

Baldwins Hill Primary School

NEWSLETTER

Headteacher: Jenny Dabell

16th December 2023

Respect, Compassion, Courage, Responsibility



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**Log on to our
school website**

[www.baldwinhillprimary
school.co.uk](http://www.baldwinhillprimary
school.co.uk)

parentview.ofsted.gov.uk



Dear Parents and Carers,

Here we are at the end of the Autumn term and Christmas is soon upon us! The children have been working hard in all their Learning Experiences and it was wonderful to see so many parents and carers at the Key Stage One Nativity last week - which was so beautifully put together and performed. Well done to all!

I hope that you all managed to read the Online safety help sheets that have gone out recently. This is the time of year where new technology may be an exciting gift, but it also brings with it new challenges in keeping children and young people safe. With the increased concerns around phishing and scams etc, adults need to be so careful too! Please do check back in your emails from us to read the helpful information we sent.

As residents in West Sussex you can also sign up to the local newsletter and choose the alerts you would like to receive - online safety is one of them and has some very helpful guidance for you. See the link below for more information on how to sign up:
<https://www.westsussex.gov.uk/email-alerts-and-newsletters/>

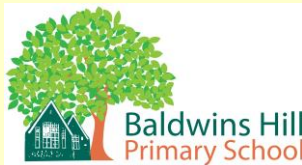
I hope that you enjoy reading all about the things that your children have been learning and what is coming up for them in the new year.

Have a wonderful Christmas break and we look forward to seeing you all again on Wednesday 3rd January 2024!

Jenny Dabell
Head teacher



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be brave;
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Staffing news

Our Higher Level Teaching Assistant, Miss Kell, will be returning from her Maternity Leave when we start back in January. Welcome back, Lauren! This means that Mrs Biggs, who has been covering teachers' planning time out of class on long-term supply whilst Miss Kell has been on leave, will no longer be working with us. Mrs Biggs has said farewell to all the children this week. As Mrs Biggs may well still come and teach for us from time to time, it is 'bye for now' rather than goodbye forever!

A note from the School and Family Support (SAFS) team

If you have any concerns regarding inclusion (new or ongoing) please speak to your child's class teacher, in the first instance. If you still have concerns please contact the office who will ask one of the team to contact you.

Dyslexia & Dyscalculia in Practice Award! (Dadipa)

You may recall last year we mentioned that the school was going for an award for inclusive practice in Dyslexia & Dyscalculia. We are happy to announce that we have achieved this award! The moderators spent an afternoon in school looking at provision for learners in the classroom and how we identify/assess for Dyslexia/Dyscalculia. We are very proud of this achievement and look forward to sharing more details of this award with you very soon.

Year 6 Maths Booster on Thursday with Mrs Lucas: Please note this has **changed** from Thursday morning and will now be held straight after school on Thursday between 3.10 and 4.10pm. We will provide a small snack for your child, although they are also welcome to bring something of their own choice.

So that we know numbers to expect, may we please ask that you book through the link on the clubs list, if you wish for your child to attend these sessions. Many thanks. Mrs Lucas.

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Saplings Reception

Next term in Early Years the children will be focussing on Heroes, both real and superheroes, through the story of 'Supertato'. We will be using using the children's drawing and more phonics and HRS words to develop their writing skills. Please keep hearing your children read and practicing the phonics and HRS words on the word lists they bring home. In Maths, we will be working on counting and partitioning (looking at the smaller parts that make up the bigger whole number.) We will also be looking at 2d shapes and patterns. The children will also have the opportunity to explore their own interests and work on their next steps during our 'learning time'!

Willow Year 1

We have had a wonderful half term exploring our topic, 'Hello I'm new here'.

Geography: We have learnt and developed knowledge of our earth, including the continents, oceans and some countries that come together to make our world. We have explored all different types of maps and have even made a map of our own.

Art: The children have been using the country of Trinidad and natural resources to inspire their art. They have used a variety of techniques and resources to create different pieces of artwork.

Music: We have been focussing on learning our Nativity songs in music and I was very impressed with the children's singing and dancing in the performances. They showed a lot of courage to learn all the songs and take centre stage for 'When the Angels came'. Thank you to all parents and carers for the costumes and for giving up your time to support the children.

Maths: We are looking at the names of 3D shapes. We have related it to real life objects. We have also recapped the names of the 2D shapes and used them to make comparisons to 3D shapes and make different repeating patterns.

English: Linking to our story "Coming to England", the children have been writing leaflets for Floella to use, if she was to come and visit Baldwins Hill. The children have written information about four different subheadings. They have worked really hard to read through their work and write a neat copy as a final piece.

Science: We have been learning about different groups of animals and what different animals eat. We have learnt the words carnivore, omnivore and herbivore. The children have been very excited for Christmas and in class we have been making and creating Christmas pieces of artwork over the last week.

I hope everyone has a great break.

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Internet Safety

Protect your child:

www.getsafeonline.org

www.nspcc.org.uk/preventing-abuse/keeping-children-safe

<http://www.saferinternet.org.uk>

www.thinkuknow.co.uk

Parents: Supporting Young People Online (Leaflets):

<http://www.childnet.com/resources/supporting-young-people-online>



Sycamore Year 2

We have had a very busy term in Year 2! The children enjoyed our trip to Halsford Park where we were visited by the Rainbow Theatre. They were excellent at involving the children in the show and made it a memorable experience. I could see lots of smiling faces! We also worked very hard on our Christmas production which the children performed so bravely. Thank you for coming to support the children. They sang fantastically, spoke their lines with confidence and should be very proud!

English: We have finished writing fact files about the Great Fire of London, and have now finished reading our story 'Vlad and The Great Fire of London'. I have been so impressed by the knowledge the children have retained over our English and History lessons. I am looking forward to starting our new key text – 'Mrs Armitage on Wheels' and trying out some letter writing or investigations.

Maths: The children worked very hard in our addition and subtraction block, which we will revisit later in the year. We have progressed to shape in our Maths lessons which we will continue after the half term. The children can tell you the names of 2D and 3D shapes and discuss how many sides and vertices different shapes have.

Wishing you all a Merry Christmas, and see you in the New Year!

Maple Year 3

In Year 3 we have continued our learning on the Ancient Egyptians. We did some class role play before starting our newspaper reports to get an insight of what it might be like to discover 'the lost pyramid'. We have continued our outdoor learning and have enjoyed making sparks and creating our own paint brushes out of leaves and sticks.

English: We have continued our WRITERS sequence on our newspaper reports. We completed a 'class write' where everyone contributed ideas and we wrote the report into our books. We loved sharing these in our class assembly!

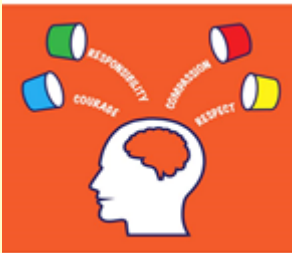
Maths: We have continued our learning on multiplication and division across the 2, 3, 4- and 8-times tables. Ask your child what commutative law means!

PE: We have continued our learning in gymnastics, strengthening our positions in our routines with our partners. We also have finally been able to complete a couple of outdoor sessions focusing on teamwork and volleyball.

History: We have been learning all about ancient Egyptians and mummies. Did you know it took 70 days for the mummifying process to be completed? The children have also been learning about canopic jars. Ask your child to tell you what was stored in them...

Art: We have been sketching the different canopic jars and really focusing on the different details that each canopic jar has.

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Cedar Year 4

Since the last newsletter, Year 4 have been working really hard on their learning! Cedar class performed a brilliant assembly to the rest of the school and the parents, and we were really proud of the confidence and courage that the children showed when showing off their work. They all wrote their own lines to share the learning that they enjoyed the most.

Maths: We have been revising column addition and subtraction with exchanging and we have gained confidence in adding and taking away 4 digit numbers. We have also been continuing to work on our 6, 7 and 8 times tables.

English: After writing our non-chronological reports (fact files) on different invaders (Romans, Vikings or Saxons), the children are now writing their own reports about a subject they are particularly interested in. Our grammar focus has been fronted adverbials, determiners and pronouns. Please ask your child to give examples of these.

History: After learning about Romans and Vikings, we looked at how Anglo Saxons lived and the sort of jobs they carried out. We also focused on specific English language that was used and how it has changed over the years.

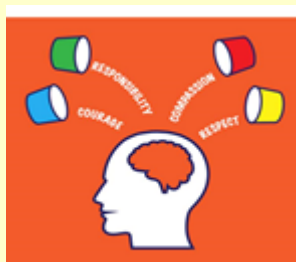
PE: We have been very lucky to have Sam teaching us Lacrosse on a Friday and the Premier Sport coach teaching gymnastics on a Wednesday. The children have learnt many skills and engaged really well.

RE: Hinduism - In RE we have learnt about the Gods in the Hindu religion and what they stand for. This has created some interesting conversations about our own personalities.

PSHE: We have come to the end of our unit on 'Economic Wellbeing'. The children have learnt about what money is used for, what it means to budget and making choices with money. Thank you to all children, parents and carers for your engagement in learning this term.

I hope you have a wonderful Christmas holiday with your families.

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Oak Year 5

What a fantastic half term of learning we've had in Year 5. The children have shown so much interest and enthusiasm in our World War 1 topic and have produced some fabulous work.

English: We published our setting descriptions and then moved on to character descriptions. We learned about the range of features that needed to be included and the class produced some lovely work which they shared with other classes earlier this week.

Maths: We have tackled fractions and despite it being a tricky area we've focused hard on the language involved and used stem sentences to embed new ideas. We have looked at how to change improper fractions into mixed numbers and the other way round. We've also learnt how to add and subtract fractions with and without the same denominator.

History: We have learned what life was like during the war for the soldiers in the trenches, for women taking on important roles back in England and how animals played their role too. The children have enjoyed making double page spreads this week to demonstrate their knowledge as an exit task for the whole topic. This is a great way to see everything they've learnt and we shared these with other classes too.

Thank you for your continued support with your child's learning and we wish you all a very restful Christmas break.

Redwood Year 6

We are now coming to the end of our Learning Experience '*Bah Humbug!*' and the children have thoroughly enjoyed learning about The Victorians and everything that they gave us, particularly at Christmas.

DT: We learned about Christmas crackers and the children should have brought home crackers they made in Design Technology. These were designed and evaluated by pupils.

Maths: This week, we have had some fun creating pictures using coordinates. We have translated shapes across four quadrants (which is quite a tricky Year 6 skill). Lots of interactive online games can be found on this topic, so if your child finds themselves at a loose end over Christmas, they could give them a go!

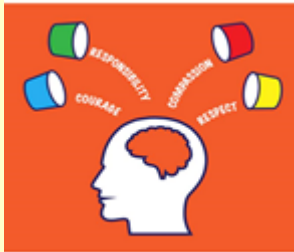
Year 6 have worked incredibly hard this half term and deserve a well earned rest.

The children's enthusiasm for Booster on a Tuesday and Thursday has been excellent. The children say they are feeling more confident already in these areas.

Thank you for all the seasonal wishes we have received.

That leaves us to wish you all a Merry Christmas and prosperous 2024 from all the Year 6 team.

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Recent Correspondence

Report cards

Upcoming Events

07/03/2024 -World Book Day

Dates for your Diary

January 2024	
Tuesday 2 nd	INSET day – School closed to children
Wednesday 3 rd	Children return to school
February 2024	
Monday 12 th – Friday 16 th	Half Term – School closed to children
Monday 19 th	INSET day – School closed to children
Tuesday 20 th	Children return to school
March 2024	
Thursday 7 th	World Book Day

Further dates and details will be added in our next newsletter.

Happy Christmas
and a
Happy New Year
From the whole
Baldwins Hill Team