

# Baldwins Hill Primary School

## NEWSLETTER

Headteacher: Jenny Dabell

24<sup>th</sup> November 2023

Respect, Compassion, Courage, Responsibility



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Log on to our  
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[www.baldwinhillprimary  
school.co.uk](http://www.baldwinhillprimary<br/>school.co.uk)

[parentview.ofsted.gov.uk](http://parentview.ofsted.gov.uk)



Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome to our November newsletter. The children have been working so hard in all their class challenges, showing great courage and responsibility, as usual.

It isn't just about their work in class though - we are SO proud of the way the children show care and compassion towards each other and their teachers and you will have heard this said in our Friday assemblies week after week.

I hope that you will enjoy reading all about the things that the children have been up to over the last month and learn more about what is coming up for them in the run up to Christmas.

Warmest wishes,

Miss Dabell

### **Safeguarding at drop off and pick up time**

At the start of the school day, teachers are required to be in class settling and supervising the children; this is why we ask for any messages to be communicated via the office. If you would like to speak to the class teacher, the end of the day is a good time to do this at pick up, or simply call the office who will be happy to organise for the teacher to make contact with you. Many thanks for your understanding.



Respect, Compassion, Courage, Responsibility



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value everyone and  
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### Autistic Self Care over the Festive Season



#### FREE SCHOOL MEALS

If your circumstances have changed, you might now be eligible for 'Free School Meals' funding. If you meet the criteria, your child would be entitled to a free meal, daily. In addition to this, the school receives additional funds to support with learning and extra-curricular activities. This can help to fund valuable teaching and learning support for our school (and is still paid to the school even if your entitlement stops).

If you think you may be eligible, then please click on the following link to sign up:

<https://www.gov.uk/apply-free-school-meals>

We are very keen that all those who are eligible **DO** sign up, even if your child does not plan to have hot dinners or is entitled to "Universal Infant Free Meals" due to being in Reception to Year 2 classes, as the school still receives the additional funding.

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### Saplings Reception

This half term the children have been enjoying exploring using their senses. We have been investigating melting and freezing, pumpkins and autumn objects. The children have enjoyed listening to a variety of stories including The Owl Who was Afraid of the Dark and Pumpkin Soup. We learnt about Diwali and the children made Diya lamps and firework pictures. Over the next few weeks we will begin thinking more about Christmas and we have started to learn some songs ready for the Key Stage One nativity.

### Willow Year 1

In Year 1 we have had a Fantastic time learning about our new topic "Hello I am new here". We started our topic by hunting for clues on the playground using a map to find their location. The clues we found linked to Trinidad which has been the centre of our learning.

**English:** In English we have been reading the story "Coming to England", which was written by Floella Benjamin. The story tells us about her journey from Trinidad to England. The children have been introduced to adjectives and have used them to describe Floella. We all wrote a character description about Floella using adjectives.

**Geography:** Alongside this, our Geography learning has seen us looking at world maps, Google maps and aerial photographs of the school and of East Grinstead town. We have also started to learn and identify the contents and oceans.

**Science:** We have been learning about different plants and animals. First, we learnt about how plants grow and what the different features of a plant contribute to helping it to grow. We labelled sunflowers and trees with their different parts. Next, we will be learning about animals, we will be grouping animals and learning about what they eat.

**PE:** The children are showing lots of courage learning new skills in Gymnastics with the coach. In our Tuesday session we have worked on throwing and catching, including naming the different types of passes in our netball sessions.

**Maths:** We have been learning about addition and subtraction on a number line. Next week we will be learning about our first unit of geometry. We will be identifying and sorting 2D and 3D shapes.

**Art:** We have been focusing our art around the earth. We have made pictures with leaves, painted on stones and made objects out of clay.

**RE:** The children have explored how light is used in different religions with a focus on Christianity. We have learnt about advent and Christingles.



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### Sycamore Year 2

In Year 2 we are really enjoying learning about the Great Fire of London. The children can recall lots of interesting facts, and we have been exploring how things were different in 1666 compared to today. We have our interactive theatre experience at Halsford Park coming up soon – it should be a very exciting morning!

**English:** The children have worked very hard writing their diary entries. We spent some time researching the features of diary entries and how to write a successful one. Some children chose to write as if they were Thomas Farriner, the King’s baker and some chose to be Samuel Peyps. We have now published our work onto pieces of burnt paper in our best writing.

**Maths:** Addition and subtraction continues to be the focus of Maths. We have progressed to adding and subtracting two 2-digit numbers, where the children have learnt a range of methods they can choose from to help them solve calculations. Towards the end of the term, we will start to focus on the properties of shapes.

### Maple Year 3

In Year 3 we have thoroughly enjoyed exploring Grand Designs! At the beginning of term, we were exploring the Stone Age and completed lots of learning around this. We wrote our own Stone Age haiku and acrostic poems and we have spent lots of time outdoors creating Stone Henge. We are currently exploring Ancient Egypt. We have created posters with lots of different facts which we are excited to share in our class assembly. We are in the process of writing our own newspaper reports too!

**English:** We have explored haiku and acrostic poems and wrote our own poems to do with the Stone Age. We have now moved on to a new Writer’s Sequence where we are exploring the features of a newspaper. We are in the process of planning our own newspaper all to do with Ancient Egyptians!

**Maths:** We have now finished our addition and subtraction topic where lots of children completed lots more learning at home which was great to share with the rest of the class. We are now exploring multiplication and division, with particular focus on our 3, 4 and 8-times tables. We have been doing extra practice of these during fast Maths to help the children develop their understanding further.

**PE:** The children have been working really hard during gymnastics on a Wednesday morning, we have explored different shapes such as stance, star, tuck and dish! We have been working in pairs to create our own routines which we have shared at the end of the lesson with the rest of the class. We will now be changing our P.E days to a Tuesday and Wednesday so please make sure your child comes to school in their PE kit on these days.

### Internet Safety

Protect your child:

[www.getsafeonline.org](http://www.getsafeonline.org)

[www.nspcc.org.uk/preventing-abuse/keeping-children-safe](http://www.nspcc.org.uk/preventing-abuse/keeping-children-safe)

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

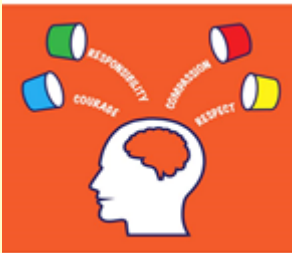
[www.thinkuknow.co.uk](http://www.thinkuknow.co.uk)

Parents: Supporting Young People Online (Leaflets):

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



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Cedar  
Year 4

Year 4 have made a fantastic start to our Learning Experience: "Invasion!" We have learnt lots of facts about the Romans and will be moving on to looking at the Anglo Saxons and Vikings. The overarching theme of this history experience is finding out how the English language has changed due to invasions of Britain.

**English:** The children have thoroughly enjoyed reading Beowulf. Through our WRITER's sequence, we've worked together to unpick the language, create and uplevel expanded noun-phrases and adverbial phrases. This all contributed to a character description. We look forward to sharing some of these with you at the class assembly!

**Maths:** We have come to the end of our first unit on Multiplication and Division, covering the 3, 4, 8, 7, 6, 9, 11 and 12 times tables. Ask your child what they have learnt about when you times a number by zero (e.g.  $0 \times 4 =$  ). We will spend the rest of this term consolidating the learning from the Autumn term.

**PE:** We are incredibly lucky to have a coach on a Wednesday and Friday now. Wednesday has been Gymnastics in the hall. On Friday's we have Sam teaching us Lacrosse. So far, the children have learnt how to hold the stick and scoop the ball. With the changing weather, please ensure your child wears warm clothing on Fridays.

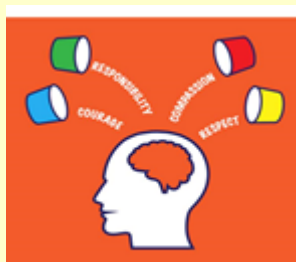
**Geography:** Using a map of Europe, we have located where the Romans, Vikings and Anglo Saxons originated. I was very impressed with the children's use of atlases to support this.

**Art:** We are designing Roman pots! As a class we've looked at various designs and found out the Romans were inspired by Ancient Greek pottery. We look forward to making these with clay soon.

**RE:** In RE, we are learning about Hinduism and their gods. They believe in one main god (Brahma) and feel that he manifests himself in different ways. This linked with an interesting class discussion on personalities.

We hope to see lots of parents/carers at the Year 4 class assembly on Friday 1<sup>st</sup> December.

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### Oak Year 5

It's been an exciting week in Oak class with nearly half the class going to Imberhorne on Wednesday morning to train as Sports Crew, followed by First Aid training for the whole class in the afternoon and then our trip into East Grinstead on Thursday! The children were a credit to the school at all the events and demonstrated the core values brilliantly.

**English:** We have published our setting descriptions inspired by our class text "War Game" and we are now moving on to writing character descriptions based on War Horse. The children are following the Writer's Sequence well and trying hard to include all the relevant features in their own pieces. We look forward to sharing these with you at the end of term.

**Maths:** We have moved on to learning about fractions and how to calculate equivalent fractions. The children remembered lots of their prior learning which really helped us to get stuck into this topic.

**History:** We have investigated what life was like in the trenches during our history lessons and have also looked into propaganda and how this was used during World War 1.

Thank you for your continued support with your child's learning; it's lovely to see lots of diaries filled with evidence of reading at home and lots of homework being returned. It's great to be able to reward the children with dojos for showing this extra responsibility.

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### Redwood Year 6

Year 6 experienced life in a Victorian classroom as part of our stunning start to our Experience - *Bah, Humbug!* Pupils learnt by rote and practised their copperplate handwriting as well as a 'drill' PE lesson. Hopefully your child has relayed some of the activities to you as they seemed to enjoy the day tremendously.

**English:** We have read 'A Christmas Carol'. This is an abridged version written as a poem based on the Charles Dickens classic. Pupils have been investigating the vocabulary used and the rhyming pattern. The children have been answering VIPERS questions in reading sessions and are answering questions with confidence. The children have also been writing character descriptions. The children have followed our steps of the Writer's sequence in order to ensure they have used all the skills they need to write a detailed description. They have also thought carefully about the audience and purpose.

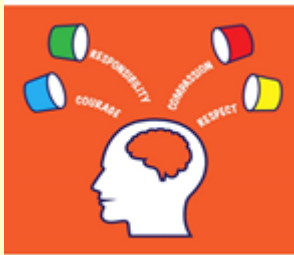
**Maths:** We have had a focus on fractions this half term and have started to add and subtract fractions. Children are learning how to do this with fractions with different denominators. This is no mean feat, and knowing our multiplication tables is integral in the process. Please continue to support your children in recalling times tables at home if they are not secure in this skill. We will continue to chant and test pupils on tables in school .

Over the next few weeks, we'll continue to explore all things Victorian and focus on understanding how this era shaped the Christmas traditions we have today. The children are thoroughly enjoying this history topic. We are going to be making Christmas crackers as a Victorian invention that we have taken from Victorian times. If you have any toilet rolls or kitchen towel rolls it would be very much appreciated.

This website provides some great reads for Year 6 if you are after some ideas for Christmas presents.

[Best Books for Year 6 | Ages 10-11 | The Reader Teacher](#)

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### Recent Correspondence

Early Years Nativity Costume

### Upcoming Events

Flu vaccinations

KS1 Nativity

Christmas Lunch

Christmas Disco

### Dates for your Diary

November 2023	
Monday 27 <sup>th</sup>	Flu vaccinations
December 2023	
Friday 1 <sup>st</sup>	Cedar class assembly 9.00am
Wednesday 6 <sup>th</sup> 2.00pm and Thursday 7 <sup>th</sup> 9.15am	KS1 (Reception, Year 1 and Year 2) Christmas play – more details to follow
Friday 8 <sup>th</sup>	Maple class assembly 9.00am Christmas Disco – more details to follow – all children can wear party clothes all day.
Wednesday 13 <sup>th</sup>	Christmas lunch – festive/winter themed clothes
Friday 15 <sup>th</sup>	Last day of term – Christmas jumpers
January 2024	
Tuesday 2 <sup>nd</sup>	INSET day – School closed to children
Wednesday 3 <sup>rd</sup>	Children return to school
February 2024	
Monday 12 <sup>th</sup> – Friday 16 <sup>th</sup>	Half Term – School closed to children
Monday 19 <sup>th</sup>	INSET day – School closed to children
Tuesday 20 <sup>th</sup>	Children return to school