

Baldwins Hill Primary School

NEWSLETTER

Headteacher: Jenny Dabell

28th February 2025

Respect, Compassion, Courage, Responsibility



Baldwins Hill
Primary School

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school website

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

parentview.ofsted.gov.uk



Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome to our February newsletter.

Having just had our half term break, the previous Learning Experiences seem far away in the rear view mirror already - but it is still important to note how impressed we were with the rich learning that took place in all year groups, and also how compassionate the children were in working together and helping each other.

Read on to find out all about what your child has been learning and what is coming up for them over the next month.

Have a wonderful weekend – let's hope the blue skies continue!

Jenny Dabell
Headteacher

The Family Learning team at West Sussex County Council are running **free, virtual sessions on raising teens**. The aim of these sessions is to help parents/carers understand the teenage brain, and offer guidance on how to communicate with their teens and foster a positive home environment.

We have 2 options available:

Raising Teens: An Introduction to the Teenage Brain

This is a 90 minute session on **Tuesday 4 March, 19:45 - 21:15, running virtually**. This introductory session will focus on developing positive communication between parents, carers, and teenagers. You'll walk away with practical strategies for improving communication and overcoming common challenges you may be facing.

To find out more and register, please click [here](#).

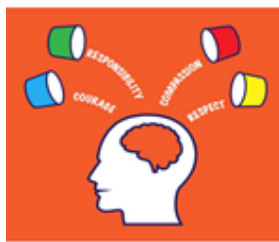
Raising Teens: Navigating the Teenage Mind

This **4-week course** begins on the **11 March with 90 minute sessions running virtually, in the evening**. Whilst on this course, you'll gain a deeper understanding of teenage brain development and how it influences behaviour, communication, and relationships. We'll dive into the key emotional, social, and developmental needs of teenagers, and explore what happens when those needs aren't met, leading to shifts in behaviour.

To find out more and register, please click [here](#).



Thank you to all the children for raising an amazing **£1926** in sponsorship for the Great Athletes challenge and are inspired to be more active.



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Saplings

Literacy-This term our topic is "Into the wild, all about animals." We have kicked it off by exploring zoo animals. We have watched the animation "Mr Benn- The zookeeper" and based are drawing club/literacy learning on the story. The children have drawn the character, setting and their own adventures based on the story and written correlating sentences with the new vocabulary we have learnt in them. The children are becoming more and more independent and are now able to complete drawing club activities independently.

Maths-In maths we have been focusing on the number 7. We have been representing number 7 with different resources such as counters and numicon. We are learning the number bond pairs that go together to make 7.

Understanding the world-We have started to learn about different animals' habitats. We learnt what this word means and that there can be many different types of habitats. Next week our focus book will be "Welcome home bear" which shows lots of different habitats in the images and story. The children are looking forward to making habitat boxes next week.

PE-As the weather is starting to get nicer, we have started to do PE outside. We have been learning how to throw and catch and will progress to different types of ball games as the term goes on.

Willow

We have kicked off our new topic for the term, 'Starry Night'. We learnt about Vincent Van Gogh, his famous artwork and the children had a chance to create their own 'starry night' inspired artwork.

Year 1 have been working hard in Drawing Club. We started with the book 'Would you rather..' which the children have really been enjoying.

In maths, we have been working out missing number problems and place value up to 50.

In phonics, we have been reviewing alternative sounds for graphemes. For example: how 'y' makes an 'igh' sound like in 'fly'.

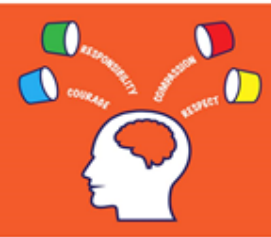
In science, we have been looking at the four seasons, and thinking about what happens in the seasons to the weather and special occasions.

Sycamore

Year 2 have started the term by exploring the artist Paul Klee, particularly his painting of 'Cat and Bird'. We will be recreating his artwork, and creating our own art using his style as influence. We are listening to different genres of music every day, and discussing what we like or dislike and thinking about the sounds and instruments we can hear.

Maths - We are continuing to strengthen our multiplication skills in math with a focus on the 2, 5 and 10 times table. The children are working very hard, and developing fluency in recalling times table facts.

English – We have been reading 'On the Ning Nang Nong' – a poem by Spike Milligan, and we have been thinking about the features of the poem, like rhymes and alliteration. We will be using this to help us write our own nonsense poem that will make people laugh!



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Maple

In year 3 we have started our new topic 'A Picture Paints 1000 words... so, tell me what do you see?'. We have been taking a big focus on Art and Music this week and enjoyed playing board games on our first day back after half term.

Maths: In maths we are looking at the 2, 4 and 8 times table. This week has taken a focus on the 2 and 4 times table and exploring the relationship between them. We have been working on our vocabulary for multiplication equations so please ask your child what the factor and product is!

English: We have started exploring our new book 'Jumanji' this week. The children have been working fantastically on the 'work on words' part of the WRITERS sequence and have explored the different verbs in the beginning of the story. Throughout this term, we are going to plan and write our own stories with a beginning, middle and end using inspiration from the story 'Jumanji'.

Art and DT: We have been completing daily sketches after lunch and the class have been taking a particular focus on the shading and highlights in their sketches. In DT, we are starting to plan our own board game and will eventually have made our own!

Music: Next week we will begin our ukulele lessons! The children are really looking forward to this.

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>



Cedar

As you may have heard, the children had an exciting time last term diving into the world of chocolate. They learned about the entire process of how chocolate is made, starting with cocoa beans, which grow on cacao trees in tropical regions like West Africa, South America, and Southeast Asia. The children explored how these beans are harvested, fermented, and roasted before they are turned into the chocolate we enjoy. In addition to this, the children had the chance to make their own chocolate, experimenting with different ingredients and flavours.





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To showcase their learning, they have added pictures of their chocolate-making experience, capturing both the fun and educational aspects of their journey into the world of chocolate.

At the start of the term, we kicked off our learning by watching *The Railway Children* as our stunning start. This launched our exploration of railway carriages, inspiring the children to think about travel in the past. In Art, we introduced the skill of one-point perspective, which we will develop later in the term to create a viewpoint of what it is like from a carriage window, allowing the children to explore depth and perspective in their scenic drawings. Using their VIPERS reading skills, they inferred meaning from great Impressionist paintings, making connections between art and storytelling. In Music, we explored how it helps us understand our community and the ways it brings people together.

We have begun exploring a selection of poems, reading, listening to, and analysing them to identify poetic devices and understand how poets use language, rhythm, and imagery to convey meaning. The children are now selecting their own poetic styles to plan, draft, and edit their poems. They are eager to share their creations during the Fabulous Finish, where their work will add a fresh and creative dimension to their writing.

The children have been focusing on understanding and manipulating multiplicative relationships, which is helping to prepare them for their upcoming MTC. They have been exploring patterns in multiplication, such as odd and even numbers, square numbers, and divisibility rules, strengthening their problem-solving skills and deepening their understanding of how these relationships connect to broader mathematical concepts.

Oak

Year 5 have had a great first week back launching into our topic on *The Highwayman*. They started off on Tuesday using clues to determine who the new topic was about before getting creative and using illustrations from the poem to create art for the classroom door.

In Book talk and Writing lessons we have been reading the poem, uninterpreting what it is all about, learning a lot of new vocabulary and looking at the wide range of figurative language the poet uses. We will be going on to learn sections of the poem to recite aloud as a performance for the end of our first Writers sequence of the term.

In Maths we have been investigating tenths and how they are written as fractions and decimal numbers, we will move onto learning about hundredths and thousandths next week. Once we can read and write numbers to three decimal places using this new knowledge we will then begin to order, compare and round these types of numbers.

As it is an arts focus this half term we will be listening to a different piece of music each day, these will be from a range of decades and a range of genres and should provide lots of discussion on likes/dislikes and general musical preferences.

We will also be practising our sketching skills regularly as well as learning how to use a different medium in art lesson each week, this Friday we will use soft pastels to create more pieces of art inspired by *The Highwayman*.



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Redwood

The children have returned this half term with enthusiasm and have started the term well. A highlight was our stunning start learning about classification and creating artwork of snake eyes and receiving our insects. These insects are to be brought in and out of school each day. It is to give the children ownership of caring and looking after something and encouraging them to have more independence. Some of the houses and ideas the children have had so far have been brilliant. I am looking forward to seeing more of them.

English: For this half term we are reading Beetle Boy and focussing on vocabulary, quick retrieval and inference questions. We will also be focussing on long answer questions and ensuring we use evidence in the text. This is really important towards our final push for SATs.

Maths: We have been continuing to develop our arithmetic skills and the speed at which we can answer questions. We are also going to be recapping all subjects covered so far this year and ensure our reasoning skills are used well in explaining calculations.

This half term we will be learning about classification, evolution and adaptation. We will be designing our own animal to live in a habitat and writing an explanation text about how they adapt and survive in their habitat.

Thank you for your continued support in helping the children at home with homework. It is really appreciated in ensuring they are prepared.

I am looking forward to the rest of this half term as we have lots going on.



The Book People will be in school from Monday 24th to Thursday 27th March. This is a wonderful opportunity to browse books with your child(ren) and encourage their love for reading. The books will be on display to purchase in the library after school until 4.00pm.

The children will have the opportunity to visit the Book Fair during the school day that week.

Buying books from the Book Fair helps raise money for the school as we receive a percentage from the sales to use on purchasing books for the school.

Please click on the links below to see some of the books that will be available.

<https://shop.scholastic.co.uk/>

We hope you are able to support this wonderful opportunity.

Dates for your Diary

March 2025	
5th March	Parents' Forum 10-11am on Teams – Educational Psychologist
Thursday 6 th March	World Book Day - dressed in pyjamas or as a favourite book character
19 th March	Hockey Festival
21 st March	Comic Relief – Red Nose Day
24 th -27 th March	Scholastic Book Fair https://shop.scholastic.co.uk/
April 2025	
4 th April	Last day of term
5 th -21 st April	Easter Holidays
22 nd April	Back to School
28 th April	Year 3 Swimming commences
May 2025	
5 th May	Bank Holiday
8 th May	VE Day
8 th May	Year 5 Deers Leap Park trip
W/C 12 th May	SATS week
23 rd May	INSET Day
June 2025	
Thursday 12 th June	Class Photos
25 th June	Parents' Forum 10-11am on Teams

Please visit our website for the term dates for 2024/2025 & 2025/2026.

<https://baldwinshillprimaryschool.co.uk/term-dates/>

Comic Relief - Friday 21st March 2025

The Red Nose is 40!

1985-2024

On Friday 21st March we would like children to come into school in party clothes or 1980's fancy dress to celebrate 40 years of Red Nose Day.

Imagine yourself decked out in vibrant and luminous sportswear, beads and legwarmers, or sporting a wild rock inspired outfit complete with leather jacket and big hair!!

Let's party like it's the 80s!!






Please make a donation to this worthy cause at

[Donate | Comic Relief](#)

Everychild Partnership Trust is an exempt charity and a company limited by guarantee, Registered in England with Company Number 10034289.
Registered office: Hatchlands Primary School, Hatchlands Road, Redhill, RH1 6AT

NEW  **FREE**

PARENTING MENTAL HEALTH COURSE


A 5 WEEK COURSE FOR PARENTS AND CARERS TO GAIN KNOWLEDGE AND UNDERSTANDING AROUND SUPPORTING CHILDREN & YOUNG PEOPLE'S MENTAL HEALTH, OFFERING A SAFE SPACE TO REFLECT AND FIND PEER SUPPORT.

TOPICS INCLUDE SELF-ESTEEM, ANXIETY & EMOTIONS, COMMUNICATION AND MORE!


WORTHING - 24TH APRIL - 5TH JUNE (WEEKLY)
10AM-12NOON
8-10 DURRINGTON LN, WORTHING BN13 2QG

CRAWLEY - 19TH JUNE - 17TH JULY (WEEKLY)
12:30-14:30
BEWBUSH CHILDREN & FAMILY CENTRE, DORSTEN SQUARE, CRAWLEY RH11 8XW

BOGNOR REGIS - 18TH SEP - 16TH OCT (WEEKLY)
10AM-12NOON
ARUN WEST FAMILY HUB, LABURNUM GROVE, BOGNOR REGIS PO22 9HT

REFRESHMENTS PROVIDED! 

TO SECURE YOUR PLACE OR FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE EMAIL:
PARENTINGSUPPORT@WESTSUSSEXMIND.ORG




 **HOLIDAY HQ**

WORLD EXPLORERS

Easter Holiday 2025

Halsford Park Holiday Camp
Book online at pioneerchildcare.co.uk

FREE HAF Places Available
Book online at <https://bit.ly/free-haf-pioneer>
Free for children in receipt of benefits related Free School Meals

 LINGFIELD PARK RESORT

FREE FAMILY ACTIVITIES

KIDS GO FREE

ALL-WEATHER CHAMPIONSHIPS XII

MAKE YOUR GOOD FRIDAY GREAT!

ALL-WEATHER VASE DAY FRIDAY 18 APRIL

LINGFIELDPARK.CO.UK

SCHOOL HOLIDAY ADVENTURE CLUB

AT BLACKLAND FARM OUTDOOR CENTRE

SPRING **TUES 18TH FEB - THURS 20TH FEB**
INCLUDES CLIMBING, ABSEILING, ARCHERY

TUES 8TH APRIL - FRI 11TH APRIL **EASTER**
INCLUDES ZIP WIRES, HIGH ROPES, BUSHCRAFT

MORE INFO: WWW.BLACKLANDFARM.ORG/ADVENTURE-CLUB