

Growing together,
learning for life

NEWSLETTER

OCTOBER 2026



Parent/Carer Evenings to discuss your child's start to the school year:

WEDNESDAY 21st OCTOBER – end of school day until 6.50pm

THURSDAY 22nd OCTOBER – end of school day until 4.50pm

The online booking system is open to parents/carers— please book your time slot, making sure that you leave time between teachers and school sites if you have more than one child.

Please check the school website for all upcoming Diary Dates.

This October, we are proud to celebrate **Black History Month** across our school. This year's theme is 'Honouring our Communities' and children will explore the achievements, stories and contributions of Black Britons through assemblies, books and lesson activities. We hope to inspire curiosity, celebrate diversity and encourage thoughtful conversations about identity, equality and belonging. Please look out for some of our activities on the school blog.

Pupil Attendance and KS2 Outcomes – National Percentages

DfE analysis shows a clear relationship between attendance and KS2 attainment.

- Around **68%** of pupils with **95–100% attendance** met the expected standard in reading, writing, and maths.
- This compares to about **58%** of pupils with **90–95% attendance**.
- And only **47%** of pupils with **85–90% attendance** reached the expected standard.

Thank you to everyone who ensures that their children attend school every day, on time. Our attendance team work tirelessly to follow up on absences and to support children and their families. Poor attendance and punctuality not only affects children's progress and outcomes, but is also considered a safeguarding concern that is monitored by our Designated Safeguarding Leads. Please give your children the best possible start to their learning by making sure that they attend school every day so that they can access all of the learning experiences without feeling that they are having to 'catch up' socially and academically.

After School Club

After School Club allocate a Password for each child alongside checking the contacts list. Please support them in their work by making sure that the adults on your contact list, who you trust to collect your child from After School Club, know the password. If you regularly collect, you may not be asked for the Password but it is still useful for you to know yours, should there be a different member of our staff on the door.

Currently, to collect a child the adult (16+) will need to be on the contacts list **and** know the password. This will continue until the After School Club staff securely know **all** of the children and adults. If you are an existing parent/carers we ask you to please be patient in this process.

FUN RUN 2027

Bannockburn will once again be organising a Community Fun Run with distances 2K, 5K and 10K for children and adults. The event will be held on Sunday 14th March 2027, starting at the Manor Way Site, giving you time to start training with everyone in your family. Set yourself new targets every week and remember to wear bright clothes when running near roads and during dusk! Please join us for a great celebration of our school community and to help us once again to raise money for Cancer Research. We will be opening up the booking system on ParentPay from January 2027. Remember that all entrants also gain house points for their child's team.

CURRICULUM OVERVIEW

We are very proud of our curriculum that reflects a wide range of cultures, social groups and people to broaden children's experiences and actively discourage discrimination of any kind. Please visit the school website and blog to find out more. We are always looking for new resources and experiences should you have any suggestions or ideas.

VALUE OF THE MONTH COOPERATION

THE TRUE
STRENGTH IN
OUR CLASSROOM
LIES IN THE
COLLABORATION
OF LEARNERS
NOT IN THE
KNOWLEDGE
OF ONE EXPERT.

10 Tips for Potty Training Your Child in 3 Days

1. Switch to underwear
2. Get your equipment ready in the bathroom
3. Show your child how to use the potty or toilet
4. Encourage your child to drink lots of liquids
5. Lead the way to the potty when they need to go
6. Check their pants frequently for dryness
7. Acknowledge accidents—don't scold or punish
8. Practice over and over again
9. Offer praise for potty successes
10. Eventually cut back on reminders and practice sessions.



Could your child be eligible for Pupil Premium?

Pupil Premium is additional government funding that schools use to help pupils achieve and thrive. It can support children through additional learning opportunities, targeted interventions, wellbeing support and access to activities and experiences. It is important that eligible families apply for Free School Meals, as this helps the school access funding to provide additional support for children. From September 2026, eligibility for Free School Meals has also been expanded to all children living in households receiving Universal Credit, regardless of earnings; however, only pupils meeting the Targeted Free School Meals criteria attract Pupil Premium funding.

Please check whether your child is eligible and apply here:

www.gov.uk/apply-free-school-meals

If you are unsure whether you qualify, please apply anyway – the eligibility check will confirm this for you.

Reminders:

*Children in Year 6 – Moving on to
Secondary School*

*Please complete the applications
online for secondary schools by
31st October 2026*

Congratulations to our new House Captains and Deputies for 2026-2027!

Alizarin - Captain: Lily and Deputy: Richard

Emerald - Captain: Nazif and Deputy: Manraj

Ochre - Captain: Gurfateh and Deputy: Ben

Indigo - Captain: Prestone and Deputy: Amelia