

NEWSLETTER

BRCA



E-ACT Bannerman Road
Community Academy

E-ACT

OPENING MINDS,
OPENING DOORS

28th March 2025



From our Head
Mr. Laken

Head Writes- The last from Mr. Laken

What a brilliant term 4 we have had. A double victory in the prestigious Mid-Somerset Festival, a rousing Rock Steady gig, as well as great sporting achievements for the football and rugby teams. This is combined with lots of good academic progress as we build towards the statutory test season that I am sure will go well. As my time here draws to a close, I want to say thank you for all the support, challenge and kind words over the past three plus years.

I feel very lucky to have been part of the Bannerman Road community. Our fabulous Eid and Easter celebrations will follow in week 1 of term 5. Thank you.

Dates and Events

Year 3/4 performance-Wednesday 2nd April @1.30pm-3pm & Thursday 3rd April @9.15-10.15am

Mr Laken's Leaving assembly- Thursday 3rd April @2pm (parents and carers invited)

Last day of term- Thursday 4th April @3pm- & INSET 5th April (no school for students)

Back to school- Tuesday 22nd April

Eid Party- 2nd May 2025

Repair-Ed Visit

Arathi Sriprakash, a researcher and parent in Bristol, will be joining our coffee morning on **Thursday 1st May** from the [Repair-Ed project](#) to hear from parents about **your experiences and perspectives of schooling** in Bristol. In particular, **we'll be discussing how schools in the city can better address racial inequalities.**

We Won Our SECOND OPAL AWARD!

Many congratulations to E-ACT Bannerman Road Community primary school on your second OPAL Platinum award!

This is a significant achievement and places E-ACT Bannerman Road school as one of the best primary schools in the country for the quality of their outdoor play. The OPAL team has worked tirelessly to open up their site for play and seek creative solutions to provide a rich and inspiring play environment for all of their pupils. Children's Right to Play, as defined by Article 31 in UNCRC, is valued and respected at this inclusive, community school. During the final OPAL audit, the playground had an active, community feel. Active and adventurous play, such as cricket, football, bike riding and climbing blended seamlessly with creative activities such as a potions lab, playground arts and sand trays. Pupil behaviour in playtimes has been significantly improved throughout the OPAL programme.

Younger and older pupils play together and support each other. The site now boasts a Mud Kitchen, clamber jungle, sports court, dressing up, slackline, wheeled play, Forest school, and storage sheds full of loose parts for home-made dens and obstacle courses. There is excitement about the new Fairy Garden project, which pupils have helped to design.

Pupils can move freely across the site, and access water, sand, chalk, and paint for their play. The team have been successful in keeping the green areas of their site open for most of the year, and the parent community has supported this by providing waterproof coats and wellies.

Congratulations to the whole school community, and a special well done to the Play Team members, to **HT Oliver Laken and DHT Jodi Dyer, and OPAL and Inclusion Leads Anna Hicks, Sian Lennox Gordon and Shamin Farooq**, for their teamwork and perseverance. They are fantastic ambassadors for Children's Right to Play.



School Attendance

Last week our overall school attendance was 97%

If your child is unwell, you **must** call the school office on 0117 377 2080 (**main office**)

or 0117 377 2949 (**Early years office**)

every day by 9am, to let us know, leaving your child's **name and class**.

Polite reminder: All parents and carers have a responsibility to get their children into school on time, by **8:40am years 1-6, and 8.35am for Reception children**. If your child arrives late, this will be marked on the register. Arrival after 9:10am will be considered an unauthorised absence and may be subject to a Penalty Notice. Penalty notices are a fine of £80 per child, per adult.

School nurse visit

The school nurse will be running parent workshops to support parents talking to their children about periods on Thursday **8th May**. If you would like to join a workshop, please email Mrs Dyer. jodi.dyer@brc.e-act.org.uk



Information and links for Parents of children with SEND

Kidz craze booklet—has events and information
<https://shorturl.at/Twp9a>

Bristol parent carers- <https://shorturl.at/NWNq0>

Courses for parents with children with SEND

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/o/bristol-n-somerset-and-s-glos-parent-carer-forums-41027867683>



If you are worried about a child or young person who could be in danger, please contact:

First Response on 0117 903 6444

or the NSPCC on 0808 800500

or contact the police directly by dialing 101.



In an emergency always contact the police by dialing 999.

Uniform and weather

Please ensure your child has appropriate clothing for the season. E.g. gloves & hat

We would appreciate if parents/carers label their children's jumpers & coats so they can be returned promptly if they end up in lost property.

Family Support

If your child and/or family needs support, please don't hesitate to call us on 01173772080 and ask to speak to;

Anna Hicks - Family Support Worker (for housing, immigration queries, benefits, access to foodbanks etc.)
anna.hicks@brc.e-act.org.uk

Sian Lennox-Gordon - Pastoral Lead (for support with mental health, behaviour or attendance)
sian.lennox-gordon@brc.e-act.org.uk

