



Bankside School

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Visible Consistency, Visible Kindness

Newsletter: 3rd July 2026

A very busy week for us at Bankside with lots of curriculum focused trips.

Carla led an Art trip to the Safari Park as part of the animal theme they are concentrating on whilst Group 5 visited the Black Country Museum in support of their English and Humanities curriculum this summer term. In addition, Group 1 visited the Commandery and Worcester Cathedral in support of their Humanities topic focused on King John and the Magna Carter.

On Thursday, Ren and Elsa represented our school at the County Boccia finals and played really well.

Please enjoy the write ups and photos below.

We have received some lovely feedback regarding the Annual Reports and welcome any questions with regards to these reports.

As we prepare for more hot weather this week, we would like to remind you that we have air conditioning in all our classrooms and water is readily available throughout the day. We look forward to welcoming all pupils into school for the penultimate week.

Have an enjoyable weekend.

Important Dates

Friday 10th July	- Bankside Prom for KS4
Thursday 16th July	- End of Year Awards Presentation
Friday 17th July	- Summer Fayre for pupils and staff
Friday 17th July	- Last Day of Term

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.

Star Learners: For outstanding effort and focus in lessons:

- **Archie Ho** - Archie has taken some fantastic animal photos during the Safari park trip and went above and beyond creating some video blogs of the safari drive. Fantastic work Archie! 😊
- **Zak R, Ola D and Tom N** - For having a real positive can do/will try attitude to trying a full iGCSE as their end of year assessment and focussing really well for the full lesson time.
- **Etta & Archie Ha** - For amazing problem solving skills when attempting to reconstruct a canal with a working lock! Well done!!

Kindness Champions:

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

- **Lily R & Ola D** - A genuine, heartfelt thank you for the kindness you both showed me today whilst playing card games.
- **Erin B** - She made a dish last week and shared some of it, so another pupil had some to take home too, because they arrive to school a bit later :) super proud of her for doing that.

Progress Heroes: For making visible strides in learning, behaviour and confidence:

- **Scarlet L** - You created a fantastic 'self-love' poster in PSHE this week - you showed great reflective skills that enabled you to demonstrate the methods you use to show 'self-love'. Well done!
- **Etta, Roo & Sammy** - You have shown huge amounts of progress in Forest School, understanding how to keep yourselves safe and make the most of your sessions.
- **Archie Cockwill** - You have shown a huge amount of progress in Forest School, understanding how to keep yourself safe, and have proven to be an effective team leader during your sessions.
- **Lewis J (LJ)** - LJ can find it difficult to be around lots of people at lunchtimes, but came into Tech Club on Thursday and stayed for the whole session. It was lovely to see him interacting with his peers and having fun.
- **Jess I** - She had a great afternoon in art doing some great painting and even cleaned up after herself! Well done Jess
- **Rupert L** – For being the only lad in his group to cook on Wednesday and produce an amazing fresh potato salad and handling raw fish and making battered fish fillets.
- **Cyrus C** - For his pure determination in swimming, listening to instructions and getting better every week. Well done Cyrus!

Special Mention:

Ren H & Elsa S

For their amazing efforts in the regional Boccia tournament. After winning the West Worcestershire qualifying tournament a few months back. They competed at regionals on today (Thursday) and they placed 6th! A huge achievement. They were a real credit to the school, representing Bankside with pride and showing great teamwork skills. We are very proud of them!

West Midlands Safari Park

Students had a fantastic time at the West Midlands Safari Park on Wednesday. They thoroughly enjoyed the drive-through safari, taking photographs of the animals to support their art project.

One of the highlights of the day was seeing the rhinos up close to the car, including capturing a close-up photograph of a rhino enjoying a bath. The ostrich also provided plenty of entertainment, strutting confidently down the road and treating it like a catwalk as it caused chaos in front of the car!

The students were amazed by the many beautiful giraffes, especially a cheeky baby giraffe that stretched up to lick the roof of the car. Other memorable moments included seeing an incredibly fluffy baby penguin that everyone wanted to take home, exploring the fascinating bat cave, and visiting the lorikeet house, which was bursting with vibrant colours and life.

Overall, the trip was a wonderful experience, providing students with plenty of inspiration and photographs for their art project while creating lasting memories.

Boccia Tournament

Following their victory in the West Worcestershire Boccia Tournament a few months back, our KS3 girls boccia team attended the regional finals in Bromsgrove School on Thursday July 2nd. Where they competed against the top teams from all of the other Worcestershire districts. After some very closely contested games the girls placed 6th in the tournament. We are very proud of the resilience and determination they showed to attend a new event and with the way they represented Bankside School in the local community with their fantastic teamwork, respect, and communication.

School Games Mark

We are really proud to share that we have been awarded the Silver School Games Mark for 2025 - 2026. The School Games Mark is facilitated by the Youth Sport Trust to reward schools for their commitment to the development of competition across their school and into the community, and we are delighted to have been recognised for our success. We are extremely proud of our pupils for their dedication to all aspects of school sport. Including participating in the following events:

- Bankside School's first football fixture Vs the Bridge School (KS3 Boys)
- Spring School Games Pan-disability Football Tournament (KS3/4 Boys and Girls)
- This Girl Can Festival (KS4 girls)
- Bike Ability Level 1 course
- District and Regional Boccia Tournaments
- Participation in lunch time sports clubs.

As part of our application, we were asked to fulfil criteria in the areas of participation, competition, workforce and clubs, and we are pleased that the hard work of everyone at our school has been rewarded this year.



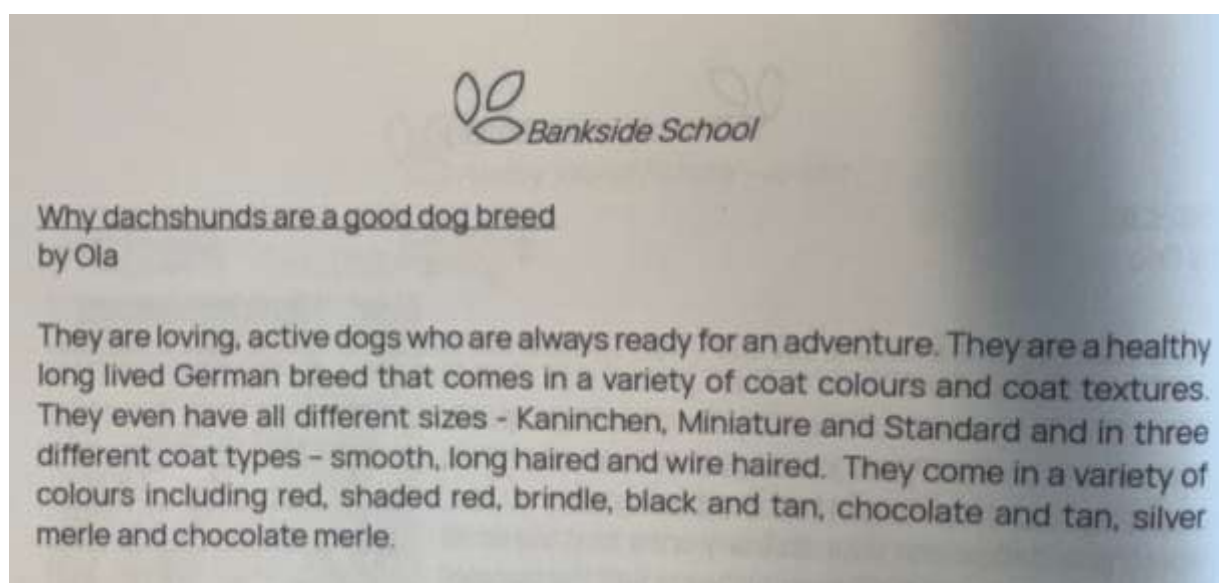
The Commandery Museum and Worcester Cathedral

We visited Worcester Cathedral to see King John's tomb and the legendary claw markings of the headless spectral bear. We then spent time at the Commandery Museum, where we explored Worcester's role in the English Civil War and learned about the building's fascinating history and varied uses over the centuries. Students had the opportunity to dress in period costume and engage with a range of historical artefacts through interactive activities. It was a fantastic day of learning, rounded off with a picnic in the sunshine.



100 Word Competition

Yesterday, Ola received her 100 word competition entry published in an OFG book. Kate was proud to hand over Ola's copy. Her entry about Dachshunds and why they make great pets, saw Ola's entry picked as Bankside's best.



Achievement Award

One of young person has been awarded this certificate and medal for horse riding.

Well done Harrison!



Trip to British Camp

Trip to British Camp, including a visit to Giants Cave. Lots of walking, climbing and admiring the marvellous views.

