

Baldwins Hill Primary School

NEWSLETTER

Headteacher: Jenny Dabell

20th December 2024

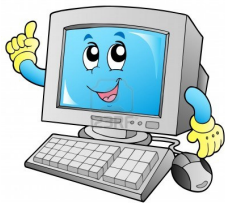
Respect, Compassion, Courage, Responsibility



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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 first term and enjoying all the festivities that this time of year brings. The children have thoroughly enjoyed the activities at school such as our 'Reindeer Run' for St Catherine's Hospice (thanks to one of our parents for suggesting this!) and our enchanting KS1 nativity show. It has been wonderful to see our youngest children settling so beautifully into school and beginning to grow in confidence.

Thank you for all you have done to support the school over the last term, particularly for completing our parent questionnaire which was overwhelmingly positive. Some of the comments that were written were so heartfelt and brought a tear to the eye! We were also grateful to be given ideas for things that might make our school processes and communications even stronger. Over the next few Parent Forum meetings I will be sharing some of the feedback that we received and how we plan to go about maximising the successes and making adaptations where needed based on the 'even better ifs'.

All it leaves me to say right now is – please have a healthy and happy Christmas and New Year and thoroughly enjoy spending time with your loved ones. (I would say have a rest but I'm not sure Christmas is particularly restful for some!)

We will see you all on Tuesday 7th January when the terms start for the children. A very Happy Christmas from Miss Dabell and all of 'Team Baldwins.'

A message from our Chair of Governors

Dear Parents/Carers,

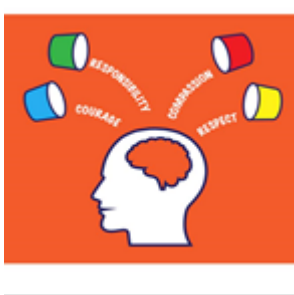
As we approach the Christmas break, I wanted to take this opportunity on behalf of the Governing Board (LGB) to send best wishes to you and the children at this time of year. We hope you have a wonderful Christmas - whatever you do. The children have got so much to be proud of this year and you can't fail to be impressed when you walk around the school and see them in their learning environment.

We also want to acknowledge and thank the PTA, who volunteer their time every year to raise well needed funds for the school on behalf of the children and do a fantastic job.

Finally, we also wanted to say a huge thank you to the staff. The Governors and I have regular meetings and monitoring visits with the Staff and Leadership team and are consistently impressed by their hard work and dedication to the children and their learning outcomes. They are a great team who can also be proud of their achievements this year.

Have a great Christmas and Happy New Year to you all.

Scott Gibbons - Chair of Governors.



Courage:
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Responsibility:
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Saplings

Over the last few weeks, the children have enjoyed hearing Christmas themed stories such as The Gingerbread Man, The Nativity Story, The Christmas Pine and Stick Man. We have retold the stories to each other, acted them out and drawn and written about them in drawing club. We have linked these stories to our cross curricular learning in provision.

The children's highlight has been making salt dough Gingerbread men Christmas tree decorations and painting them with the help of our Year 6 buddies. We have made lots of Christmas craft such as Christmas cards, stockings, snowmen and more!

We have been working very hard to practice for our part in the school nativity. In class we have been thinking about the story of Jesus's birth. The children have loved practising their songs and enjoyed seeing their families in the crowd supporting them.

In our Maths work we have been focusing on more than and fewer than. For our phonics we have been recapping all the phonics we have learnt so far and using them to read and write sentences about our elf.

We hope that you all enjoy the Christmas break and we look forward to hearing all about it from the children in January.

Willow

Year 1 have been working exceptionally hard this term. We had a Christingle making afternoon, making our sheep headbands for the Nativity, practising lots of our Christmas songs, as well as lots of maths and phonics learning!

The children are currently recapping over sounds we have learnt over the past two terms. In maths, we have been reviewing our understanding of addition and subtraction up to 10, as well as our 2D and 3D shapes, part part whole models and using number lines to help us.

In English, we made our own leaflets on why you should come and visit our own school! We had lots of discussions around what a leaflet is, what to include and lots of good reasons to come and visit the school.

In Science, we have spoken about the four seasons, differences between plants and trees, and have recently focused on the five animal groups.

In Geography, the children worked in partners to begin their Fabulous Finish for the term of designing their own country! We will be presenting these in class in our show and tell.

Finally, the children have done exceptionally well practising for our Nativity, well done Year 1 and Happy Christmas!

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Internet Safety

Protect your child:

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

Parents: Supporting Young People Online (Leaflets):

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



Sycamore

Year two have had a very busy term! Learning about the Great Fire of London has been very exciting. We enjoyed our trip to Halsford Park where we were visited by the Rainbow Theatre. All the children had a part to play, and demonstrated the schools core values while at Halsford Park, and when walking back to school. Well done! We have been working hard practicing 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. The children have retained lots of key knowledge over our English and History lessons, and have been able to write a successful fact file. I am looking forward to starting our new key text – Mrs Armitage on Wheels and writing letters when we return in the Spring Term.

Maths – The children worked very hard learning about addition and subtraction, which we will continue to work on, and revisit later in the year. We have progressed to shapes in our maths lessons which we will continue after the Christmas break. The children are learning the names of 2D and 3D shapes and how many sides and vertices they have.

Wishing you all a Merry Christmas, looking forward to seeing you in the New Year.

Maple

Year 3 have thoroughly enjoyed the end to our topic 'Who were the greatest builders?'. We continued our journey of learning through the historical timeline and swiftly moved forward from our learning on the Stone Age to Ancient Egypt. The children have loved exploring the different roles Ancient Egyptians had. Ask your child who the Pharaoh we learnt about was called!



In our last week of term, we had the opportunity to use VR head sets to see into the Ancient Egyptian times and the class had lots of fun experiencing the Egyptian pyramids up close!

Maths: We have moved our learning onto exploring all things turns, angles and shapes! The class have been brilliant at using the correct vocabulary to describe different angles in different 2D shapes.

Ask your child all about acute and obtuse angles!

English: The class have finished their final WRITER sequence of the term following our DT learning on making Egyptian flatbreads. I am so proud of the instructions that the class have written. Every child has taken their time to include all of the key features of instructions and used their neatest handwriting when they have published their learning.



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Cedar

In Year 4, we've been learning about the Romans, Vikings, and Anglo-Saxons, and exploring how they fit into our history. We've looked at why each group came to Britain – the Romans to conquer and build their empire, the Vikings to raid and settle, and the Anglo-Saxons to create new kingdoms. We've also studied what life was like for these groups, from the Romans' roads and buildings to the Vikings' longships and the Anglo-Saxons' villages. By understanding their way of life and the changes they brought, we've learned how these invasions shaped Britain's history and its culture. In Art, we've been creating our own clay pots, and everyone is excited to take them home soon to show off our hard work and creativity!

We've now moved on to practicing and recalling our 3, 6, and 9 times tables. We've been using our reasoning skills to explain the relationships between these times tables. This has helped us understand the patterns and connections between these numbers, strengthening both our multiplication skills and our ability to reason mathematically.

We've recently finished reading Beowulf, and through the process, we applied our VIPERS skills to deepen our understanding of the story. This helped us explore Beowulf's emotions and motivations more thoroughly, giving us valuable insight into his character. Now that we've wrapped up Beowulf, we've moved on to writing non-chronological reports in English. We've drawn on our historical knowledge to write detailed fact files about the various invaders that shaped British history.

Oak

Oak class have had a great time continuing our topic on World War 1, we have looked into the roles of women during the war and also how animals were used for many different jobs. A particular highlight was using VR headsets to explore what trenches were like during the war, the excited buzz in the classroom was incredible.

After publishing our setting descriptions we moved onto a new Writers sequence looking at character descriptions. The children created their own Christmas themed character thinking of all the features they wanted to then write about. We're looking forward to getting these published too.

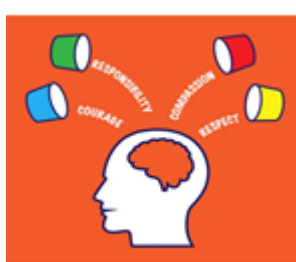
In maths we have been learning all about fractions which has been challenging but fun. The children have learned about equivalent fractions, improper fractions and mixed numbers. See if they can tell you what the definitions are and how to convert improper fractions to mixed numbers.

We had a very creative afternoon last week making shelters in DT. The children worked together really well to share their ideas and use their skills to make a free standing structure.

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Baldwins Hill
Primary School

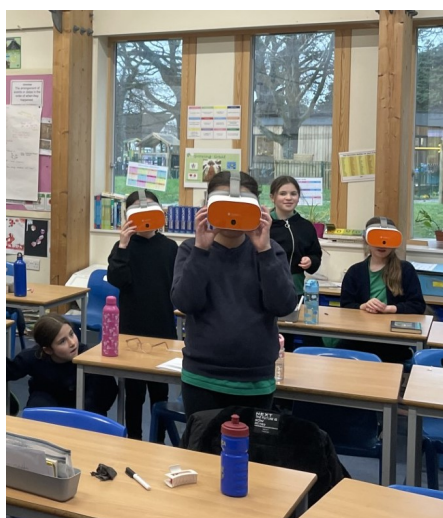


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The children have had a very busy half term so we wish them a well deserved rest over Christmas. Thanks as always for your ongoing support with your child's learning.

Redwood

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.

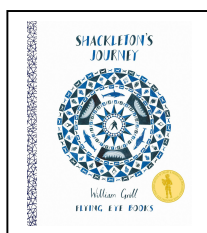
Maths: This week, we have had some fun creating pictures using coordinates. We have translated shapes across four quadrants (which is quite a tricky Year 6 skill). Lots of interactive online games can be found on this topic, so if your child finds themselves at a loose end over Christmas, they could 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 happy 2025 from all the Year 6 team.



Next half term our key text will be Shackleton's journey by William Gull. It would be lovely if the children could have a copy to read in class. Maybe an extra Christmas present.

A big thank you to the PTA for funding the first aid courses last month, the children thoroughly enjoyed themselves. The Festive Event on Friday the 13th December raised over £600, thank you for your continued support. Look out for more events in the New Year such as love & kindness disco and more wonky bars!



Dates for your Diary
(Class Assembly dates to follow)

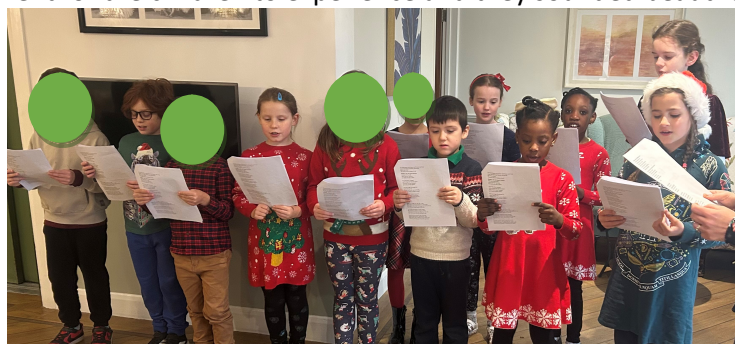
December 2024	
20 th December	Last day of term
January 2025	
(Monday) 6 th January 25	INSET day – school closed to children
(Tuesday) 7 th January 25	First day back at School
(Tuesday) 14 th January 25	Parent Forum 10-11 am on Teams
(Wednesday) 15 th January	Year 5 Sports afternoon and tea at Copthorne
27 th January	Year 6 Bikeability

Please visit our website for the term dates for 2024/2025.

<https://baldwinshillprimaryschool.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2024/01/Term-Dates-2024-2025.pdf>

Choir visit to Knowle House

On Friday 13th December children from choir went to preform at Knowle House Nursing Home. They sang a variety of carols to the residents. The residents, clapped and sang along with the children. It was a wonderful moment for the children to experience and they sounded beautiful. Well done choir



Staying Safe Online

Going online is a huge part of most young people's lives so it's important to talk to them about online safety. Here are our tips to get you started:

1. Chat to them about what they like to do online

Listen to what they have to say and show an interest. Regular conversations with your child will encourage them to come to you if they ever need support or advice.

2. Talk about who they are in contact with online

Use settings to help limit who can contact your child. Remind your child that they shouldn't share personal information with people they don't know online.

3. Help manage what they see and do online

Parental controls and privacy settings can help you manage how your child spends time online and help to keep them safe. Make sure to talk to your child first before implementing any new settings and explain to them how they help to keep them safe.

Remember it's ok to ask for help!

Visit the NSPCC online safety hub: nspcc.org.uk/onlinesafety

Call the NSPCC helpline 0808 800 5000 to speak to an advisor

Speak to a member of Baldwins Hill staff or ask to speak to a Designated Safeguarding Lead

National Online Safety
#WakeUpWednesday

12 Social Media Online Safety Tips FOR CHILDREN WITH NEW DEVICES

With Christmas only a few weeks away, many of you will be using social media to share your excitement with friends and family. Being active on social media is a great way to show others how much fun you're having, but it's important that you know how to use these apps safely and securely so that bad things don't happen. By following our safety tips below, you can make sure that your personal information stays private, your postings are positive and that your social media use overall is responsible, healthy and most of all enjoyable.

- DON'T ACCEPT FRIEND REQUESTS FROM STRANGERS**
Make sure that you set your profile to private so that people you don't know can't find you online. Always tell a trusted adult if a stranger or somebody you don't know sends you a message or a friend request.
- NEVER SHARE YOUR PERSONAL INFORMATION WITH PEOPLE YOU DON'T KNOW**
Keep your personal information private. Sometimes people online aren't who they say they are and might ask you to share things that you don't feel comfortable sharing.
- DON'T SHARE EMBARRASSING PHOTOS OR VIDEOS OF OTHERS ONLINE**
This could really upset them and could get you into a lot of trouble. Always think twice before posting anything on social media and treat people online as you would in real-life.
- NEVER SEND NAKED PICTURES OF YOURSELF TO OTHERS**
This is illegal if you are under 18 and you could get into trouble with the Police. If you are being pressured by someone, always say no and tell a trusted adult. Even if you think it is innocent fun, the photo could be shared with other people and you won't be able to control who else sees it.
- CREATE A POSITIVE ONLINE REPUTATION**
Always be kind and polite when posting comments on social media and only upload pictures and videos of things you are proud of. This forms part of your digital footprint. Everything you do online can be tracked and monitored and could affect what people think of you in real-life if it is negative.
- LIMIT YOUR SCREEN TIME**
Social media can be addictive, and it is easy to keep checking newsfeeds or your notifications every 5 minutes which can affect your behaviour and stop you from doing other things. Remember to only use your phone at certain times of the day, turn notifications off at bedtime and go out and have as fun as much as possible. This will keep you fit and healthy and make you appreciate there's more to life than just what's on social media.
- BLOCK ONLINE BULLIES**
Sometimes people might say nasty things to you online or post offensive comments on your pictures or videos. If this happens, always tell a trusted adult who will help you block them from your profile and support you in taking further action.
- REPORT INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT**
If you see something on social media that you don't like, offends you or upsets you, you should always report it to a trusted adult. You should also report it to the social media app who will be able to remove the content if it is against their user policy and can block the person who posted it.
- ONLY USE APPS WHICH YOU ARE OLD ENOUGH TO USE**
Before downloading any new social media app, always check the age-rating. If you need help, ask your parent or carer to make sure that the app is safe for you to use and never download anything which you are too young for as it may contain content that isn't safe for you to see.
- ALWAYS SECURE ALL YOUR SOCIAL MEDIA PROFILES WITH A PASSWORD**
This will help to keep your private information safe, and won't allow others to access your profiles without your permission. Make sure your passwords are memorable and personal to you but something which other people can't guess, and always share them with your parents just in case you forget them.
- ASK PARENTS TO SET-UP 'PARENTAL CONTROLS' FOR SOCIAL MEDIA**
When you download a social media app, you should always ask a trusted adult to help you set it up for the first time. This will help you control who sees what you post, who can contact you and make sure you are able to enjoy using the app safely and securely.
- ALWAYS TALK TO YOUR TRUSTED ADULT IF SOCIAL MEDIA IS MAKING YOU UNHAPPY**
Sometimes, social media can make us feel bad about ourselves or sad that we aren't the same as someone else or doing the same things as someone else. Remember, if you ever feel this way, it's really important to talk to your trusted adult(s) like your parents, carers, other adult family members or a teacher, all of whom will be able to support you and discuss your feelings with you to help make you feel better.

National Online Safety
www.nationalonlinesafety.com Twitter - @natonlinesafety Facebook - /NationalOnlineSafety

CHARTWELLS ORDERING

You can now order your child's meals for January 2025, including the important Census day on **16th January**. Whilst we know you are busy planning for Christmas, we didn't want you to miss ordering the meals for the first week or two back.

On Census Day, we encourage everyone entitled to a free meal to order one, even if you want to send a packed lunch in case they don't enjoy a hot meal. This is pivotal in receiving the funding we are entitled to as well as giving your children the opportunity to try a hot meal if they don't usually have one. Please see the menu on the next page.

We are pleased to be welcoming Huxley, our new school therapy dog as part of the Baldwins Hill community, in the New Year. Please note: This will be on a referral/invitation based system so apologies not all children will be able to work with Huxley.

'The 'Paws & Read Scheme' is an initiative run by Therapy Dogs Nationwide, a charity where sociable and specially trained Therapy Dogs come in to schools to help children develop a passion for reading. Reading to dogs can help children to develop their reading skills and can also help them help children to build confidence, and self-esteem and can encourage positive behaviour.'





ENTER PROMO CODE:
NY15
 AT CHECKOUT

Don't miss out! 15% off from 31/12/24 to 05/01/25.
 Simply use the promocode: NY15 at checkout.

American ALL STARS

Thursday 16th January 2025

MAINS
 Burger and Chips
 Mac & Cheese

SIDES
 Sweetcorn or Baked Beans
 Seasonal Salad

DESSERT
 Frosted Vanilla Celebration Cake

Order via [ParentPay](#) no later than Thursday 2nd January 2025

ALL-TIME GREATS FROM THE UNITED STATES




23rd December, 2nd & 3rd January
 HALSFORD PARK HOLIDAY CAMP
 Book online at www.pioneerchildcare.co.uk

FREE HAF Places Available
 Book online at <https://bit.ly/free-haf-pioneer>
 For children in receipt of Free School Meals. Funded by the Department of Education.




HOLIDAY ACTIVITIES



2 - 3 JANUARY
 BOGNOR REGIS - RAP & LYRIC WRITING
 CRAWLEY - DJ & MUSIC PRODUCTION
 LITTLEHAMPTON - ROCK & POP BAND

AGES 8 - 16YRS
SIGN UP HERE
WWW.WESTSUSSEXMUSIC.CO.UK/HOLIDAYACTIVITIES




Supported using public funding by
 Department for Education



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