

Baldwins Hill Primary School

NEWSLETTER

Headteacher: Jenny Dabell

29th November 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,

Welcome to our November newsletter. The children have been working so hard in all their class challenges, showing great courage and responsibility, as usual. The children in Years 2-6 engaged so responsibly in their first aid sessions this 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. Have a good look at the diary dates for activities and events coming up before the Christmas break.

Warmest wishes,
Miss Dabell

Staffing update:

Following Miss Wright & Miss Crean's departure, we have successfully recruited Miss Smith as a Teaching assistant and Midday Meal supervisor and she has begun to build good relationships with children this week. Welcome to the Baldwins family, Miss Smith!

There's still time to complete the feedback survey regarding our school in order to understand our successes from your perspective and to hear your views on how to make it even better! Therefore, we would be grateful if you could take some time to complete our questionnaire.

Please could we ask that it is completed by **Tuesday 3rd December?**

<https://forms.gle/kJEeyt3nmdpayYoy7>

PTA News

We are looking to hold a Festive Event after school on Friday 13th December. Please could any donations of bottles of wine etc be brought in, in the morning of the event. Do contact the PTA if you are able to help in any way.



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Saplings

Phonics- In phonics the children have been very busy learning digraphs and even a trigraph. The children have been working hard to recognise these sounds when they are reading and even have a go at using them in their writing. Please see weekly homework for the sounds we have learnt in that week.

Maths- In maths we have been using our "Fast eyes" to subitise. We have been then looking deeper into the number and seeing what number facts we know. We have used part, part, whole models to represent our understanding of number. We have also been learning about 2D shapes and linking this knowledge to pattern making.

Understanding of the world- Our topic has focussed us on different celebrations. We have learnt about remembrance day, firework night, diwali and we are just starting to think about Christmas. We have done a wide range of activities that help us explore this celebration such as using expressive arts and design to represent them.

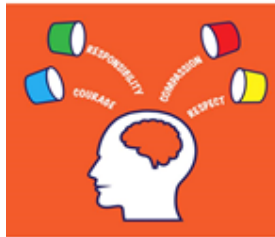
We have also been learning about the seasons. We have explored the signs of Autumn and are starting to notice some signs that winter is coming too. The children loved playing with the ice in our outdoor area.

PE- In PE so far, we have been exploring listening skills and have been using incorporating this into our games. Now we are starting to think about team games and we are teaching the children how we can use good communication skills to work together.

Music- The children have started to explore the sounds that musical instruments make. We have focussed discussions about sounds we can hear and we have been using key vocabulary to describe what we hear.



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Willow

Year 1 have been busy working hard on our new topic, 'Hello, I'm New Here'. In English, we have been looking at the story 'Coming to England' by Floella Benjamin. The children have enjoyed learning new key words from the book, as well as finding out about Trinidad. In maths, we have been focusing on shapes and the children have taken part in building towers, sorting shapes based on their properties and patterns.

The children have been working really hard in phonics; we started the term with focusing on some of our split digraphs and are now focusing on reviewing previous learnt sounds.

In geography, we have been learning all about maps, and the children have made maps of their classroom and bedrooms. Science has focused on plants; you can find some of the children's work down below. Mrs Hodges has commented how much the children are enjoying music this term and showing their 'musical' side.

Internet Safety

Protect your child:

www.getsafeonline.org

www.nspcc.org.uk/preventing-abuse/keeping-children-safe

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

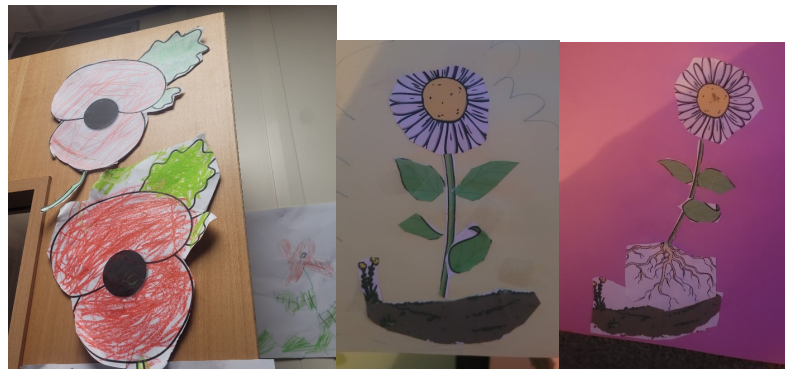
www.thinkuknow.co.uk

Parents: Supporting Young People Online (Leaflets):

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



For Remembrance Day, the children learnt the importance of this day and when it started. They then had the chance to make some poppies themselves, which you can also see down below. We'll soon begin Christmas craft activities, Nativity rehearsals and much more!



Well done so far Year 1!



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Sycamore

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 had our interactive theatre experience at Halsford Park which was very exciting.



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 a Great Fire of London bystander. We will publish our work on to pieces of burnt paper in our neatest 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.



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Maple

Year 3 have been stuck in their new topic of 'Grand Designs - Who were the greatest builders?' The class really enjoyed sharing their learning with you in their class assembly. Thank you to all those who came to the assembly and the celebration of learning.

Our learning has been following the chronological timeline of events. We have explored The Stone Age for the past three weeks, diving into what the people used to eat, wear and how they communicated. The children made their own quizzes and worked really hard. Our learning will be moving forward to the times of Ancient Egypt next week!

Maths: Our focus is on addition and subtraction with 3 digit numbers, exploring what happens when we take away the hundreds, tens and ones from the 3 digit number. The children have further developed their skills by working on word problems and creating their own too!

English: The class have been working really hard on our poetry WRITER sequence. We have investigated a lot of writing choices together such as the use of alliteration and similes. We will be using these skills in our own piece of poetry in the next week.

Reading: We have now finished our class reader of 'The Stone Age Boy'. The class really enjoyed this book and we have worked on the 'summarise' part of VIPERS.

Thank you for all of your continued support!

Cedar

This term, we kicked off by re-enacting a Viking invasion at Baldwins Hill! Wearing the shields and helmets we made during half term, we experienced what it might have been like during a Viking raid. It was an exciting way to bring our topic of invasions to life!

We've been learning why we speak English at school today and where the English language originally came from. This exploration has helped us understand the impact of different invasions on the language we use now. We began by exploring the Roman Empire, focusing on how their invasions shaped the development of Britain and the lasting influence they have had on our way of life. Along the way, we have also strengthened our skills in research, map work, and the use of timelines to deepen our understanding of this significant historical period. Next, we'll be turning our focus to the Anglo-Saxon period, continuing to explore the impact of these invasions on British history.

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In Maths, we've been working hard on improving our timetables, and everyone has made significant progress! In addition, we've been learning perimeter and shapes. We've learned how to identify regular and irregular polygons, and explored various methods for calculating the perimeter of flat shapes. All of these activities have contributed to our growth in mathematics and helped us develop a stronger grasp of key concepts.

In English, we've been reading Beowulf and expanding our learning by writing a character description that focuses on Beowulf's emotions throughout the story. We carefully examined how his feelings shift in different situations, which helped us gain a deeper understanding of his character and motivations. This exercise gave us the opportunity to practice using rich, descriptive language to capture complex emotions, strengthening our writing skills and ability to portray characters more vividly. We're all really excited to continue sharing our learning in our upcoming class assembly!





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Oak

Year 5 have been getting really engrossed in our World War 2 topic with the children showing so much enthusiasm! We've had extra projects being brought in from home plus stories from families who have relatives who fought in the war which have been fascinating to hear about. It has been a great start to our experience and we can't wait to share our learning with you. In our writing we have been following the writers sequence to produce setting descriptions which have given the children a great way to show off their creative writing talents. They have used a range of features such as personification and using all the senses to describe the settings which really brings them alive. In maths we have been focussing on vocabulary related to multiplication and learning lots of new vocabulary. See if your child's can explain any of our new terms: square number, cubed number, factor, multiple, common factor and common multiple. We had a fabulous trip to The Big Wood Estate this week where David the farmer was a total font of knowledge telling us all about the animals, plants and how land use changed during the war to ensure enough food was produced to feed everybody. We really enjoyed meeting all the animals and feeding the pigs and horses.

We've done so much learning already and can't wait to continue our topic over the next few weeks and learn even more!

Redwood

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 it tremendously. They all agreed that school is much better now!

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 and setting 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.



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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 or Christmas wrapping paper you no longer need, it would be very much appreciated.

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Eco News

The school Eco Committee would like to start sharing new eco news with you each month in our newsletter. We're excited to announce we successfully achieved the Eco Schools Green Flag award for 2023-24 with distinction which is a great accomplishment. Our projects for last year were redesigning the outdoor learning area, implementing litter picking during break and lunch and celebrating diversity with our Go Global day in the summer term. We have completed this year's Eco Review and will start putting ideas together for this year's application very soon.

One thing we have started with is Cut Your Carbon month during November. The Eco councillors introduced this to the classes and set them the challenge to try out a range of pledges that would cut their carbon footprint. These included ditching driving and getting active by walking or scooting on short trips, trying out vegetation or vegan alternatives for meals and cutting energy use around the house. Hopefully the children have been discussing these ideas with you all at home.

A Team

The A team have received the nominations of new members, these have been announced and we welcomed all the new members this afternoon.

Dates for your Diary

December 2024	
11 th December	Christmas Lunch, Christmas jumper or festive outfit
13 th December	PTA Festive Event straight after school – Chrimstas jumpers/festive wear allowed
17 th December	KS1 Nativity at 2pm
18 th December	KS1 Nativity at 9.30am
20 th December	Last day of term –Christmas jumpers allowed
(Monday) 6 th January 25	INSET day – school closed to children
(Tuesday) 7 th January 25	First day back at School
School Assembly Dates	
6th December	Year 1 Class Assembly
13th December	Year 4 Class Assembly
20th December	EYS Class Assembly

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

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

HOLIDAY HQ FESTIVE CELEBRATIONS

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

GLOBAL CELEBRATIONS
 SANTA'S WORKSHOP
 PLUS LOTS MORE!

PIONEER CHILD CARE

west sussex music

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

QR code

west sussex county council | Supported using public funding by the Department for Education | ARTS COUNCIL ENGLAND

Apply online at:
westsussex.gov.uk/admissions



Was your child born between 1 September 2020 and 31 August 2021?

If so they are eligible to start school in September 2025

Apply online!
It's simple, convenient and time-saving. 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 7 October 2024**. If you would like further advice or information, phone: 01323 142 903.

Deadline: Wednesday 15 January 2025

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 2020 and 31st August 2021? If so, they are eligible to start school in September 2025.

We have added an additional date of Tuesday 7th January 25 at 1.30pm for an Early Years tour.

The deadline is Wednesday 15th January 2025. Please spread the word of how great our school is!



ANXIETY TOOLKIT FOR PARENTS AND CARERS WEBINAR

SATURDAY 25TH JANUARY 2025, 10AM- 12 MIDDAY

LEARN PRACTICAL TIPS AND STRATEGIES TO HELP PARENTS AND CARERS SUPPORT THEIR CHILDREN THROUGH ANXIETY IN THIS ONLINE EVENT!

Are you feeling overwhelmed by your child's anxiety? Join us for this online event where Your Space Therapies will provide you with practical tools and strategies to help you support your child. Emma Connor, Child Psychotherapist will share valuable, easy to implement strategies to navigate through challenging situations and promote your child's well-being. Don't miss out on this opportunity to learn and connect with other parents and carers facing similar experiences. Register now and equip yourself with the tools to better understand and manage anxiety in your child.

Price: £27.80

For more information and booking please scan the QR code:



Scan me!