Reception

Autumn 2 Newsletter 2026



Welcome to Autumn 2 at Bankfoot!

We are delighted to welcome you and your children as we begin Autumn 2 and take the next step in their learning journey with us.

A Wonderful Start in Autumn 1

It has been such a pleasure to watch your children settle in so beautifully during Autumn 1. They have adapted brilliantly to new routines, made lovely friendships, and are growing in confidence every single day. We have been so proud of how they have embraced their first days at school — exploring their surroundings, listening to new stories, and joining in with activities with big smiles and enthusiasm. It has been a joy to get to know each and every one of them, and we are so excited to build on this fantastic start together.

Understanding the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS)



We learn through a careful balance of child-initiated play, small-group focus activities, and adult-led sessions — all planned around your child's interests to keep them engaged, curious, and happy. We observe each child regularly to see what they enjoy, how they learn best, and where we can offer extra support or new challenges.

Our Topic: Autumn



This term our main topic is Autumn — a wonderful theme full of exciting opportunities! We will be exploring the changing seasons together: looking at the colours of leaves, spotting changes in nature, and noticing how the weather gets cooler. The children will enjoy hands-on activities such as collecting and sorting natural objects, making autumn-themed art, learning seasonal songs, and talking about what animals do in autumn. We will also be thinking about how we can look after ourselves and each other as the days get chillier. If you're out and about and spot something autumn-related, do bring it in or share photos — we'd love to see!

British Values in Reception



In Reception, we gently introduce and practise fundamental British values in age-appropriate ways, helping children grow into thoughtful, respectful members of our community. We focus on:

- Democracy — taking turns, listening to each other, and making choices together through class votes and group decisions
- The Rule of Law — understanding why we have rules, how they keep us safe, and that everyone follows them
- Individual Liberty — making choices, speaking up, and growing in confidence to be themselves
- Mutual Respect — treating everyone kindly, valuing differences, and looking after our friends
- Tolerance of Those with Different Faiths and Beliefs — learning about different families, celebrations, and traditions so we understand and respect how special we all are

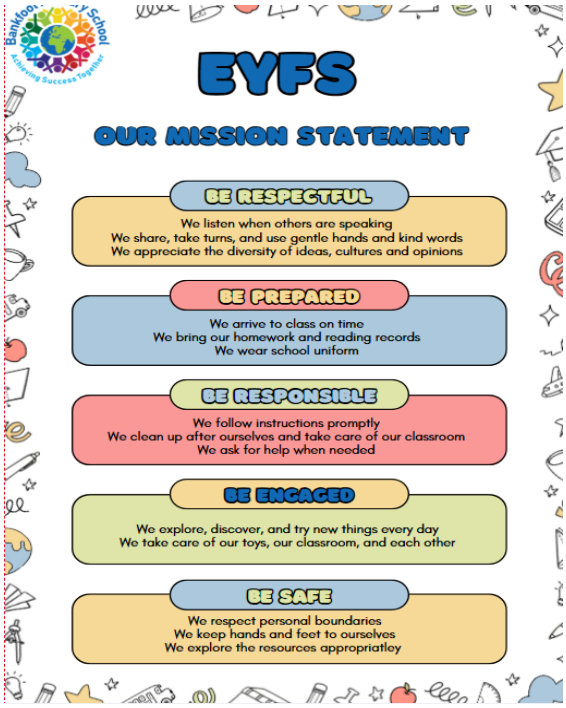
These values are woven into our daily routines, stories, and discussions — helping your child feel safe, valued, and caring towards others.

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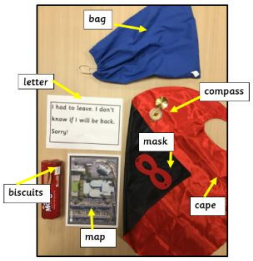
Mission Statement

We have talked together about looking after our classroom. Everyone knows they have a special part to play in keeping our class kind, safe, and fun — for all of us!



Bankfoot's Star Writers Competition - The Mystery Bag!

We were absolutely blown away by the wonderful discussions from our recent competition! The children were presented with a special mystery bag — left behind by a stranger — filled with different items and clues. They used their brilliant detective skills to examine everything, then wrote their own ideas about who the bag might belong to, using the clues to help them. Well done to all our children, you are all winners!



Bankfoot's Star Writer Competition – Opening the Door to Imagination



This half term, pupils will take part in a whole-school writing competition inspired by a tiny door hidden within a snow-covered tree.

With an unusual footprint and curious objects scattered nearby, who might live behind the door, and what secrets could it hold? Perhaps a magical kingdom, an extraordinary miniature world or a place where anything is possible lies beyond it! Using this intriguing stimulus, pupils will explore their imaginations, develop their own interpretations and create a piece of writing in a genre of their choice. We look forward to seeing the creative pieces of writing our young writers produce and celebrating their achievements at the end of term.

Dropping off and picking up



Drop-off: School doors open at **8:10 am** and we start promptly at 8.15am. Arriving on time helps your child settle calmly into the morning routine and means they don't miss out on important early learning activities.

- Pick up: School finishes at **3:10pm**. If someone different will be picking your child up, please ring or tell the school office in advance — this is a vital part of keeping your child safe. We will only release children to people you have told us about, and we may ask for identification if we do not know them. This is not meant to cause inconvenience — it is simply to make sure every child goes home safely with someone you trust.

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Parents Consultation

A special thank you to all parents who attended our first parents meeting of the year to discuss your children's progress and how we can best support them moving forward. It was wonderful to meet with you, hear your thoughts, and share ideas — working together in partnership makes such a positive difference to every child's happiness and progress.

Community Values

This half-term the Community Values we are focusing on are **Peace** and **Hope**. We will be promoting them both, in class and in assemblies. Please discuss these values with your child to help them gain a deeper understanding of what they mean. x

School Uniform



Full school uniform should be worn at all times. It helps children feel part of our community and ready to learn. Please label all items — jumpers, coats, bags, shoes — so lost belongings can be returned quickly

Spare Clothes



Please send a named set of spare clothes — socks, underwear, trousers — as weather gets wetter and muddier. We love outdoor exploration whatever the weather! Spares also help with those inevitable little accidents — completely normal at this age — so your child feels comfortable and confident again straight away.

Snacks and Healthy Eating

A healthy fruit or vegetable snack is provided for all children each day — to keep energy levels up and support their learning. Please send your child with a named water bottle so they can help themselves to drinks whenever they need to throughout the day.

We would like to thank you for returning the allergies information form; this helps us keep your child safe and well cared for. If your child does develop any other allergies or dietary needs at any point, please let the school know immediately so we can update our records and make the necessary arrangements.

Home Learning



Homework goes out every Thursday Please return it the following Monday for marking. Tasks are fun, short, and designed to share and celebrate your child's learning together at home. Just ask if you have any questions!

PE



Children in Reception have PE every Tuesday morning. Coming to school dressed in their PE kit will help them become familiar with the routine, as children throughout the school wear their PE kits to school on PE days.

Forth coming events

World Nursery Rhyme Week
9-13 November 2026
Science Day
Tuesday 10 November 2026
Remembrance Day
Wednesday 11 November 2026
Nativity
Monday/Tuesday 15/16 December
School closes
Friday 18 December 2026
School opens
Monday 4 January 2027

Finally

We look forward to a happy, busy, and wonderful Autumn 2 with your children. Thank you for your continued support.

Should you have any queries please do not hesitate to contact a member of the Reception team.