

# Baldwins Hill Primary School

## NEWSLETTER

Headteacher: Jenny Dabell

27<sup>th</sup> September 2024

Respect, Compassion, Courage, Responsibility



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Log on to our  
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[www.baldwinshillprimary  
school.co.uk](http://www.baldwinshillprimary<br/>school.co.uk)

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



Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome to our September newsletter, I hope that you have enjoyed the start of the new term as much as we have!

The new Learning Experiences are in full swing in all year groups and we have been delighted to welcome our new Early years children to their first year at school. **A BIG WELCOME TO OUR BRAND NEW EARLY YEARS CLASS!!!**

I hope that you enjoy reading all about what your children have been learning and what is coming up for them over the next few weeks.

Have a wonderful weekend,

Jenny Dabell  
Head teacher

### A Message from Your PTA Chair

Hi everyone!

We could really use some help staffing the Friday tuck shop, and we'd love to get Year 6 students involved. It's a great way for them to contribute, and as a thank you, they'll receive a free tuck shop treat. Contact me if your child would like to be involved.

We've welcomed some lovely new PTA members recently, but we currently only have one KS1 parent on board. We are in need of new members, but if becoming a full PTA member doesn't sound like your thing, you can always join our "Happy to Help" WhatsApp group and just volunteer at events when you can.

Our AGM is coming up on Monday, 11th November straight after school, and it's a great way to find out more about what being involved with the PTA is really like. We'd love to see you there!

For more info on Year 6 tuck shop volunteering, joining the PTA or the 'Happy to Help' group, please email me at [PTABaldwinsHill@outlook.com](mailto:PTABaldwinsHill@outlook.com)

### **Driving and parking outside school**

Please can we give a gentle reminder to all our families about driving carefully and parking thoughtfully at drop off and pick up times. The road markings indicate where parking is not allowed and we would ask that, for the safety of our children and their siblings, that parking is not up on the kerb. We understand that the road outside our school is a funnel neck, particularly at busy times. Please do report any of your personal concerns about the road outside school to the local council or directly to the police.

Thank you for your understanding



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## Respect, Compassion, Courage, Responsibility

Early Years have enjoyed settling in to their new class. We have been focusing on our topic 'This is me' by drawing pictures to show what makes us super, talking about our journey booklets and making a picture about our families!

**Phonics-** In our phonics we have been learning s,a,t,p,i,n,m,d,g,o,c,k,e,u and r. We have then used this knowledge when learning how to blend the sounds to read words such as cat, pin, mat, dog. etc. We have also been learning about HRS words (Harder to read and spell), these are words we cannot sound out using our phonics such as l, a, the, no and put.

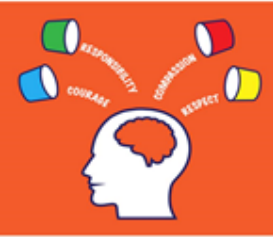
**Maths-** We have been counting quantities of objects and finding the total number, focusing on the composition of the numbers 1,2,3 and 4. We have found out what numbers can make other numbers when put together such as 1 and a 1 makes 2. We've been using a wide variety of resources to represent numbers.

**Drawing club-** Every week we have a different drawing club theme which are based on books, traditional tales and animations. We focus on one per week. Our first book was "We're going on a bear hunt" then for week two we focused on "The three little pigs" and for our first animation we watched pink panther. Every day for that week the children draw a picture that represents a character, setting or an adventure (Scenarios using their imagination based on the theme). We use drawing club to encourage writing. At the moment children are beginning to caption their drawings with key vocabulary from our word mats.

**Reminder-** Reading book changing day is a Wednesday. Please ensure children have their book and reading record in school on a Wednesday so their book can be changed.

The children have made a great start to Year 1 and have been enjoying our topic of toys. At the start of term, the children were introduced to someone very special, Mr Bear. All of the children will get the chance to take Mr Bear home throughout the school year. Towards the end of term, we will be having a whole-class toy museum for the children to 'exhibit' their toys/teddies in their own decorated shoe boxes.

**English:** The children have been introduced to the story 'Traction Man'. We found clues connected to the story, learnt new vocabulary and wrote sentences about whether we liked/disliked it. The children have even started to plan their own version of the story, which includes an action person helping to save various objects from danger in the home.



## Respect, Compassion, Courage, Responsibility

(Year 1 continued)

**Maths:** We have been practising counting up to 100, learning to count forwards and backwards and finding one more or one less than a number. The children have been great at using tens frames and counters to represent their counting, as well as making multilink towers of a given number.

**History:** The children have been comparing new and old toys and sorting pictures. We will also learn about how Lego was created and begin retelling the story to each other.

**Science:** We have named and labelled body parts, looked at our senses and which body parts are linked with each sense. The children really enjoyed using the big books when learning about our body parts. We have also looked at the book 'Invisible Things' which helped the children to understand senses better.

**Design & Technology:** We have been discussing and exploring what board games we like playing with our friends and have made our own board game with a friend.

**Phonics:** The children have been recapping sounds learnt in Early Years and have moved onto the ay, ou, ie, ea, ir, and ow sounds in our booklets.

### 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>



Year 2 have settled in to the school year, and have been practicing routines in class. We are enjoying our 'Welcome to Wonderland' experience, and have started to design Mad Hatters Hats! We are considering what materials we could use and also making a prototype to test out how to join paper and cardboard together. We are looking forward to our Mad Hatters Tea party at the end of term, where we will be applying our science learning and answering the question we have been investigating 'Can party food be healthy?'.  
**English:** We are enjoying reading Alice in Wonderland, and are currently writing a setting description about our own version of wonderland. We drew a picture of our wonderland first, and then thought of adjectives to describe what we could see, feel, touch and taste. We will be progressing to describing a character who lives in our wonderland over the next few weeks.

**Maths:** We have started the term by focusing on place value and identifying tens and ones in numbers to 100, and learning how to partition these numbers in different ways. We are now focusing on number lines and comparing and ordering numbers. We will be building on this by learning how to add and subtract numbers.



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## Respect, Compassion, Courage, Responsibility

We have had a great start to Year 3 and the children have settled really well. We are really enjoying our current Learning Experience – ‘Bright Sparks’ which is all about electricity.

In science we have been exploring electrical circuits and identifying the different parts that connect. We have also been making some predictions about whether a circuit would be able to light up a bulb by identifying the parts needed in the circuit. We have also looked at safety around electricity.

In Maths we have just finished our first unit on addition and subtraction to ten. We are now looking at numbers to 1000 and place value. Please ask your child what an addend is!

In English we have just finished our first WRITER sequence. We wrote dragon descriptions and the class worked really hard and had some brilliant vocabulary! They made sure to use all of the features of a good description such as interesting adjectives, verbs and adverbs as well as expanded noun phrases. We have also really enjoyed our learning in art as we have been looking at different parts of a dragon such as the scales and eyes. The children have worked really hard on using lots of detail.

Year 3 have also enjoyed the start to learning Spanish and they are all well engaged and excited for the lesson! We have learnt some common phrases such as Hola, Como estas and Adios!

In Year 4, we’ve begun diving into the question, "How do we see, how do we hear?" In Science, we’ve been investigating how light travels and how shadows are formed. We’ve been experimenting with different materials to determine whether light can pass through them, introducing concepts such as transparent, translucent, and opaque. This ties in with our Design Technology project, where we are researching and designing eye masks to help Edi sleep better at night. We’ve been sketching our designs, thinking about materials that will block light effectively. Soon, we will begin learning sewing techniques, and our parents will be joining us to help, which is something we’re all looking forward to!

In Maths, we’ve been revising column addition, focusing on regrouping our addends. We’ve now moved on to column subtraction, where we’re practicing regrouping or "borrowing" when needed. The children have been working on solving increasingly complex problems and are making great progress.

In English, we’ve been reading *The Firework Maker’s Daughter* by Philip Pullman. The story has been a fantastic springboard for our writing, and we’ve been working on detailed character descriptions. The children are learning to describe not just the appearance of the characters but also their personalities and feelings, using more advanced vocabulary and varied sentence structures. Soon, we will be publishing our finished pieces, allowing classmates and the school community to read and enjoy them in our book corner. It’s a fantastic opportunity for the children to take pride in their work and share it with others!



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Year 5 have been showing great behaviour for learning this half term and putting their team work skills into practice by trying out experiments in science. We've made predictions then tried things out to see what happens and if we were correct, ask them to tell you all about it!

In English we've been thinking about the problem of plastic pollution after reading *One Plastic Bag* which has led us to write letters to others about how they can help us solve the problem. We've looked at the features of persuasive letters then put them into practice with our own. In maths we've been investigating place value with numbers up to a million. We have learnt how to read, write, order, compare and round numbers and have practised using our reasoning skills to answer questions with accurate mathematical language.

In PE we have practised our passing and defending skills in both netball and football. Please ensure children are in PE kits on a Tuesday and Thursday for this.

I've seen a great response to our homework tasks so far, please keep checking Google classroom for weekly activities.

Thanks as stay for your continued support.

Year 6 have had a great start to the school year with their new experience - *Is there anybody out there ?* We are basing a lot of our English around a brilliant book by Frank Cottrell Boyce called ***Cosmic***. The children are enjoying the book and are finding the story funny. We will be writing a diary entry from the point of view of an inanimate object in the story- we have had fun playing with everyday objects already. We will also be producing non-fiction pages on a chosen planet.

**Maths:** This term we have started with place value and recapped skills from Year 3 upwards. The children are organising themselves well and ensuring they are secure in their learning and that they really understand the knowledge needed when carrying out Maths skills.

**Homework:** As we have explained to the children, the new homework books are a precious resource (kindly funded by the PTA) and therefore we know the children will take great care not to lose the booklets and keep them safe. They have proved to be very valuable in the past few years as they consolidate the Maths and English we have learnt in class that week.

All Year 6 children have shown great attitudes in returning to school to ensure their final year at Primary School will be great. Well done Year 6 keep it up.

Mrs Osborne's recommended read – 'The Nowhere Emporium.' Many people have visited 'The Nowhere Emporium,' but no one has ever remembered being there. When the Emporium arrives in Glasgow, young Daniel Holmes stumbles into the shop by accident. Daniel returns to the shop the following day, usually no one returns. Mr Silver sees something in Daniel and soon he draws him into a fantasy world of magic and mystery behind the curtains.

## Dates for your Diary

October 2024	
Tuesday 8 <sup>th</sup> October	Prospective Parents invited to tour school 9.30am
Tuesday 8 <sup>th</sup> October	Family Learning Conference 3.30-6.30 pm
Thursday 10 <sup>th</sup> October	Family Learning Conference 3.30-6.30 pm
Thursday 24 <sup>th</sup> October	Prospective Parents invited to tour school 1pm
Friday 25 <sup>th</sup> October	Last day of term
November 2024	
Monday 4 <sup>th</sup> November	INSET Day
Monday 11 <sup>th</sup> November	National Child Measurement Programme
Thursday 14 <sup>th</sup> November	<b>Individual School Photos</b>
Sports Events	
25 <sup>th</sup> September	Tag Rugby Year 3&4 9-11.30am and 5&6 12.30-3pm - EGRFC
2 <sup>nd</sup> October	Netball Festival Year 3 & 4 - EGSC
9 <sup>th</sup> October	Girls & Boys football Year 5 & 6 - EGSC
13 <sup>th</sup> October	Cross Country 1pm onwards at East Court
12 <sup>th</sup> November	Sports Hall Athletics 4-6 pm at Sackville School
13 <sup>th</sup> November	KS1 Badminton Festival
14 <sup>th</sup> November	Sports Hall Athletics 4-6pm at Sackville School

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>