

95%

Attendance

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# Bankfield News

*"Bringing Out The Best!"*

Dear Parents/Carers

## Department for Children, Schools and Families

We have begun this term with the addition of a second specialism to our existing Science College Status made by The Department for Children, Schools and Families and Specialist Schools and Academies Trust. This is a result of having achieved High Performing School Status last year. We have also been recognised as a Gifted and Talented lead school



for Halton. Our official title is now '**The Bankfield School, Specialist School and Applied Learning College, A Gifted and Talented Lead School**'. This means that we are able to offer a wider range of courses and opportunities for all students as well as receiving additional funding to improve our resources. One of the new courses introduced this year is our 'Land Based/Horticulture' Course for Year 10 students. They will be involved in growing a variety of produce which they hope to sell in the local community. The Supermarket Morrisons, are currently promoting schools who are involved in 'grow your own' projects. Full details of this are overleaf and if you shop at Morrisons, I hope you will support us by collecting their vouchers and sending them into school.

### Mr Wicker

Over recent months, Mr Wicker has been undergoing treatment for a number of health issues. This week he has had a major operation and I am delighted to report that he is making good progress, although he will not be in school for some time. I am sure that you would want to add your best wishes to all of ours for a speedy recovery. I know that many of you have been taught by him and are grateful for his many years service to our school. If you wish to send him personal good wishes/cards, please pass them into the school office and I will ensure he receives them.

### Nikita Jackson 8SF



You may have read about Nikita's membership of Halton Swimming Club and her recent success in the Weekly News. On Saturday 19th September. She competed in the English Schools Swimming Association Competition on the Wirral in the 200m Individual Medley (50m butterfly, 50m backstroke, 50m breaststroke, 50m freestyle), 100m freestyle and 100m breaststroke. We await news of her results

and wish her every success.

**Go for gold Nikita!**

Yours sincerely

*Carole Owen*

Headteacher



1 school year at 90% attendance = 4 whole weeks of lessons MISSED!!!

38 school weeks

Absent for 4 weeks

Research suggests that 17 missed school days a year = GCSE grade DROP in achievement. (DCSF)

The greater the attendance the greater the achievement.

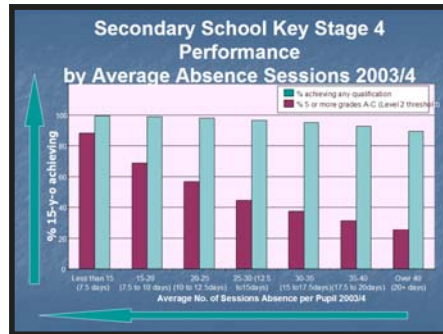
Attend and Achieve!

- If a school can improve attendance by 1%, they will see a 5-6% improvement in attainment. (DCSF)

90% attendance over 5 years of secondary school....

= 1/2 a school year missed!

1/2 a year absent from school



We are really pleased with our current attendance of 95%. This is the attendance expected by all our students. If students aren't in school they are not learning and achieving their best.

**Reminders:**

- Please** contact school on the first day of your child's absence
- Update** school on a regular basis if absence is to be long term.
- Send** a letter or a note in your child's planner into school when they return.
- Avoid** holidays in term time.
- Make** medical appointments after school as much as possible..
- More than 10 unauthorised absences without reason may result in a Penalty Notice of £50 or more being issued.**

YEAR 7 OUTCOMES	YEAR 8 OUTCOMES	YEAR 9 OUTCOMES
I know everyone in my class and have worked with someone I haven't worked with before	This week I will take part in a SEAL Super Learning Day and understand that how I express my feelings can have a significant impact on both other people and what happens to me	This half term, I will explain my strengths and limitations without undermining myself or alienating others



## Yourmove Dance Classes

For Everyone in Halton

**Adult Beginners Tap**-No experience necessary. Bring hard soled shoes. Every Tuesday at The Brindley (11.15am-12.15pm, £2.50). Every Tuesday at Upton Community Centre (1.30pm-2.30pm, £2.50).

**Years Ahead Tap Dance**-this friendly group welcome new members. Wednesdays at Ditton Community Centre 1.30pm-2.30pm, £2.50).

**Street Dance**-Fun, Fast & Funky! Ditton Community Centre-Beginners 4.30-5.30pm, £2.50. Intermediate 5.30-6.30pm, £3.00, £2.50 (unwaged). The Brindley-Beginners 7.15-8.15pm, £2.50. Intermediate 8.30-9.30pm, £3.00, £2.50 (unwaged).

**Belly Dance**-Get fit, have fun & build confidence at this Fabulous class for women. Beginners 7.30-8.30pm, Advanced 8.30-9.30pm. Every Thursday at Castlefields Community Centre-£3.50 (payable termly).

**Beginners Ballroom & Rock & roll** (6-6.45pm age 4-7). (6.45-7.30 age 8-11). (7.30-9pm Adults). Fridays at Grangeway Community Centre (£2 children, £3 adults).

**Beginners Tango**-Saturdays at Upton Com. Centre (2.30-4pm). Enrolment 12th & 19th September (£3, payable termly-£30 couples).

**Advanced Contemporary**-Wednesdays at Riverside College-Students, teachers and dance professionals (6-8pm. £3, age 16+)

**Toddle & Twist**-Pre-school creative dance for children & parents/carers. Every Monday at Halton Lea Library (1.30-2.30pm free).

**Mini Sparks**-Encouraging children to explore creativity using dance & movement. Every Monday at The Brindley (Age 4-7, 4-5pm-£2.50).

**Sparks**-Encouraging children to explore creativity using dance & movement. Every Monday at The Brindley (Age 7-10, 5-6pm, £2.50).

**Junior Youth Dance Company**-Exploring creative dance focussing on dance technique, choreography, Performance and dance appreciation. Every Monday at The Brindley (Age 11-14, 6-7.30pm, £2.50)

**Fit 2 Dance for mature adults**-Get moving and enjoy physical activity through a creative art form. Every Tuesday at The Brindley (10-11am, £2.50) Every Tuesday at Upton Comm. Centre (2.30-3.30pm, £2.50). Every Thursday at Murdishaw Comm. Centre (12.30-1.30pm, £2.50).

**Yoga**-All levels welcome. The perfect way to develop strength, balance & flexibility at your own pace. It is the ideal lunch break. Every Tuesday at The Brindley (12.30-1.30pm), £2.50)

**THE BANKFIELD SCHOOL  
STAFF LIST**

**SENIOR LEADERSHIP TEAM**

Mrs C Owen	Headteacher		
Mr S Hodgkinson	Deputy Head (Curriculum)	Miss J Flavin	Deputy Head (Community)
Mr M Edwards	Assistant Head (Science College)	Mrs K Evans	Assistant Head (Teaching and Learning)
Mrs F McDowell	Assistant Head (Inclusion)	Mr A Reay	Associate Leader
Mr D Ross	Assistant Head (Behaviour)		

**KEY STAGE 3**

Mrs D Lewis (Y7 Learning Manager)	Miss P Clancy (Y8 Learning Manager)	Mr C Moss (Y9 Learning Manager)
Miss L Esposito (Y7 Year Tutor)	Miss J Ainsworth (Y8 Year Tutor)	TBC (Y9 Year Tutor)

**FORM TUTORS**

Miss H Bridge	Year 7	Mr G Ascough	Year 8	Mrs W Arnold	Year 9
Miss L Elliott	Year 7	Mr R Deberque	Year 8	Mrs A Baker	Year 9
Mr I Farquharson	Year 7	Mrs M Edwards	Year 8	Mrs B Hughes	Year 9
Mr F Jones	Year 7	Miss S Fletcher	Year 8	Miss M Johnson	Year 9
Miss J Lees	Year 7	Miss S Hands	Year 8	Mrs L O'Rourke	Year 9
Miss J O'Connor	Year 7	Miss E Weston	Year 8	Miss N Silvano	Year 9

**KEY STAGE 4**

Mr M Wicker (Y10 Learning Manager)	Mr S Iddon (Y11 Learning Manager/Alt. Curriculum Co-ordinator)
Mrs D Jenkinson (Y10 Year Tutor)	Mrs U Miller (Y11 Year Tutor)

**FORM TUTORS**

Mrs P Boyd-Rugen	Year 10	Mr N Bourke	Year 11	Mrs N Roberts	Year 11
Mrs Y Guy	Year 10	Ms C Halcrow	Year 11	Mrs C Woolley	Year 11
Mr R Jervis	Year 10	Ms W Lomax	Year 11		
Mr P Kennedy	Year 10	Mr M Molloy	Year 11		
Mrs C O'Doherty	Year 10	Miss K Holland	Year 11		
Mrs J Williams	Year 10	Mrs H Pope	Year 11		

**SUBJECT STAFF**

<b>ART</b>	Mrs W Arnold (Subject Leader)	Miss H Bridge
<b>DRAMA</b>	Mr P Kennedy (Subject Leader)	Miss L Robinson
<b>DESIGN TECHNOLOGY</b>	Miss N Silvano (Subject Leader) Mrs F McDowell	Mr G Ascough Mrs J Williams (Assist. Subject Leader)
<b>ENGLISH</b>	Mrs P Boyd-Rugen (Subject Leader) Mr I Farquharson (Literacy Co-ordinator) Ms W Lomax Miss J O'Connor Mrs C Smith	Mrs K Evans Miss L Gordon (KS4 Co-ordinator) Mr R Jervis Mr D Ross
<b>GEOGRAPHY</b>	Mrs F Wrigg (Subject Leader) Mr M Wicker	Mr S Iddon
<b>HISTORY</b>	Miss J Marshall (Subject Leader) Mr D Ross	Mr C Moss
<b>ICT/BUSINESS STUDIES</b>	Miss K Holland (Subject Leader) Mrs N Lightfoot (Business Studies Co-ordinator) Miss L Devine Mr S Moffatt Mr C Troiano	Mr F Jones Mrs C O'Doherty
<b>LAND BASED/HORTICULTURE</b>	Mr M Lowe (Subject Leader)	

<b>MATHS</b>	Mrs N Roberts (Subject Leader) Miss S Fletcher (Assist. Subject Leader–KS3) Miss M Johnson (Assist. Subject Leader – KS4) Mr Molloy (Gifted and Talented Co-ordinator) Mrs Y Guy Miss E Weston	Miss N Robinson		
<b>MEDIA</b>	Mr R Jervis (Subject Leader)			
<b>MODERN FOREIGN LANGUAGES</b>	Ms C Halcrow (Subject Leader) Miss P Clancy Miss A Welsby	Mrs A Baker Mr R Deberque		
<b>MUSIC</b>	Miss A Lynch (Subject Leader)	Mrs B Hughes		
<b>PE</b>	Miss Y O'Rourke (Subject Leader) Miss S Hands (Sports Co-ordinator) Mr D Lewis	Mr N Bourke (Assist. Head of Dept) Miss J Flavin Mr A Reay		
<b>PSHCE</b>	Mrs Y Guy (Subject Leader)			
<b>RE</b>	Mr A Ackers (Subject Leader from Jan 2010) Miss J Flavin	Mrs M Edwards (Temp. Subject Leader)		
<b>SCIENCE</b>	Mr M Edwards (Subject Leader) Miss L O'Rourke (Assist. Subject Leader KS3) Miss J Lees (Assist. Subject Leader KS4) Mr D Campbell Miss L Elliott Mr S Hodgkinson Ms J Roberts	Mr D Carter Mr P Greathead Mrs H Pope Mrs C Woolley		
<b>ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF</b>	Mrs N Thomas (Headteacher's P.A.) Mrs G Martin (Clerical Assistant) Mrs J Ryder (Clerical Assistant) Mrs S Vallender (Reprographics Tech./Librarian) Miss S Vallender (Data Manager/Exams Officer)	Miss J Johnson (Office Manager) Miss K Nevitt (Clerical Assistant) Mrs H Sutch (Clerical Assistant/Librarian)		
<b>ATTENDANCE</b>	Mr P Rice (Attendance Mentor)	Ms J Thompson (Attendance Mentor)		
<b>COVER TEACHERS</b>	Miss J Carter	Ms C Docherty		
<b>CATERING STAFF</b>	Mrs K Sullivan (Catering Supervisor)			
<b>FINANCE DEPARTMENT</b>	Mr A Heron (Finance Manager)	Miss C Laughton (Finance Assistant)		
<b>LEARNING AND BEHAVIOUR</b>	Mrs M Bebbington Miss M Dorrian Miss C Knowles Ms K Owen	Miss R Burke Mr T Edwards Miss L Moran Mrs S Percival	Mrs L Campbell Miss L Greenwood Mrs C Mullen Miss K Rose	Mrs M Dickinson Miss A Hornby Mrs S O'Brien Mrs A Unsworth
<b>SITE STAFF</b>	Mr I Oliver (Site Manager) Mrs D Amson (Cleaning Operative) Mrs C Burns (Cleaning Operative) Mrs C Condron (Cleaning Operative) Mrs C Griffiths (Cleaning Operative) Mr P Lewis (Cleaning Operative) Mrs J McLoughlin (Midday Assistant) Mrs C Mullen (Midday Assistant) Mrs P Smith (Midday Assistant) Mr D Unsworth (Cleaning Operative)	Mr G Hall (Assistant Site Manager) Mrs L Barlow (Midday Assistant) Mrs H Carter (Cleaning Operative) Mrs J Ellis (Cleaning Operative) Miss A Hough (Cleaning Operative) Miss N May (Midday Assistant) Mrs I Middlehurst (Cleaning Operative) Mrs C Newton (Cleaning Operative) Mrs A Unsworth (Midday Assistant) Mrs P Unsworth (Cleaning Operative)		
<b>SPORTS STAFF</b>	Miss R Smith (Sports Community Manager) Mr P Travis (Sports Community Assistant)	Mr J Stankevitch (Community Sports Coach)		
<b>TECHNICAL SUPPORT STAFF</b>	Mr M Barton (Science Technician) Mr J Hogendoorn (DT Technician/Site Officer) Mrs Z Nurse (Science Technician)	Mr M Draycott (ICT Manager) Mr A Molyneux (ICT Technician) Mr P Stilwell (ICT Technician)		

## Learning from the Land

The Bankfield School is delighted to be delivering a new course this year, Landbased Studies. Fourteen Year 10 students have selected this course to pursue a career in gardening and landscaping.

This GCSE course also allows students to understand the process of growing crops and are excited about the purpose built Polytunnel that has been constructed just for their crop nurturing.

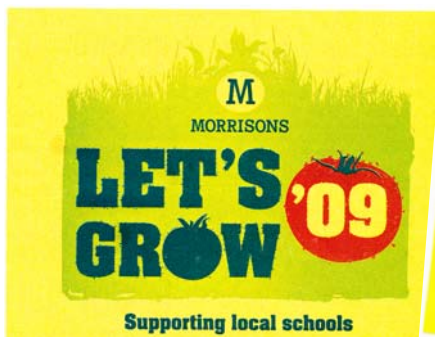
The course is 25% theory where students learn about plants, trees and practical horticulture.

75% of the course is practical where, as well as growing shrubs and plants to build the school's Eco-garden, students will also be growing their own crops. This will contribute to the school's enterprise and will be shared with the local community.

In support of this new course, The Bankfield School has welcomed the Morrisons Supermarket's promotion "Let's Grow". This promotion offers schools free gardening equipment for the number of vouchers collected by its customers.



If you could support the school by collecting these vouchers for this initiative which will enhance the experience of the new Land based course further for the students, it would be greatly appreciated! Any vouchers can be posted in the School's entrance hall where a "Let's Grow" box is on show. For further details on this promotion, please visit [www.morrisons.co.uk/letsgrow](http://www.morrisons.co.uk/letsgrow)



## MATHS CLUBS

YEAR GROUP	ABILITY	TEACHER	DAY	ROOM	TIME
Year 11	A & A*	Mr Molloy	Wednesday	H2	2.50-3.50pm
Year 11	Target Group	Mrs Roberts	Wednesday	H3	2.50-3.50pm
Year 11	Higher	Miss Johnson	Wednesday	H5	2.50-3.50pm
Year 11	Higher	Mrs Guy	Wednesday	H1	2.50-3.50pm
Year 11	Foundation	Miss Robinson	Thursday	H4	3.15-4.00pm
Year 10	Revision	Miss Fletcher	Wednesday	H6	2.50-3.50pm
Year 10	Revision	Miss Weston	Wednesday	H7	2.50-3.50pm
KS3	Breakfast Club	Mrs Bebbington	Wednesday	H6	8.15-8.45am

## Drop-in sessions in Warrington

We will be running monthly drop-in sessions in Warrington Children's Centres for parents of children with additional educational needs. If you would like to drop-in and see us we would love to talk to you about any concerns that you may have about your child.



### Westy (9.30-11.00am)

Monday 5th October  
Monday 2nd November  
Monday 7th December  
Monday 4th January

### Dallam (9.30-11.00am)

Tuesday 6th October  
Tuesday 10th November  
Tuesday 8th December  
Tuesday 5th January

## National Autistic Society - Help! Programme



The National Autistic Society (NAS) is running one of their really popular Help! 1 Day events on Tuesday 12th October 2009 in St Helens for parents/carers of children who have had a recent diagnosis (within the last 18 months) of an autistic spectrum disorder. If you would like to book a place on this help! Programme contact the NAS help! Team North West on 0161 946

## Communicate Together



The children's Society in Warrington is to deliver a new programme called 'Communicate Together'. The programme focuses on working with parents/carers of pre - school children (from 2 - 5 years old) who have speech, language and communication needs. The programme will be delivered in blocks of 9 weeks, offering group work and home visits. The group work sessions, 5 in total, will take place on Tuesday afternoons at Catterall Avenue, Orford, Warrington, with home visits following, the times and dates which will be negotiated with individual families. The first programme is due to start in November 2009. So if you are interested or need a bit more information, contact Catherine Holligan on 01925 852905.

## Starting school in Halton



Halton Borough Council is running a conference for parents and carers of children with additional needs who are due to start school in September 2010. The conference will take place on Monday 12th October 2009 at the Stobart Stadium, Widnes from 9.20am to 12.30pm. If you live in Halton and want to attend or find out more, please talk to your nursery teacher, portage worker or CDC teacher. You can also contact Pauline Cook on 0151 906



## Dates For Your Diary

Thursday 24th September—Year 7/10 Parent/Carers evening  
Wednesday 30th—Friday 2nd October—Conway Trip  
Wednesday 7th October—Open Evening  
Thursday 22nd October—Year 11 Parents Evening  
Friday 23rd October—School closes for half term  
Monday 2nd November—**INSET** day (school closed for students)  
Tuesday 3rd November—School re-opens  
Thursday 19th November—Celebration Evening at the Foundry  
Friday 18th December—School Closes for Christmas  
Monday 4th January 2009—School re-opens  
Thursday 14th January—Year 9 Parent/Carers Evening  
Thursday 4th February—Year 8 Parent/Carers Evening  
Thursday 11th February—School closes for half term  
Friday 12th February—**INSET** Day (School closed for students)  
Thursday 25th February—Year 9 Options Evening  
Thursday 25th March—Year 10 Parent/Carers Evening  
Friday 26th March—School Closes for Easter  
Monday 12th April—School re-opens  
Thursday 22nd April—Year 7 Parents/Carers Evening  
Monday 3rd May—School closed for May Day  
Friday 28th May—School closes for half term  
Monday 7th June—School re-opens



On Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> October there will be the very first Halton Memory Walk in aid of Alzheimer's disease, the walk will be taking place in Victoria Park Widnes at 1pm, come along and join in either by yourself or in a team. If you would like to pre register for the Halton Memory Walk please contact one of the Halton Memory Walk team members on:

[sarah.cuthell@alzheimers.org.uk](mailto:sarah.cuthell@alzheimers.org.uk) or  
[kim.woolley@alzheimers.org.uk](mailto:kim.woolley@alzheimers.org.uk)