Baldwins Hill Newsletter

6th November 2026
Head Teacher: Jenny Dabell
Officebh@partnersinlearning.co.uk
Tel: 01342 321572

Respect, Compassion, Courage, Responsibility

Dear Parents and Carers,
Welcome to our end of October – early November newsletter. I can't quite believe we are already half way through the Autumn term and on that we are on that road towards sleigh bells and reindeer already!
We had the first Parent Forum of the year on the 16th October and you will find notes from the meeting and a presentation on the headlines of our School Development Plan for this year on our school website. Thank you to the parents who managed to attend – it is always greatly appreciated that you give your precious time for these meetings. Please remember that all parents are welcome; do come along to the next meeting on Friday 27th November at 10am on Teams.
I hope that you enjoy reading this newsletter and finding out all about what your children have been learning and what is coming up for them over the next few weeks.
Warmest wishes,
Jenny Dabell - Head teacher





Autism Action Award – Silver Accreditation

We are delighted to announce that our school has achieved the *Silver Autism Action Award accreditation*.
The Autism Action Award (AAA), formerly known as the Autism Aware Award, is a recognised programme for educational settings that celebrates a positive and effective whole-school approach to supporting autistic pupils and those with social communication differences.
The programme was developed in collaboration with schools, parent carers, West Sussex staff, and individuals with lived experience of autism. It encourages schools to create inclusive environments where all pupils can thrive.
The award focuses on three key areas:

- Developing an autism and neurodiversity-affirming school environment and workforce.
- Building strong partnerships with parent carers through genuine co-production and collaboration.
- Supporting autistic children and young people to develop positive self-awareness, confidence, and the skills needed to ensure their voices are heard.

The Autism Action Award programme runs annually, allowing schools to progress at a pace that reflects their individual journey. Schools can work towards Bronze, Silver, and Gold accreditation, with reaccreditation taking place every three years to ensure continued development and best practice.
We are extremely proud of this achievement, which reflects our ongoing commitment to creating an inclusive, supportive, and understanding environment for all of our pupils.

Baldwins Hill Primary School
Everychild Partnership Trust
Eco-Schools Distinction | 2025 - 2026

Classroom News

Cherry

This half term, the children are practicing digraphs or 'special friends', which is two letters together that make one sound such as "sh" or "th". We will also aim by the end of this half term to write CVC words such as pop, cat and pin. We do this by saying the word and then stretching the word in order to hear all of the sounds, this is known as segmenting. We will also be recapping on letter formation and helping the children to form letters correctly. This would be a great activity to do at home too if possible. We will continue to use Fred talk, although now including digraphs as well. Fred Talk helps children to say the sounds in a word before blending them together to read it. Families can find out more about this approach through Read Write Inc. We have started this half terms topic of 'Celebrations', where each week we will explore a different celebration that happens around the world. This will include; Halloween, Bonfire Night, Remembrance day, Diwali, Thanksgiving, Advent and Christmas. In Understanding the World, we have started the topic of history where we will delve into personal histories, such as what is the same and what is different about the three life stages we have experienced so far, including baby, toddler and child. We will also look at the history of toys and how they have changed and developed into what we have at present. In PE, our topic is 'Me & Myself where we will practice practical and useful skills, such as putting on coats as well as listening and responding correctly to instructions. In PSHE we will explore different types of families, people in our own families and how they can help us. It has been a pleasure seeing the progress the children are already making and we are so pleased with how well each of them has settled into Baldwins Hill.





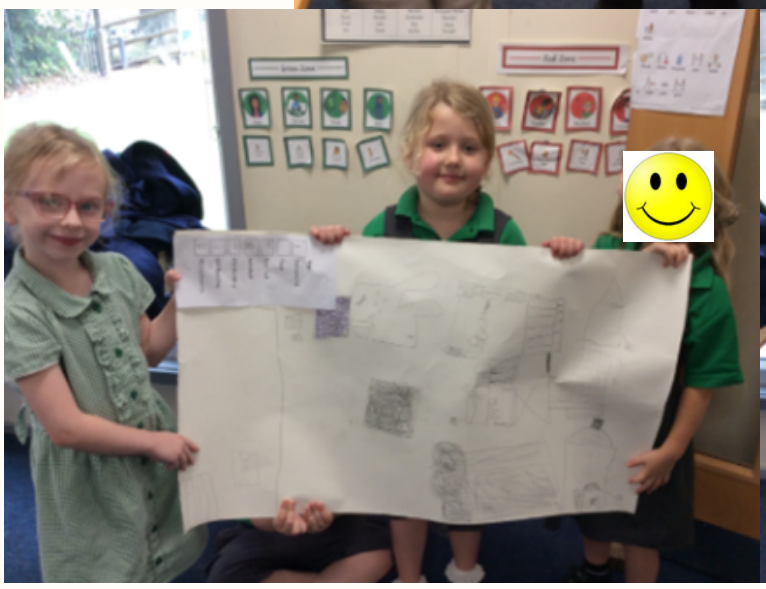


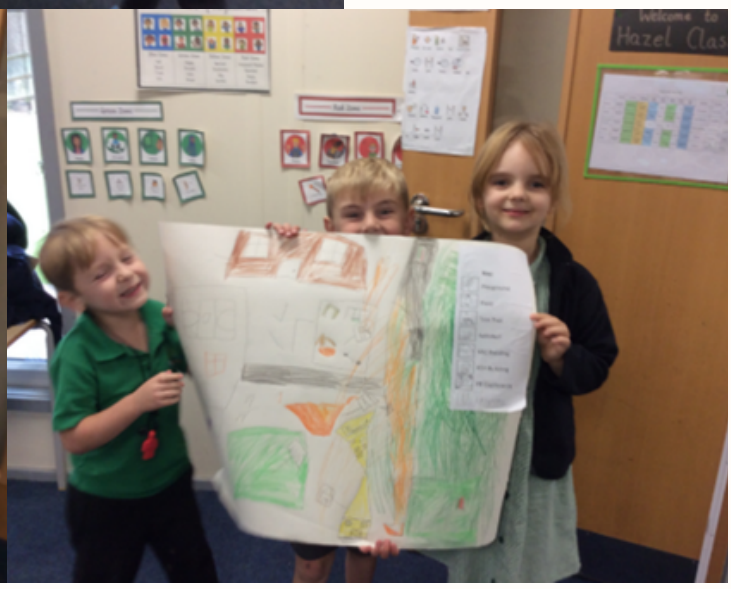
Hazel

We have had a really lovely time learning lots of new things in Hazel class! In maths, we have been practicing our number bonds to 10, doubling numbers and developing our addition and subtraction skills. In English, we read the very funny book Oi Frog! Then we wrote our own silly rhyming poems and read them out loud to the class. In Geography, we have continued our learning about maps. We created maps of the school and then designed a map showing how we would improve our school playground. We had lots of fantastic ideas! We have been working scientifically to observe plants and trees. We learnt about the different parts of a plant and a tree, and discovered the difference between deciduous and evergreen trees! In PSHE, we have been thinking about what makes a good friend and how we can make our classroom a kind a friendly place for everyone. We discussed the importance of showing our core values and being kind. In RE, we explored different creation stories from Christianity, Judaism, Hinduism and Humanism. We listened to and discussed different beliefs about how the world began, as well as sharing and reflecting on our own thoughts and ideas. We are so proud of all the courage, responsibility, respect and compassion the children have shown! We are very excited for another wonderful half term. We are especially looking forward to our school Nativity, which will be taking place on Tuesday 8th and Thursday 10th December.

Our Fab 5 Books this half term: The Smartest Giant In Town by Julia Donaldson, The Runaway Pea by Kjartan Poskitt, Goldilocks and the Three Bears, Beegu by Alexis Deacon





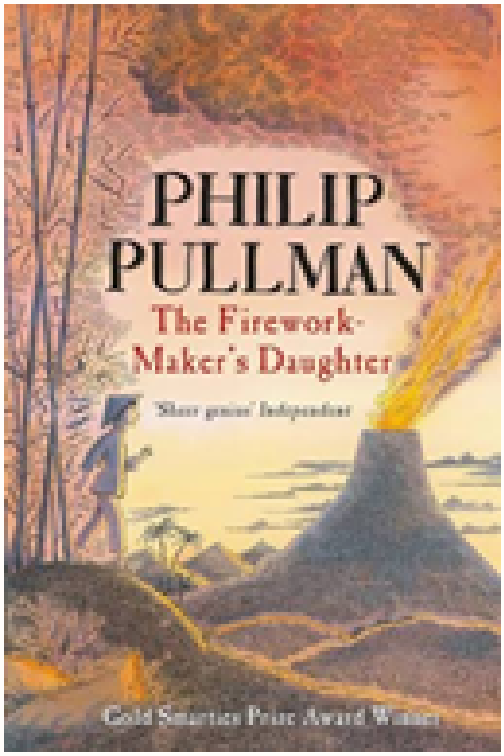


Cedar

This month, we have enjoyed learning about volcanoes in Geography and using our knowledge to support our writing in English. Our learning has been both exciting and informative, and we have worked hard to present our work neatly and carefully in our books to showcase our achievements.

In Science, we explored light and shadows as part of our energy topic. We enjoyed using a range of equipment to model different light sources, including the Sun, and investigating how shadows are formed.
In Maths, we worked hard to secure our understanding of place value and have begun applying this knowledge to 4-digit numbers. We are proud of the progress we have made and the confidence we are developing.

We are also excited to continue our class novel, The Firework-Maker's Daughter by Philip Pullman, and are looking forward to discovering how the story ends!



Oak

Oak class have been busy wrapping up their learning before half term and are ready to embark on new challenges in Autumn 2!

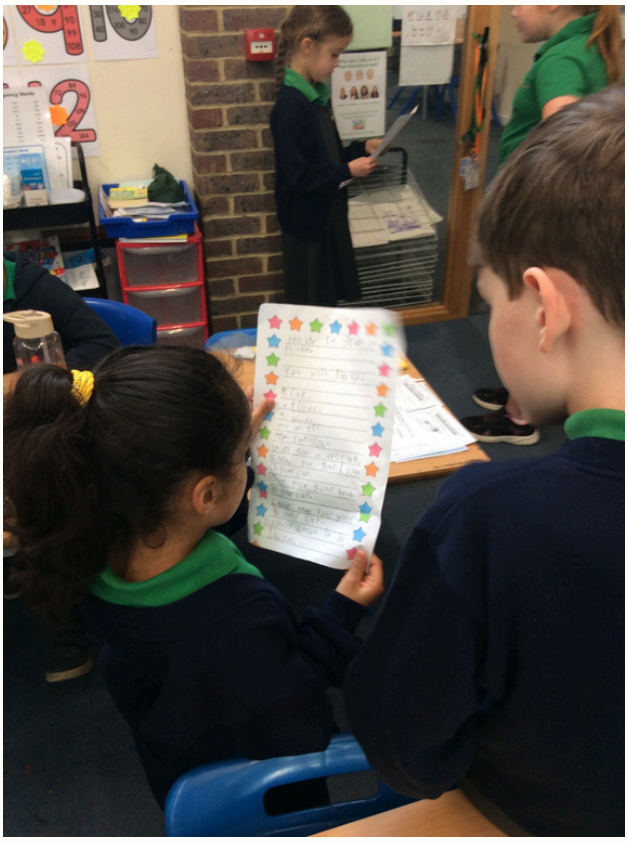
In maths we have investigated properties of numbers by learning about prime, squared and cubed numbers and how these relate to factors and multiples. We will be moving onto fractions very soon.

In English we enjoyed writing Legends which we shared with Hazel class and will be showing off our Geography learning by creating brochures about the Alps before moving onto our new book War Games.

Science has been a lot of fun creating mixtures and solutions and learning how to separate things once mixed. We will move onto thinking about different materials and their properties next.

History this term will see us investigating the world of the Viking, who they were, where they came from and how they lived. Should be fun!





Redwood

Year 6 were absolutely fantastic at Windmill Hill this year. They embraced every opportunity with enthusiasm, resilience, and determination, consistently demonstrating all of our core values in everything they did. Whether tackling challenges, trying new activities, or supporting one another, they approached each experience with positivity and a smile. They were outstanding role models and represented Baldwins Hill well. Year 6 truly embodied the spirit of Windmill Hill and created memories that will last a lifetime. Mrs Osborne has never laughed so much!!!!

Year 6 have made an excellent start to the half term and have returned to school with a fantastic attitude towards their learning. We have been incredibly impressed by their enthusiasm, resilience and eagerness to take on new challenges. The children have settled quickly back into routines, are working hard in lessons and continue to show a positive approach across all areas of the curriculum. We are looking forward to building on this strong start and celebrating even more successes as the term continues.





Sports







The great Athlete visit was a great success, we have raised over £700! The final figure is being calculated - if you have not yet returned your sponsorship, there's still time. The money raised will go towards new sports equipment.











First Aid training for children in Years 2, 4 and 6

We have once again organised First Aid training for the children in these year groups and this will be delivered on Wednesday 9th December. It is our goal that, by the time every child leaves Baldwins Hill at the end of Year 6, they will all have had the opportunity to participate in this valuable learning.

The cost will be covered for another year by our wonderful Friends of Baldwins Hill School 'FOBHS' (Formally PTA). The children will receive training from a recognised first aid trainer. If you have any questions please don't hesitate to get in touch.

The likely content is as follows: (adjustments are always made as needed in terms of age and stage of the children).

Year 2	Years 4	Year 6
Dangers & staying safe Calling the emergency services and what information to give Introducing the heart and the brain and recognising someone who needs help & checking if someone is responsive. Introduction to treating cuts and bruises. Recovery Position	Choking Head Injuries Nose bleeds Burns and bleeds	CPR Anaphylaxis Asthma Seizures



Tour dates and Presentations:

- Tuesday 13th October 9.30am
- Wednesday 21st October 1.30pm
- Monday 16th November 1.30pm
- Thursday 26th November 9.30am
- Thursday 7th January 9.30am

https://forms.gle/1N3fFtCADaiayXBM6

Upcoming Events

Dates for your Diary

Please click the link for the term dates for 2026/2027

https://www.baldwinshillprimaryschool.co.uk/page/?title=Term+Dates&pid=57

Breakfast Club

Don't forget we have breakfast club open to all year groups from 8am, which is free.
Our Breakfast Club is now well established, and we have successfully secured funding for the next school year.
Breakfast Club will operate on an ad-hoc basis, meaning pupils will be able to attend without pre-booking.
If you haven't done so already, please complete the google form for 2026/27.
https://forms.gle/y4E81QQDe6ghNYHR6

Reminders

To ensure the safety of all, the entrance to the staff car park must <u>not</u> be used when dropping children off at breakfast club.

Get up and glow

Following the success of our pilot, I'm so excited to share that Get Up & Glow Morning Club will be returning from Monday 14 September 2026.
From September, sessions will continue to run for 30 minutes before school and will be booked as a paid half-termly block at £4 per session.



November	
2nd November	INSET Day - School closed to children
12th November	**Individual Photos**
18th November	Workshop - "Surviving the Storm"
27th November	Parents' Forum (Teams)
December	
8th December	Hazel Nativity
9th December	First aid for children
10th December	Hazel Nativity
16th December	School Christmas Lunch
January	
15th January	Parents' Forum



Check out the video filmed back in spring of Baldwins Hill:

https://www.baldwinshillprimaryschool.co.uk/

