



Charity No. 283326

Banwell Buddies Newsletter

Term 1

14th September
2009

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New Website

Banwell Buddies are proud to announce a brand new website.

During the Summer Holidays Gareth Thomas our secretary and editor of the Newsletter, set up and created the new website. We now have our own web address which is easier to remember. The website isn't complete as we still need to put the prospectus and registration forms onto it, but majority of important pages are now complete.

Please take the time to look around the website, as it will be regularly updated with latest Newsletters, committee minutes and such like. You can also download an order form for preschool uniform, and we also have all our policies and procedures now available on the site and much more.

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Wellies

Please can your child bring Wellies to the pre-school, we will be using the outdoors even if the ground is wet and muddy. Therefore we would rather each child wore wellies outside.

Inset Days

This is for those who do not have children in Banwell Primary, and that I thought it best to explain that Banwell Buddies follow Banwell Primary for inset days. This is for ease of those who do have children in the School, so therefore if you hear of or see the School not open due to an Inset Day, neither will Banwell Buddies.

Newsletter Mailing List

This is a reminder for parents, and also a new bit of information for the newer parents. This newsletter has to be printed out using our printer in the office, anyone who has been in there can see that it isn't exactly state of the art, and we do not have a colour copier let alone a properly working one! We currently have just under 30 children at playgroup, this will increase over the year (we had over 35 by the end of last year). Printing the newsletter uses up lots of paper and Ink, please consider offering your email address to me, Gareth Thomas (Secretary) so that I can send you your copy via email. Over the next few newsletters I will be attaching a slip for you to fill out if you wish to help us keep ink and paper down. It would be much appreciated if you can help us in this department

WELCOME BACK

Welcome back everyone we trust you all had a wonderful summer holiday.

We especially welcome all the new parents and children who are starting at Banwell Buddies for the first time, and therefore welcome to your first Preschool Newsletter. This form of communication is used to make sure all Parents are kept up to date with the latest goings on in and around Preschool, so please do read these Newsletters as they may contain something important..!

New Timings

We hope everyone is now slowly getting used to the new timings for the Preschool with them being 8.45am–3.15pm.

If anyone is having problems with the pick up time of 3.15pm, we may be able to set up a buddy system, or at least try to do so.

Please do not hesitate to inform us if you are having trouble.

Children's Pockets

This is a general reminder that everyone is to check their child's pockets in the main hallway. Banwell Buddies use them to transfer important information to the Childs parents/carers such as letters and this newsletter, we also use them to place drawings and such like in.

If you have asked someone else to pick up your child, please can you ask them to check the pocket and take any letters etc home with them to yourself

Thank you.

Packed Lunches

Due to the new timings, the amount of time the children have now for their lunch is only 1/2 an hour. Please can those staying for lunch, pack a smaller amount as some are coming fully laden with food.

Also you are all reminded that we promote healthy food as in accordance with our Food and Drink Policy (Available on the website or in the office).

Important Diary Dates

19th September = Family BBQ

3rd October = Jumble Sale

24th Oct–2nd Nov = Half Term

2nd November = Inset Day

4th December = Xmas Fayre (tbc)

11th Dec = Playgroup Xmas Party

Fundraising Help

Can you help us raise money?

As most know by now, and for those who don't, we are a voluntary Committee, we all have other things going on alongside our time running and organising the playgroup.

With this in mind we find it hard to organise and raise funds, so we need someone or a group of people who can solely concentrate on this side of things, from organising the event to promoting the event. If you can help please contact someone on the Committee with your interest.

Jumble and Book Sale

3rd October

Village Hall

11pm–1pm

Can you help us raise funds at this Jumble Sale? We are looking for any decent jumble or books that you have at home that can be donated for this event. We are also after people to give a hand on the day, from taking money on the door, manning the tables, making teas and coffees or even making cakes for the event.

Please contact a committee member for further information

Family BBQ

19th September

School Field

2pm–6pm

The Friends of Banwell School and Banwell Buddies are jointly running this fun day on the School fields. There will be a beer tent, music and BBQ, but we also encourage people to bring their own picnic if they wish.

Banwell Buddies will gain money from anything raised, but we do have to also provide help, so if you can help man the Beer Tent or BBQ please can you let Gareth Thomas (Secretary) know.

This is a ticket only event, there will be no pay on the gate, so please contact someone in the playgroup office regarding Tickets or see Julia Williamson in the School for some also.

Family = £10.00 (2 Adults + 2 Children)

Single = £3.00

Carnival

The Carnival have informed Banwell Buddies that over the course of the 2 weeks, they raised roughly £6000, from this we are looking at a cut of around £816. This is fantastic news for us indeed.

Thanks to all those that helped Banwell Buddies run events and or Stalls, your hard work has paid off indeed.

Changing your Childs Sessions

Banwell Buddies would like to remind parents, that as of this newsletter, we now require seven days notice if you wish to change your Childs session time/day.

We did send Letters out last term to those who were coming back to playgroup, so we would like to take this opportunity to remind you all, new and old of the situation

Your help would be much appreciated.

October AGM

Our AGM is almost upon us, as stated many times not only in this newsletter but also in the article in the September issue of the Parish News. We are a voluntary run Committee, the only paid staff are those that work in the office and those that look after the children.

Gone are the days where a committee would merely raise funds, unfortunately we are now required to run the playgroup as a business.

Can you help the playgroup by joining the Committee? We have parents leaving the committee this year due to no longer having children in the Playgroup (two have not had children in playgroup for 2 years and over!).

Being on a Voluntary Committee can be very beneficial especially for those that are looking in future to get back to work, on a CV it is more impressive than something like a Governing Board.

Please consider the prospect of helping the Committee in some form, the Playgroup requires a Committee made of at least 3 officers (Chair, Treasurer and Secretary) without these Playgroup is not allowed to continue.

Further details regarding Date and Time will be forthcoming soon.