacy in providing anti-bullying support
- **Harley M** - He saw my ID card was missing, told me to follow him to the playground to show me where he found it underneath a tree stump!
- **Ewan L** - for being incredibly supportive and going the extra mile to comfort a student in distress this week.
- **Fynn M** - for being incredibly supportive and going the extra mile to comfort a student in distress this week.
- **Archie Ho** - for showing compassion and offering support to peers

Progress Heroes: Special Mention:

For making visible strides in learning, behaviour and confidence:

- **Kay E** - for attending every day and showing a positive approach for her second consecutive week.

Group 1 visit Malvern Priory

LaSt class visited Great Malvern Priory on Tuesday. To support us with our topic of Christianity in RE. We were looking for how Christian symbols were used within the church, and what it feels and looks like to be inside the Christian place of worship. The students were very respectful and engaged in the whole activity. Great Work LaSt Class!



PFA Workshop



Friday 28th November 09:30 - 12:30 at Bankside School in the Lodge.

Navigating the transition to adulthood can feel overwhelming for young people with SEND—and for their families. This **free interactive workshop**, run by SENDIASS and hosted by Learning Services Worcestershire, is designed to equip parents and carers with the knowledge, tools, and confidence to support their young person in planning for the future.

Who is it for?: This session is most relevant for parents and carers of young people aged 13 and over, though early preparation can be beneficial.

What to Expect:

- Practical guidance on key areas such as education, employment, independent living, health, and finances.
- Interactive activities to help create a personalised action plan.
- The opportunity to ask questions and discuss real-life scenarios.

Before attending, participants will receive a resource pack to help explore their young person's views, wishes, and aspirations, ensuring they remain at the heart of future planning.

Session Details: This is a **three-hour interactive workshop** with breaks.

Takeaway: By the end of the session, participants will have a clear, actionable plan to help their young person take the next steps into adulthood with confidence.

[PFA Booking Form](#)

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 **"Integrity"**

Autism Unpack Podcast

[Options Autism - YouTube](#)

Please see above link to all episodes of the Autism Unpacked. Episodes discuss different topics around autism. Please have a listen.



TIP/ADD

Our young people need support to regulate their emotions. At Bankside, we use the principles of 'Zones of Regulation' – we consider our zones, think about how they are presented and how they make us feel. We also discuss and work really closely to identify key strategies that help them move back up through the zones to green.

Have a think about your young person? What do you see in the red, yellow and green zone? What strategies work at home to help them regulate?



Traffic Light Activity

What zone am I in?

Green Zone

What does your Green Zone look like/What would others notice about you?

What does it feel like?

What helps to stay in the green zone?

Yellow Zone

What does your Yellow Zone look like/What would others notice about you?

What does it feel like?

What helps you to regulate from yellow to green?

Red Zone

What does your Red Zone look like/What would others notice about you?

What does it feel like?

What helps to move from red to yellow and gradually to green?



Traffic Light

What zone am I in?

Red Zone

'Danger zone'
Feeling lots of stress.
Reacting before I can think.



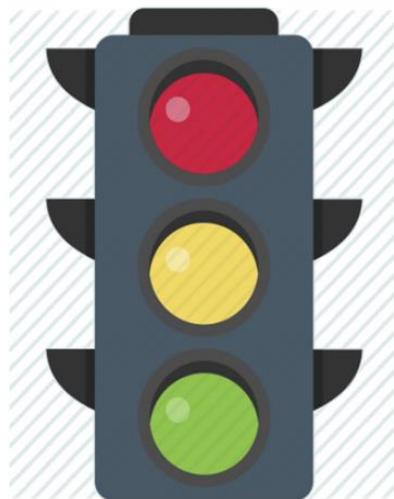
Yellow Zone

Feeling a bit overwhelmed.
Some stressors which may come and go.
Risk of moving to red zone.



Green Zone

Functioning at my very best!
Not feeling stressed.
Able to think before I react.



Kindness Club



Thank you so much for the donations we have received so far for Kindness Club. We are taking the donations to Malvern Food Bank on Tuesday Morning so still happy to receive donations on Monday.

Clinical

The value of Touch Typing for our students



For many young people, especially those with autism, handwriting can feel like a barrier to expressing their ideas. Touch typing offers an empowering alternative. By learning to type fluently, students can:

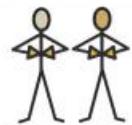
- **Unlock independence** – typing reduces frustration and allows them to communicate more confidently.
- **Focus on ideas, not mechanics** – instead of struggling with letter formation, they can concentrate on creativity and content.
- **Prepare for the future** – typing is an essential skill for education, work, and everyday life in our digital world.
- **Boost self-esteem** – success with typing often leads to greater willingness to write, share, and participate.

At Bankside, we encourage touch typing as a practical tool that helps students overcome handwriting challenges, while also building a skill that will serve them well beyond the classroom. Within clinical interventions, we use a website called Typing Club to support our young people to learn how to touch type, this can be accessed from home too: [Learn Touch Typing Free - TypingClub](#)

Science

In science we've been exploring how acids behave and the part they play in everyday reactions — including investigating how different metals react with them. We've also been learning to use universal indicator to help us understand the pH scale and the difference between acids and alkalis.





We want to



connect with



children and young people



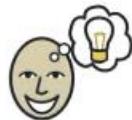
with



Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND)



to gain



their opinions,



views and feedback



on the services



they use!

If you are someone, or know of someone who would love to take part in projects such as redesigning this leaflet or helping design a logo, contribute to a SEND newsletter or be part of a SEND forum to improve services in Worcestershire, please contact us on:



FIND OUT MORE



SENDco-productionteam@worcestershire.gov.uk



www.worcestershire.gov.uk/SENDcoproduction



YOUR VOICE IS IMPORTANT!



your voice

is



important



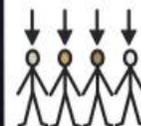
Chanika Benain

We are Co-production Officers for Children and Young People with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) up to 25 years old.



Amy Knight

We would love to have children and young people with additional needs working closely with SEND services, to help inform decisions.



everyone working together on an equal basis to improve services

