

# Baldwins Hill Primary School

## NEWSLETTER

Headteacher: Jenny Dabell

Date 25th October 2024

Respect, Compassion, Courage, Responsibility



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

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



Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome to our October newsletter. I can't quite believe it's already October half term but here we are!

The children have been working hard and enjoying their learning experiences. We had an excellent 'Mad Hatters Tea Party' in Year 2 and, of course, Year 6 had their residential last week. All sorts of things have been going on and – as usual- your children continue to be a credit to you. We are very proud of all the ways they show care for others and make great effort in their learning.

I hope that you enjoy reading this newsletter and finding out all about what your children have been learning this half term and what is coming up for them after the break.

Have a restful half term and we will see you all when school resumes for the children on **Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> November.**

**Warmest wishes,**

Jenny Dabell - Head teacher

### Goodbyes and Hellos...

As you know, we bid a sad farewell to Miss Crean this week but the staff and children have been getting used to a new face in school. I am thrilled to announce that we will be officially welcoming Mr. Joel Grey to the school after half term, and he will be working with the children as Teaching Assistant and Midday Meals supervisor. The children have really enjoyed getting to know him this week and I know that you will all join me in giving him a very warm welcome to the Baldwins Hill community.

### First Aid training for children in Years 2-6

We have once again organised First Aid training for the children in these year groups. The cost will be covered for another year by our **wonderful PTA**. The children will receive training from a recognised first aid trainer and they will receive a certificate to show that they have completed the training. 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 3 and 4	Years 5 and 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



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## Respect, Compassion, Courage, Responsibility

In **Early Years** we have been working very hard to learn a new sound every day. We are now working on Phase 3 phonics. In Phase 3 phonics we learn the last few single sounds and then we start to learn digraphs and trigraphs. A digraph is two letters making one sound e.g. ch or sh. A trigraph is three letters making one sound e.g. igh or air. Children are starting to segment and blend words together using their robot arms and blending hands.

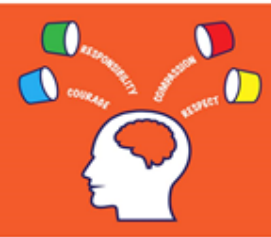
In maths we have been learning to subitise numbers (identify a quantity without counting) for example on a dice we can see how many dots there are. We have also been spending some time focussing on the number 5. We have learnt the number bonds to 5. Ask your child at home if they can tell you two numbers that make 5.

The Early Years children loved their welly walk with their buddies. Before we went, we discussed the seasons and how we might know that the seasons are changing. On the walk they discussed with their buddy about what signs of Autumn they could see.

We have been exploring different ways to make art. We used twigs as paint brushes to create a picture of an autumn tree, we made autumnal wreaths made of leaves, and we made pumpkin from different textured materials.

In **Year 1**, the children had their Fabulous Finish to round up our topic for the term, all about toys. The children worked incredibly hard to design their boxes ready to exhibit their special teddy or toy in, and it was so lovely to see the children so focused and engaged. Well done Year 1! In maths, the children have been working exceptionally hard as we learnt all about part-whole models, our number bonds to 10, as well as beginning to learn about addition and subtraction. Number Blocks is still a keen favourite in the class!

In phonics and English, the children have been focusing on writing sentences and improving handwriting. We looked at a video on toys to aid our writing, as well as non-fiction and fiction texts about toys. The children had some fantastic ideas in relation to these and some great class discussions were had.



### **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)

Parents: Supporting Young People Online (Leaflets):

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



## **Respect, Compassion, Courage, Responsibility**

In **Sycamore Class** we designed and made colourful Mad Hatters hats! We enjoyed wearing them at our Mad Hatters tea party, and had a fun afternoon making party snacks and trying our creations. We have concluded that party food can be healthy! I am looking forward to starting our new topic about The Great Fire of London. We have some exciting dates coming up including a trip to Halsford Park for an interactive theatre show on the 28th of November – more details to follow. We will also begin practicing for the Christmas play and look forward to performing for you on the 17th and 18th of December. You can come and see our class assembly and look at our work in the classroom in a celebration of learning on the 22nd of November.

English – We have enjoyed reading Alice in Wonderland and have written about a character based on descriptions in the story. The children chose who they would like to write about, and have included some fantastic adjectives in their work. We have been learning spellings through the ELS programme, and the children have been assigned books to read through the ELS website. The login for these is in the front of your child's reading diary. Happy reading!

Maths – We have been focusing on using number bonds to 10 to help us with other addition and subtraction questions, including adding three 1digit numbers, and adding to the next ten. We will continue to learn about addition and subtraction after half term, progressing to using known facts to add together two 2 digit numbers.

### **Year 3**

We have had a great end to our 'Bright Sparks' topic this term. The children have really enjoyed their fabulous finish of making their dragon caves and using their scientific knowledge of how to create a circuit to put inside.

Maths: We have been continuing our topic on numbers to 1000. Over the past couple of weeks, the children have been working particularly hard on adding and subtracting across the hundred's boundary using partitioning. English: The class have now finished their sequence on writing a biography about Nikola Tesla using lots of technical vocabulary to explain his early life and his work and inventions! During the last week we have been writing autumnal descriptions and the children have used lots of lovely adjectives to describe their autumn scene.

Art and DT: In art we have been focusing on taking our time with adding detail to our sketches of dragon eyes and scales. In DT, the children have thoroughly enjoyed designing and making their dragon caves. They have been very careful to follow their plans and use the resources that they have planned for.



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Science: The children have really enjoyed making their own electrical circuits with bulbs, buzzers and motors. We have discussed conductors and insulators and the children made predictions about whether the circuit would work depending on what they had added to it. Ask your child if water is a conductor or insulator!

In **Year 4**, we've been diving into the fascinating world of sound! We've learned how sounds are produced and discovered that vibrations travel through different materials to reach our ears. Through hands-on experiments, we've explored the relationship between the volume of a sound and the strength of the vibrations that create it, noticing how louder sounds produce stronger vibrations. In Design Technology, we've just wrapped up our eye mask project to help Edi sleep better at night. We put a lot of thought into our designs, considering materials that block light effectively and adding personal touches. We want to extend a heartfelt thank you to our parents and carers for their incredible support and involvement throughout this project; their help made our creations even more special!

In Maths, we've been applying our understanding of 1,000 to tackle problems related to common measure conversions. We've explored various strategies for adding and subtracting multiples of 100 and rounding to the nearest 1,000. As we wrap up this sequence, we'll focus on techniques to make our calculations more efficient and enhance our reasoning skills. Specifically, we'll explain how many 500s and 250s, 1,000 is composed of, deepening our understanding of these concepts and improving our problem-solving abilities!

In English, we have been working on composing a formal letter to Edi to share our thoughtful plans for helping him get a better night's sleep. As part of this project, we explored a rich vocabulary and examined the structure of a formal letter. This allowed us to articulate our ideas clearly and effectively. Once we had crafted our letters, we had the exciting opportunity to present them to the whole class, showcasing our writing and communication skills. Once our presentations were complete, we sent out our letters off to Edi. This project not only helped us develop our writing abilities but also fostered a sense of community as we came together to support a friend in need.



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In **Year 5** we have had a great time rounding off our science learning and proving that we are all excellent materials scientists. After thinking carefully about the properties of different materials they worked well in groups to carry out the challenge to separate a bowlful of materials that had been accidentally mixed together. They had to use a variety of different processes such as filtering, dissolving and evaporation to show they had successfully split the mixture into separate materials. On Friday to celebrate the end of the unit we will be carrying out a range of fun experiments as our fabulous finish which I hope they will tell you all about.

In Writing we have been producing newspapers on our Book Talk book "The Iron Man". The children could choose between reporting on the arrival of the Iron Man to the village where he eats all the farm machinery or the finale of the book where he battles a Space Dragon. They have produced some excellent pieces of work and are demonstrating that they are following the Writers Sequence well to produce a published piece with the appropriate features.

In Maths we have taken some time to consolidate our learning on addition and multiplication and how to answer reasoning questions. The children have shared their knowledge with each other and worked well to carry out a range of exercises including a problem solving activity based around a sweetie factory which made us rather hungry!

They have all worked so hard this half term and are showing great behaviour for learning. We wish you all a restful half term and as always thank you for your support with your child's learning.

**Year 6** have had an amazing first half 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 monologue from the point of view of an inanimate object from our key text Cosmic. We have also covered a lot of areas in Maths. The children have enjoyed all our science learning about the planets, how day and night works, created non fiction pages about a chosen planet and enjoyed the phases of the moon with oreos.

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The children have had a great time at Windmill Hill. The attitudes of all the children was excellent. They showed responsibility and courage alongside resilience and smiles to take part in all the activities at Windmill Hill. The giant swing involved teamwork to pull the swinging team up to the right height where the screams of fun could be heard for miles. Archery was great fun with children improving shots all the time and numerous children hitting the bullseye. The children showed great determination on the trapeze to climb to a great height then to jump to the bar was amazing to see. The children also enjoyed the campfire and the quiz showing great knowledge.

The PGL staff commented how well behaved and responsible the children were in offering support and encouragement to others. The children were a pleasure to take away and I feel we have started the year well with so much more to look forward to this year.

**If possible, please can Year 6 come into school in Victorian costume on Tuesday 5th November as part of our Stunning Start.**

Girls – suggested costume - Pinafore Dress, Apron, Long socks/tights, Lace up boots (if they have some already) hair tied up in bunches and plaits, Mop hat

Boys – suggested costume – Shirt, Waistcoat, Shorts or long trousers tucked in long socks – maybe dark football socks, Flat cap.

### Dates for your Diary

November 2024	
4 <sup>th</sup> November	Inset Day – <b>School closed to pupils</b>
5 <sup>th</sup> November	First day back – FLU vaccines
14 <sup>th</sup> November	Individual Photos
Sports Events	
12 <sup>th</sup> November	Sports Hall Athletics 4-6 pm at Scakville School
13 <sup>th</sup> November	KS1 Badminton Festival
14 <sup>th</sup> November	Sports Hall Athletics 4-6pm at Scakville School
25 <sup>th</sup> November	EYS Balance bike ability
School Assembly Dates	
8th November	Year 6 Class Assembly
15th November	Year 3 Class Assembly
22nd November	Year 2 Class Assembly
29th November	Year 5 Class Assembly
6th December	Year 1 Class Assembly
13th December	Year 4 Class Assembly

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>

### **BALDWINS HILL PARENTS' FORUM DATES 2024-25** **All meetings will be 10am-11am and held virtually on Teams.**

Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> November 2024  
Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> January 2025  
Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> March 2025  
Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> May 2025  
Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> June 2025