

# Baldwins Hill Primary School

## NEWSLETTER

Headteacher: Jenny Dabell

September 2025

Respect, Compassion, Courage, Responsibility



Baldwins Hill Primary  
School, Lowdells Lane,  
East Grinstead, RH19 2AP

Office:  
01342 321572

E-mail:  
[officebh@partnersinlearning  
.co.uk](mailto:officebh@partnersinlearning.co.uk)



Log on to our  
school website

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

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



Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome to our end of September newsletter.

We hope your children had an enjoyable day on Monday whilst staff were on our INSET. We had an exciting day where every class-based staff member learned how to teach phonics using the 'Read, Write, Inc' scheme. We've heard incredible things about this scheme and the strategies they use and are raring to get started. The vision of 'Read, Write, Inc' is that every child learns to read, regardless of age, background or need - and we firmly believe that too. Reading is the doorway to all learning and we want to ensure that door is wide open!

Whilst the phonics lessons are mainly for our Key Stage One year groups, there will be children in our later year groups who would benefit from developing stronger phonic knowledge in order to become more fluent readers. By having the whole school team trained, we will be even more prepared to find and bridge those gaps as we find them.

'Read, Write, Inc' have their own little phrases and sayings, so don't be surprised if your children come home talking about 'Fred' and 'special friends!' Ask them all about what they mean.

The children have had a great start to the year enjoying all the things they've been learning in their classes and groups. Thank you to those parents who have taken the time to chat to me about how the class mixes lower down the school have been going. I'm thrilled to hear so many positive comments about how the year has started for your children. As Family Learning Conferences are coming up next week, don't forget this is the perfect opportunity to discuss your child's learning and progress in more depth. Also, look out for the Parent Forum meetings in the 'dates for your diary' at the end of this newsletter.

Enjoy reading all about what your child has been learning and the new things coming up for them.

Jenny Dabell  
Head teacher

## Cherry

We are so pleased with how well all of the children have started this term. Our new children have settled beautifully into school life, and it has been wonderful to see how quickly they have made friends and embraced new routines. Our Year 1 children have returned full of enthusiasm and have adapted brilliantly to the new expectations of their year group.

This term, we have been enjoying our Curious Quests. The children have loved diving into traditional fairytales, including Goldilocks and the Three Bears, Little Red Riding Hood and Cinderella. Year 1 have impressed us with their fantastic character descriptions, using lots of exciting adjectives, and with their story retells written in four clear sentences with capital letters. Our Early Years children have been exploring Drawing Club, creating wonderful pictures of key characters and settings from the stories, and linking these to the initial sounds they have been learning.

In Maths, Year 1 have been working as a year group on “one more” and “one less” and comparing numbers to 10. Our Early Years children have been busy representing numbers in different ways and matching numerals to the correct quantities.

In Geography, the children have enjoyed exploring maps. They were very excited to spot Baldwins Hill on a local map and began to notice key features such as roads, buildings, fields and bodies of water.

Art has been inspired by the natural world. The children created beautiful leaf rubbings and observational drawings, which they later painted using delicate watercolours.

In Science, we have been learning about the seasons. The children have explored the months of the year and discussed what clothing choices would be most suitable in different types of weather.

It has been a busy and exciting start to the year, and we are so proud of how much the children have already achieved.

## Pine

We're off to a fantastic start in Pine Class! The children have settled beautifully into the new school year, learning routines, expectations, and building friendships as they discover what life in Year 1 and Year 2 is all about.

As the seasons shift from summer to autumn, we've been making the most of the weather by heading outdoors to become artists and collectors. The children have been gathering natural treasures—leaves, twigs, and acorns—to inspire their artwork and spark creativity.

Science has been buzzing with excitement!

Year 1 pupils are exploring weather patterns and seasonal changes, observing how the world around them transforms.

Year 2 children are diving into the fascinating world of animals and their habitats, asking brilliant questions and making thoughtful discoveries.

Our Curious Quest lessons have taken a magical turn thanks to the mysterious Professor Klunk! His letters and instructions have led us on imaginative adventures, encouraging the children to think creatively and write with flair.

In maths:

Year 1 learners are exploring different ways to represent numbers, using hands-on resources to build their understanding of “one more” and “one less”.

Year 2 are deepening their knowledge of number and place value, developing confidence in working with two-digit and three-digit numbers.

We're so proud of how engaged and enthusiastic the children have been. It's shaping up to be a wonderful term full of learning, laughter, and discovery.

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## Hazel

Well, what a fantastic start to Hazel class' Autumn Term! We have settled well into our new routines and the children are all being really responsible.

We have been developing our writing and imagination skills through Curious Quests. We are excited every time we open our portal... we wonder what quest will we be going on next?

We have been learning a Portal Poem, feel free to practise at home...

In Maths we have all been growing our Place Value skills, thinking about the importance of using columns to show Hundreds, Tens and Ones. Have fun practising these skills with this FREE maths game from TopMarks [Place Value Basketball - Dienes Game for 5 to 8 Year Olds](#)  
In Geography we have started exploring features of our local area and surrounding community. We have been using maps, Google Earth and atlases to locate where we live using different resources.

### THE PORTAL POEM

*"Glimmering, shimmering, portal bright  
Keep what we send out of sight  
Of The Greap and its mind  
So, Professor Klunk can find  
The codes, the books, the things we share  
Take them now, protect and care  
Be quick, be nimble, be quiet, be true,  
May the magic be with you."*



## Cedar

Year 4 have kicked off their Science learning with a deep dive into the human body! We began by exploring the digestive system, using models and diagrams to understand how food travels through our bodies and how each organ plays a key role in breaking it down. The children worked collaboratively to evaluate different models and explain the process in their own words. We then turned our attention to teeth—learning about the different types we have, including incisors, canines, premolars, and molars—and how each one helps us eat by cutting, tearing, or grinding food.

In Geography, Year 4 have been sharpening their map-reading skills by locating all 15 National Parks across the UK. We then focused on our nearby area of outstanding natural beauty—Ashdown Forest. The children explored its human and physical features, learning how the landscape was shaped over time and how people have interacted with it throughout history.

We have been enjoying the novel *The Firework-Maker's Daughter* by Philip Pullman. Using their VIPERS reading skills, the children have been exploring the story in depth—retrieving key details, inferring characters' thoughts and feelings, predicting what might happen next, and explaining the meaning of new vocabulary.

In English this term, Year 4 have been reading 'The Firework-Maker's Daughter' and using it to inspire their own character descriptions. They explored the characters' motivations and how they respond to challenges in the story. Using this understanding, the children created their own characters, describing their appearance, personality, and feelings. They practised using expanded noun phrases to add detail and fronted adverbials to vary their sentence openings.

In Maths this term, Year 4 have been strengthening their understanding of number by exploring the place value of 4-digit numbers. They've been learning how to read, write, and compare numbers up to 10,000, and using this knowledge to solve problems and explain their reasoning. The children have also been introduced to Roman numerals, learning how they work and where we might see them in everyday life. Alongside this, they've been practising their times tables regularly to build speed and accuracy.

## Oak

Oak class have had a fabulous start to year 5 getting used to the new routines and showing fantastic behaviour for learning.

In maths, we have been investigating place value looking at numbers up to 1,000,000. We have thought carefully about which digits go in which place value column, we have compared and ordered large numbers and this week moved onto rounding to the nearest 10, 100 or 1000. The class have worked so hard and are showing a good understanding so moving onto addition and subtraction with large numbers next week should be a breeze!

Our Writers sequence is all about character descriptions. Over the past few weeks we have looked at what makes a good character description and gathered words to write our own description of the Iron man, I look forward to displaying these when they are published. Next week we will practise our skills by inventing our own character and writing a description of them.

In science, we have looked at what makes a mixture and then how to use sieving and filtering to separate mixtures of different materials. We have been trying hard to use scientific vocabulary when answering our key questions.

Our geography learning has taken us from thinking about the trees around us in the school ground up to the types of forest found across the globe. We are going to move on next week to think about natural resources and what constitutes renewable versus non-renewable. We will then think about global food production and its impacts, before moving onto discussing water and how precious it is as a resource.

In all subjects the children are showing so much pride in their work and meeting the great expectations for presentation and should be very proud.

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Oak class enjoyed a welly walk to nearby woods on Friday run by Rachel from High Weald Heroes. We learnt all about the variety of tree species in the woods and how special the High Weald is as an area to live in.



## Redwood

Year 6 have had an amazing start to the first few weeks of term. They have all had good attitudes and have followed instructions to ensure they are beginning to achieve well in all lessons. The children have enjoyed writing a character description in the style of David Attenborough. They used expanded noun phrases and highly descriptive language to make their character sound realistic so that the reader could picture the character. We have also covered a lot of areas in Maths mainly around place value with rounding, ordering numbers and addition and subtraction. We also complete daily 9 arithmetic sessions which the children have also enjoyed. The children have enjoyed all our science learning about classifying animals. The discussions that the children have had about different animals has been lovely to see. Please ask your children about the typography that we have been covering in Art lessons- they have shown some great creativity. Our excitement has now turned to Windmill Hill. The children have spoken about what they are looking forward to and how they will show the Core Values when we are there. I look forward to sharing snippets of our trip away next time!

Keep up the good work Year 6!

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## TAG Rugby

On Wednesday 24th September, some Year 4 children attended a tag-rugby festival at the East Grinstead Rugby Club. They engaged in some fantastic games and activities to introduce them to the sport. Thankfully it was a lovely sunny day and the children were amazing winning 2 of their 3 games. Miss Nobrega was very impressed with the respect that all of the children showed, being real ambassadors for Baldwins Hill. Well done!



## ECO Council

Eco council would like to remind you about our plastic bottle top recycling scheme. Schoolcycled collects any plastic lids and tops and turns them into playground equipment. The collection box can be found outside the staff room by the lost property.

As part of our commitment to promote healthy habits, we kindly ask that you send a nutritious snack with your child. We encourage options such as fruit, vegetables, yoghurt or cheese. Other snacks can form part of their balanced lunch. Many thanks with you cooperation on this.

## Dates for your Diary

Please click the link for the term dates for 2025/2026.

<https://baldwinshillprimaryschool.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2025/07/BH-Term-Dates-25-26.pdf>

Diary Dates	
7 <sup>th</sup> October	Family Learning Conference
9 <sup>th</sup> October	Family Learning Conference
17 <sup>th</sup> October	Parent Forum
24 <sup>th</sup> October	Last Day of Term
25 <sup>th</sup> – 31 <sup>st</sup> October	Half Term
3 <sup>rd</sup> November	INSET Day
4 <sup>th</sup> November	Back to school
7 <sup>th</sup> November	Flu Vaccinations
13 <sup>th</sup> November	Individual School Photos
28 <sup>th</sup> November	Parent Forum
1 <sup>st</sup> December	INSET day
19 <sup>th</sup> December	Last day of term
22 <sup>nd</sup> December- 2 <sup>nd</sup> January	Christmas Holidays
5 <sup>th</sup> January 26	Back to school

### 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)

<https://nationalcollege.com/enrol/baldwins-hill-primary-school-east-grinstead>

Parents: Supporting Young People Online (Leaflets):

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



Community Events

**For 4 - 11 year olds**

**HOLIDAY HQ**

**KIDS FEST**

OPENING CEREMONY • STEM & SPARKS • MONSTERS & MISCHIEF

**Strap in for October Half Term!**

Holiday Camp at Halsford Park Primary School  
27<sup>th</sup> - 30<sup>th</sup> October 2025  
[www.altonerschildcare.co.uk](http://www.altonerschildcare.co.uk)

Scan to secure your spot!

**CODECAMP**

**October Half Term Tech Camps**

**NOW ON SALE!**

Little Coders • Coding • Curious Minds • Animation Design • Minecraft Engineers • YouTube Creators

For detailed camp locations and dates please head to:

[www.codecamp.co.uk/camps](http://www.codecamp.co.uk/camps)

Get in touch at [hello@codecamp.co.uk](mailto:hello@codecamp.co.uk)

**DON'T MISS THE £20 DISCOUNT CODE - SEE WEBSITE FOR DETAILS**

**west sussex music**

**WEST SUSSEX MUSIC CENTRES**

Bojnor, Rogit, Chichester, Horsham, Midhurst, Worthing

**BOJNOR REDHILL**  
The Phoenix Centre, PO21 5ZD  
Thursdays  
Tomorrow's Orchestra Programme  
Junior Orchestra

**CHICHESTER**  
St Joseph's CE Junior, PO19 1DQ  
Saturdays  
Tomorrow's Orchestra Programme  
Drum Lab  
Junior Orchestra  
Youth Orchestra

**HORSHAM**  
Hilwa School, RH12 5HE  
Saturdays  
Tomorrow's Orchestra Programme  
Drum Lab  
Young Voices  
West Sussex Youth Choir  
Junior Wind Orchestra  
Junior String Orchestra  
Training with Orchestra  
Training with Orchestra  
Training with Orchestra  
West Sussex Youth Wind Orchestra  
West Sussex Youth String Orchestra  
West Sussex Youth Chamber

**MIDHURST**  
Midhurst Ruther College, GU29 9DT  
Tuesdays  
Tomorrow's Orchestra Programme

**WORTHING**  
Robert School, BN14 8AP  
Saturdays  
Tomorrow's Orchestra Programme  
Drum Lab  
Junior Orchestra  
Youth Orchestra

**Northbrook College, BN12 5MJ**  
Wednesdays  
Play in a Park

**Want to make music with others?**  
Youth Orchestras, Rock Bands, Drum Groups, Choirs, SEND Groups, Beginner Classes, Lessons, and more...

**FIND OUT MORE AT**  
[www.westsussexmusic.co.uk/music-centres](http://www.westsussexmusic.co.uk/music-centres)

**FIND OUT MORE**

**FIND OUT MORE**

## New Years Intake 2026

Apply online at:  
westsussex.gov.uk/admissions

 west  
sussex  
county  
council

### Was your child born between 1 September 2021 and 31 August 2022?

If so they are eligible to start school  
in September 2026

**Apply online!**  
We simple, convenient and free online.  
If your application is received after the deadline,  
your chance of securing a place at one of your  
preference schools could be seriously affected.

You can apply online from  
**Monday 6 October 2025.**  
If you would like further advice or  
information, please: 03330 142 903.

**Deadline: Thursday 15 January 2026**

Free internet access to apply online is available at all West Sussex Libraries.



Do you have, or do you know a child born between 1st September 2021 and 31st August 2022? If so, they are eligible to start school in September 2026. We have set the dates for our Early Years tours - please see our website for details about booking in a visit.


<https://baldwinhillprimaryschool.co.uk/early-years-prospective-parents-information/>

Applications can be made online at [www.westsussex.gov.uk/admissions](http://www.westsussex.gov.uk/admissions) from Monday 6th October at 9am. For further advice or information please contact 03330 142 903.

The deadline is **Thursday 15th January 2026**. Please spread the word of how great our school is!


**A roarsome outdoor  
adventure this autumn!**  
**18 October – 2 November 2025**

# ZOG™



## Wakehurst

Book now at [kew.org/wakehurst](http://kew.org/wakehurst)

 Royal  
Botanic  
Gardens **Kew**

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