

Baldwins Hill Newsletter

Friday 24th October 2025

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Respect, Compassion, Courage, Responsibility

Dear Parents and Carers,

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

We had the first Parent Forum of the year last Friday and you will now have received the notes from the meeting, along with the presentation sharing the headlines of our School Development Plan for this year. Thank you to the parents who managed to attend - please remember that all parents are welcome; do come along to the next meeting on Friday 28th November on Teams.

Attendance

You will notice that attendance is a big part of our school priorities. The government's target for school attendance is 95% - this is considered good attendance, though 100% is the ideal. Attendance below 95% is seen as a concern that requires action, and an attendance rate of 90% or lower is classified as 'persistent absence'.

If your child has an attendance percentage below 92%, you may receive a call from one of the Inclusion team, or myself, to set up a meeting so that we can unpick what has caused the attendance to be low, and plan ways we might support you.

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 (I hope the weather picks up a bit!) and we will see you all when school resumes for the children on **Tuesday 4th November**.

Warmest wishes,
Jenny Dabell - Head teacher



Classroom News



Cherry

What a wonderful few weeks we've had in Cherry Class! The children have been so busy exploring, learning, and having fun together. Here's a little peek at what we've been up to... Our EYFS children have been diving even further into Drawing Club, and their enthusiasm has been fantastic to see! They've loved learning exciting new vocabulary and using actions to help remember the meanings of the words. It's been wonderful to watch their imaginations grow as they draw, tell stories, and share ideas with their friends.

Our Year 1 children have been captivated by Curious Quests, meeting some fascinating new characters such as Professor Klunk, Noodle and Titch. These special characters are helping them to become even more confident and creative writers.

Over the past week, we've been reading "The Tiger Who Came to Tea", which has inspired lots of giggles and brilliant ideas! The children have been imagining what might happen if the tiger came to school instead, we can't wait to see their fantastic versions of the story.



In EYFS, the children have been learning all about subitizing – being able to recognise a number of objects without counting them one by one. You can practise this at home by asking your child to tell you how many dots they see on a dice without counting!

In Year 1, we've been exploring part-part-whole models and using them to make fact families. The children have been writing their own addition and subtraction number sentences – great work, mathematicians!

In geography, we've been learning all about the street outside our school. The children have had fun identifying key features on a map and exploring the area on Google Earth. They have also labelled important landmarks in their books.

Our EYFS children have enjoyed this through small world play, creating their own miniature villages and spotting familiar landmarks in their play worlds.

In art, we've been studying the wonderful work of Andy Goldsworthy, who uses natural materials to make beautiful patterns and sculptures. The children were inspired to create their own pieces of natural art using leaves, acorns, and sticks.

In PE, both EYFS and Year 1 have been enjoying netball and football sessions. They've been developing important skills such as throwing and catching, shooting, dribbling, and aiming for a target. We've seen fantastic teamwork and determination from everyone!

We are so proud of how hard the children in Cherry Class have been working and how much they are growing in confidence every day. Thank you for your continued support at home, have a lovely half term.

Pine

It's been a busy and exciting few weeks in Pine Class, and we're thrilled to share some of the wonderful learning that's been happening!

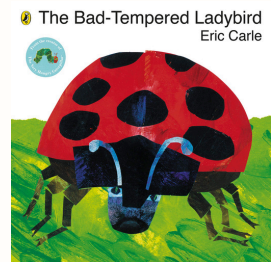
In our Curious Quests sessions, we began by reading "The Bad-Tempered Ladybird". The children loved exploring the characters and structure of the story, and they produced some fantastic recreations with their own imaginative twists.

We've now moved on to "Meg's Castle", which has inspired us to write our very own spell recipes—perfectly timed for this magical season! The children had great fun inventing spooky ingredients and enchanting instructions.

In our Year 2 maths lessons, we've been focusing on adding three numbers together and developing fluency with number facts. The children have been using practical strategies and working hard to explain their thinking clearly.

We've really enjoyed learning about East Grinstead and what makes our local area special. Through maps and discussions, the children have been developing their understanding of place and community.

In P.E., the children have been practising their coordination and ball skills through a range of fun activities and games. It's been fantastic to see their confidence and teamwork grow each week.



Hazel

It's been a busy and exciting few weeks in Hazel Class, we have lots of learning to celebrate!

In our Curious Quests sessions, we have enjoyed exploring how to write character descriptions. We started by creating our own 'Greap' (Curious Quests characters) and wrote all about them using expanded noun phrases and Year 3 began to think about similes and metaphors to include in our descriptions. We built on this to explore powerful vocabulary to describe different settings. We enjoyed immersing ourselves in objects from a range of places we might know to help us with our vocabulary. We have worked really hard to co-create Success Criteria to use in our writing to help us write dreamy settings, describing them for the reader.

In our Year 2 maths lessons, we've been focusing on adding three numbers together and developing fluency with number facts. The children have been using practical strategies and working hard to explain their thinking clearly.

In Year 3 we have been exploring addition and subtraction within 100, looking at different representations - using bar models, part-part-whole models, tables and more!

We've really enjoyed learning about East Grinstead and what makes our local area special. Through maps and discussions, the children have been developing their understanding of place and community.

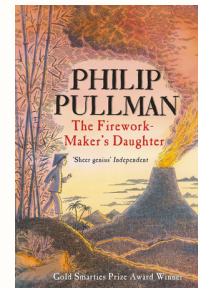
In P.E., we have really developed our teamwork and games skills through Cricket and Tag Rugby. Both the coaches who worked with us complimented our development of ball skills and learning the rules, then being able to use these to play full games. Well done on showing Courage and Responsibility throughout these sessions.

Cedar

Year 4 have continued their exciting journey into the human body by exploring how our teeth compare to those of different animals! Building on our understanding of the digestive system, we examined the teeth of carnivores, herbivores, and omnivores—looking closely at how their shapes and functions are adapted to their diets. The children enjoyed identifying similarities and differences, and used this knowledge to explain how each type of animal eats. To wrap up, we revisited food chains to connect our understanding of teeth, digestion, and how energy flows through living things.

In Geography, Year 4 have been learning how natural processes shape landscapes like mountains and lakes. We explored the impact of weather and climate on these features and how they continue to change over time. The children also looked at how National Parks are used by both workers and visitors, and why it's important to protect these special places.

We have been enjoying “The Firework-Maker’s Daughter” by Philip Pullman and are now approaching the final chapter. Throughout the term, we’ve been using our VIPERS reading skills to explore the story—retrieving key details, making inferences, predicting events, and discussing new vocabulary.



In English, Year 4 have been working on persuasive writing by creating letters to the headteacher and PTA, proposing exciting new additions to the school playground. The children have carefully considered what would improve playtime for everyone and used persuasive techniques to support their ideas. They’ve practiced using emotive language to appeal to the reader, rhetorical questions to make their arguments more engaging, and fronted adverbials to vary sentence structure.

In Maths, we have been strengthening their written methods by revisiting column addition and subtraction with numbers up to 4 digits. The children have been focusing on setting out their calculations clearly, carrying and exchanging where needed, and checking their answers for accuracy. Alongside this, they’ve been working hard to recall and practice their times tables up to 12, using games, challenges, and regular practice to build speed and confidence.

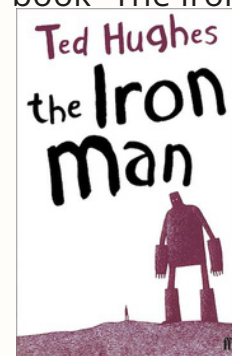
Oak

Year 5 have had a busy few weeks and definitely deserve half term for a bit of rest and re cooperation!

In our new Writers sequence we have investigated the features needed for news reports and have produced our own news reports on the events in our book "The Iron Man".

I look forward to hearing the reports when the children read them out from The Oak news desk!

In maths we've been consolidating our understanding of addition and subtraction and putting our skills into practical problem solving scenarios. We've then moved onto thinking about factors and multiples and ensuring we really understand the language and how to find it factors and multiples of numbers.



In science we have rounded off our learning on materials where the children investigated sieving, filtering, dissolving and evaporating as well as learning how to plan and carry out a fair test.

In our geography topic we have looked into renewable and non-renewable resources, food production and its affects on the environment as well as thinking about water as a precious resource and why there are shortages in different regions of the world. The children have demonstrated there knowledge by creating some fabulous double page spreads full of information.

The children have learnt some great cricket skills with our sports coach Liam and have been able to put threads into practice with mini games.

As ever thank you for your support with your child's learning. Wishing you all a wonderful and restful half term.

Windmill Hill 2025



Windmill Hill

Windmill Hill Wonders, By Mrs O

We packed our bags and waved goodbye,
From Baldwins Hill with spirits high
Windmill Hill was calling loud,
To PGL - we will make you proud!
The Giant Swing? Oh, what a thrill!
We soared like birds above the hill.
Screams and laughter filled the air,
As wind rushed wildly through our hair.
On All Aboard — we climbed so high,
A tall skyscraper that reached the sky.
Wobbling knees but hearts so bold,
Cheering mates with hands to hold.
We lined up proud, our bows in hand,
Ready to aim, steady and grand
Encouraged by our teammates' cheer,
We felt like archers of the year!
Climbing walls with aching hands,
We scaled the heights like brave new bands.
Each grip and step, a daring feat,
'Til we touched the top — what a treat!
Zip Fire zipped us through the trees,
Flying fast in the summer breeze.
A blur of green, a shout of glee,
We felt as fearless as can be.
Then came Ambush — sneaky fun,
Hiding, chasing, on the run!
In shadows deep we crept and dashed,
'Til victory cries and torches flashed.
And when the stars began to glow,
We hit the disco, all aglow.
Dancing wild with moves galore,
Spinning, jumping, shouting "MORE!"
So here's to memories, bold and bright,
Of Windmill Hill and every night.
We laughed, we played, we faced our fears,
A trip to treasure through the years.



Sports

It's been an action-packed term for Baldwins children, full of energy, teamwork, and fantastic sporting achievements! The children have had lots of opportunities to take part in clubs and represent the school in various sporting events. Here's a look at some of the exciting things we've been up to so far:

Year 3 & 4 Rugby Festival – Wednesday 24th September

Mrs Nobrega took ten Year 4 children to take part in a Rugby Festival for Years 3 and 4. The children learnt a range of brilliant new skills and were able to put them into practice during friendly matches at the end of the festival.

We are delighted to share that the team finished as runners-up, proudly bringing home medals, certificates, and a trophy for the school! Well done, team Baldwins – we are so proud of you!

Year 3 & 4 Netball Festival – Wednesday 1st October

The following week, Mrs Sheldrake took ten Year 3 children to the Netball Festival at East Grinstead Sports Club. The children had a fantastic time developing their passing, shooting, and teamwork skills through a rotation of fun and challenging activities. It was wonderful to see their confidence grow throughout the day!

Boys' Football Finals – Wednesday 8th October

Mr Gray accompanied the Baldwins Football Team to the East Grinstead Area Boys' Football Finals. The team played brilliantly, demonstrating fantastic sportsmanship and determination. After some exciting matches, they finished third out of nine schools – an amazing result!

Cross Country Event – Sunday 12th October

On Sunday, our Cross Country Team took part in the annual East Court Primary Schools Cross Country Event. Eleven Baldwins children represented the school, showing excellent perseverance and effort throughout the challenging course. A special congratulations goes to one of our Year 5/6 boys, who achieved an impressive sixth place!



Netball League Matches – Wednesday 15th October

To finish off a brilliant few weeks of sport, our school netball team played two league matches – one against St Mary's and another against The Meads. The children played with great teamwork and skill, winning both matches with fantastic scores of 7-1 and 5-2!

Congratulations to all our players – what a fantastic achievement!

Looking Ahead - There's still lots more to look forward to this term! Upcoming events and opportunities include:

- Football and Netball Leagues (continuing throughout the term)
- Sports Hall Athletics
- Inclusion Festivals
- Sports Crew Training

We can't wait to see even more Baldwins children getting involved and showing their sporting spirit!

Upcoming Events

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>

24 th October 25	Last day of term
25 th Oct – 2 nd Nov	Half Term
3 rd November 25	INSET Day
4 th November 25	First day of term
7 th November 25	First Aid for Years 2 - 4 & 6
7 th November 25	Flu vaccinations (PM)
13 th November 25	Individual school photos
28 th November 25	Parent Forum (online)
1 st December 25	INSET Day
TBC	KS1 Christmas play
17 th December 25	Christmas lunch (to be ordered by 4 th December)
19 th December 25	Last day of term
20 th Dec – 1 st Jan 26	Christmas Holidays
2 nd January 26	INSET Day
5 th January 26	First day of term

After School Clubs

If your child would like to get active and join in the fun, we currently have spaces in the following clubs:

- Netball Club
- Football Club
- Reception–Year 3 Mixed Multi–Sports Club
- Kick Dance Club (arranged directly with KICKS)

Please contact the school office if your child is interested in joining any of these sessions.

First Aid training for children in Years 2, 4 and 6

We have once again organised First Aid training for the children in these year groups. In the past we have provided it for all year groups - but the structure is different this year.

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 4	Year 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

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. Applications can be made online at www.westsussex.gov.uk/admissions. 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!

Early Years Intake 2026



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

[https://nationalcollege.com/enrol/baldwins-hill-primary-school-east-](https://nationalcollege.com/enrol/baldwins-hill-primary-school-east-grinstead)

grinstead



Reminders



Celebration Assemblies are Friday afternoons

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.

Community Events

CHARTHAM PARK

FIREWORKS NIGHT

STILT WALKER
FIRE EATER
CHILDREN'S GOODY BAGS

disco at 6pm

Open: 17.30
Fireworks: 19.30
Close: 22.00

DRESS UP FOR HALLOWEEN!

POP UP FOOD STALLS

Raging Bull Paella
Event 33 Catering - Pulled Pork
Cortado Coffee
Dirty Mac
The Pizza Post
Zoe's Waffles On A Stick
Mack's Ices
Licensed bar

25 OCT
FAMILY TICKET £32

Scan the QR code to book now!



PIONEER CHILD CARE

For 4 - 11 year olds

HOLIDAY HQ KIDS FEST

Strap in for October Half Term!

Holiday Camp at Halsford Park Primary School
27th - 30th October 2025

www.pioneerchildcare.co.uk

Scan to secure your spot!



westsussex.gov.uk/HAF

Department for Education

west sussex county council

Holiday Activities and Food (HAF) for children

Children and young people aged 4 to 16 who are eligible* for benefits related free school meals can take part in free clubs during the Easter, Summer and Winter holidays. A free nutritious meal is provided as part of the scheme. Visit our website to find activities near you and book your place.

*Check eligibility on the webpage and find information about further support and activities available. Places are limited. Paid-for-places may be available, contact individual clubs for availability.

SCAN ME




WS33006 02.2025

LINGFIELD COLTS FOOTBALL CAMP

"Excellence through Enjoyment"

Holiday Football

Lingfield College 09:30 - 15:00

- 28th, 29th & 30th October 2025.

Early booking price £30 per day

Come along and improve your all round game. Work with professional coaches.

I love the games like King of the ring and lightning.

We always have FUN, it helps us develop our game.

Game and match based activities to develop the FA's 6 core capabilities of :-

- Scanning.
- Timing.
- Movement
- Positioning.
- Deception.
- Technique

Contact : John 07970 029074, or Greg 07724 223780

For girls and boys of all abilities from year 2 to year 8

For full info and booking please visit:
<https://sites.google.com/view/lingfieldcolts/home>