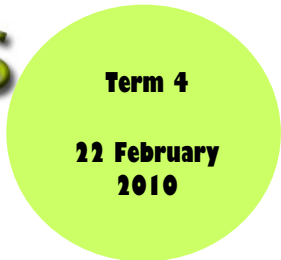




# Banwell Buddies Newsletter



Charity No. 283326

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## AGM / New Committee members

Well in October we will be holding the next AGM, so why am I putting this in the newsletter now you may be thinking.

It's going in now, because we need to make everyone aware, especially those who will be continuing to use Banwell Buddies next Academic year (September onwards). If a new Committee is not formed then Banwell Buddies will have to close. The minimum amount needed to form a committee is 5 persons, 3 of them need to be Chair, Treasurer and Secretary and 60% of those on committee need to have children at preschool. If you are expecting the current committee to continue, then think again. The majority of those on the Committee will be leaving Banwell Buddies as their child goes onto School, some of us have been on the Committee for 6-8 years and now is the time for us to step down, we have learnt a lot about ourselves and learnt a lot from the experience, but its time for us to go and let others take over (note: us being Gareth & Vikki).

Vikki and Gareth are concerned however that Parents think that all will be fine come AGM, and we are afraid that this is not the case as no-one is coming forward showing any interest. If you, as a Parent, are thinking of joining the committee at the AGM, then please consider joining **now** not then. If you join now you can get used to the Committee and what we do. As stated on many, many occasions we are unpaid volunteers doing a management role, gone are the days of just fundraising, the Committee actually have to manage the whole setting from Staff to the Building itself and it is because of this we would like to see new parents joining the committee now.

### Important Diary Dates

2nd Apr - 16th Apr | H/T  
19th Apr | Inset Day  
21st May | Spring Fayre  
31st May - 4th June | H/T

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### Banwell Buddies Mailing List

Name: ..... I am the Parent/Carer of : .....

I would like to be placed on the Mailing list in which I will receive various forms of correspondence via email. I however do understand there may still be the occasional paper form of correspondence placed into my Childs box.

My email address is as follows: .....

Signed: ..... Please place in letterbox outside office once completed.

## Easter Disco / Fundraising

Every year around Easter/Spring, we hold a disco in the Village Hall for all the children and families in the village, it's always good fun, and raises a good amount of money. This year due to the growing commitments of the current committee we are unable to dedicate the time required to organise this traditional fundraiser. Therefore we are asking all parents and carers to consider taking on this role and organising the event on behalf of the children, without your help this event will not go ahead.

Banwell Buddies is a registered charity run by a Voluntary Committee. To continue running and maintaining Banwell Buddies, the pre-school relies on fundraising and donations as funding covers just the cost of employed play staff. The problem the committee is finding is that they have not got the time to organise fundraising events on top of having to run the pre-school as a business. We are genuinely struggling to organise fundraising, as well as continuing our roles in dealing with staffing, Policies, finances and maintenance of the building. As a voluntary committee we do not get paid for any of our time spent working for Banwell Buddies we do it to ensure the children in this village do not have to attend pre-schools in neighbouring villages. As users of our fabulous building and facilities we encourage you to come forward and help us ensure that Banwell Buddies is able to remain an asset to this village.

We need people who are willing to take on the fundraising side of things as we are genuinely struggling to give this area attention, now.

Help us to maintain the future of Banwell Buddies, without fundraising or donations we cannot maintain the building or continue to provide new resources for the children.

## Chair Change

As you are all aware our current Chair, Vikki Fitzpatrick, is no longer available due to maternity leave. Originally the plan was to have two persons currently on the Committee to look after the role. This has now changed, instead of Emma Allen and Kathryn Mitson doing the role; it will now only be Kathryn Mitson. This is due to Emma not being in a position to act as Chair, Kathryn can be contacted on (email) and she comes in on (days her sons go??).

## Banwell Buddies Administrator

Some of you may already be aware, Sarah Harris who worked as Admin on Thursdays and Fridays has left the position to concentrate on her role at Dr Barnardos. The position was advertised, and we are now due to conduct interviews this week. We hope to have the position filled as soon as possible. In the meantime please contact Kathryn Mitson and/or Gareth Thomas if you have any admin queries.