

# Baldwins Hill Newsletter

Friday 28<sup>th</sup> November 2025

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Respect, Compassion, Courage, Responsibility

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, 4 and 6 engaged so responsibly in their first aid training sessions recently. So much so, that in a conversation with a group of Year 6 children recently, as they were looking after some little ones at lunchtime, I told them to ensure adults were nearby if children were eating, so we can take action if anyone chokes- and they cheerfully told me – "It's O.K, we know how to handle it if they do"! (Whilst this is such a valiant attitude and a great life skill, needless to say, adults are always nearby when children are eating!)

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.

We are trialling a bit more of a 'spotlight' approach to our newsletter this month, so that we aren't overloading you with too much information to digest! You will see that our focus for November is on History. We will pick a different subject for December. Let us know how this goes and we welcome any feedback, as always.

Have a good look at the diary dates for activities and events coming up before the Christmas break – and remember that we are NOT in school this Monday 1st December as staff are receiving their next round of phonics training with Read, Write, Inc.

We will see you all back in school on Tuesday 2nd December.

Warmest wishes,

Miss Dabell and Team Baldwins



# Classroom News



## Cherry

### English (Year One)

In English, the children have been learning about poetry. We have focused on writing themed poems inspired by winter and Christmas. The children have explored rhyme and used rich descriptive vocabulary to capture the sights, sounds, and feelings of the season. They have shown wonderful creativity in choosing words that reflect wintry scenes and festive celebrations.

### Early Years – Drawing Club

In our early Drawing Club sessions, we have been enjoying a range of stories linked to our science learning, including 'Squash and a Squeeze', 'A Stroll Through the Seasons', 'Super worm', and 'Stick Man'. The children have been drawing characters and settings from these books, as well as inventing their own imaginative adventures. They have also been practising writing short phrases and words to caption their illustrations.

### Maths (Year One)

In Year One maths, our focus has been on addition and subtraction, particularly using a number line. The children have been learning to decide whether to jump forwards or backwards by using the key vocabulary "increase" and "decrease." Their confidence is growing, and they are developing a strong understanding of number operations. Our next area of learning will be geometry, where children will explore shapes and spatial reasoning.

### Early Years – Maths

In Early Years, the children have been learning about numbers to 5. They have been representing these numbers in different ways and exploring their composition. Through practical activities and discussion, they have gained a deeper understanding of how numbers can be made and partitioned.

### PE

In PE, the children have been taking part in gymnastics. They have been learning different kinds of jumps, balances, and ways of travelling. The children have also enjoyed working in pairs to explore symmetry, showing great control and teamwork.

### Science (Year One)

In science, Year One have been learning about materials. The children have worked hard to identify materials and describe them using their properties. Our materials hunt around the school was a particular highlight, as the children loved investigating objects and thinking about what they are made from and why.

### Early Years – Science

In Early Years science, the children have been learning about animals. They have explored what makes something alive or not alive and have been classifying different minibeasts. Our minibeast hunt was very exciting, especially when the children spotted creatures linked to our book of the moment, Super worm. We have also made connections to farm animals through our reading of A Squash and a Squeeze, which the children thoroughly enjoyed.

# Pine

Exploring Our Own History in Year 1 & 2

This term, our Year 1 and Year 2 pupils have been diving into the fascinating topic of their own history and past. Together, we've explored photographs from when they were younger and reflected on how we can discover more about our personal stories. Using key words such as chronology and timeline, the children have been learning to think about the order of events in their lives. They've begun creating their very own personal timelines, helping them understand how their past connects to the present. Alongside learning about our own personal histories, we have been exploring how special events are celebrated today compared with the past. The children have enjoyed looking at the similarities and differences between birthday celebrations now and in the past. It has been wonderful to see the children making links between their memories, family stories, and the bigger idea of history. This learning journey is giving them the tools to see themselves as part of history.

"I liked thinking about my favourite memories"

" I like learning about birthdays and Christmas"

# Hazel

In History Hazel class are learning about how life and going to school has changed. To help us Work as a Historian and to investigate how schools have changed, we had a visit from Mrs Sargent, who used to come to Baldwins Hill in the early 1970's. We created lots of questions to ask her to find out about how schools have changed or stayed the same.

She told us about using the Anderson Shelter for handstands and fun swimming in the school swimming pool!

All the classes were mixed age groups then and they studied the same lessons as us. They had assemblies everyday where they prayed and they and used fountain pens for writing - there was a handwriting competition every week!

Mrs Sargent



Anderson Shelter



fountain pens



# Cedar



This term, our history lessons have explored the fascinating question: “How have children’s lives changed over time?” We’ve been learning to make inferences and deductions from both primary sources and secondary sources.

Our investigations have uncovered why children in the past often had to work—poverty and the need to support their families meant that many young people took on jobs from an early age. We discovered the types of work Tudor and Victorian children did, from farm labor and apprenticeships in Tudor times to factory work, chimney sweeping, and street selling during the Victorian era.

We also examined the harsh working conditions they faced: long hours, dangerous machinery, poor ventilation, and very little food or education.

To bring our learning to life, we dressed up as Victorians and experienced what a day in a Victorian schoolroom might have felt like. This immersive activity helped us imagine the strict discipline and routines of the time—perfect preparation for our end-of-term project: writing our own diary entries as Victorian children.

# Oak

Year 5 have been loving our history learning all about World War 1. We launched the topic thinking about the countries involved in the war and then looked into the events that started countries declaring war on each other.

We have investigated what life was like in the trenches and thought about how the soldiers would have felt living in those conditions.

Next we instigated the use of propaganda during the war and how it was used to convince people to join the war effort. We have really enjoyed looking at sources of evidence to gain an insight into this historical period.

For our last writers sequence of term we will be writing letters home from the trenches describing the Christmas Day truce to family members back home.

# Redwood

Year 6 are really enjoying learning about the Victorians. We have looked at paintings and the difference between people in the Victorians, learned about Queen Victoria and wrote about pros and cons of the Industrial Revolution.

This week, we were fortunate enough to hire some artefacts from East Grinstead Museum. We learned about different artefacts that a housemaid in a Victorian house would use. We looked at hair tongs for curling hair, smelling salts, a double ended feeder bottle for a baby, sugar nippers, cabbage crusher and butter moulds, along with lots of other things.

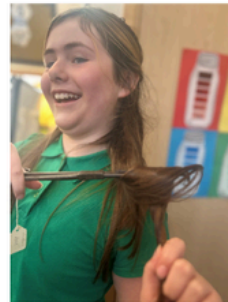
## Quotes from children

Lisa- it was amazing seeing Victorian style products and compare them with what we use today.

Henry - we looked at Victorian artefacts from East Grinstead museum.

Alice I was impressed with the smelling salts. How much did women faint?

Leah- the curling tongs looked painful and hard to use.



# Sports

## Netball League

Our netball team has been actively competing against other schools in the East Grinstead area. The team has performed exceptionally well, securing three victories so far. They also took part in a friendly match, which they unfortunately lost, but they showed great resilience and sportsmanship. With several fixtures still ahead, the team is looking forward to continuing their season and further developing their teamwork and match skills.



## Football League

The football league has several upcoming fixtures, and the team has been preparing diligently every Monday with Mr. Gray. The pupils have shown strong commitment during training sessions, and we are excited for the four remaining matches scheduled across the 2025–2026 season.

## Key Stage One Badminton and Racket Sports Festival

On 19th November, Miss Barber accompanied our Year 2 pupils to a festival at Imberhorne Upper School. The children enjoyed developing new skills in pickleball, badminton, and volleyball, and had the chance to practise these skills in short, friendly games. The event provided a wonderful opportunity for pupils to broaden their sporting experiences and build confidence in racket sports.

## Sports Crew

Our Year 5 Sports Crew attended training at Imberhorne Upper School, where they learnt how to lead playground games for younger pupils. They are now fully established and can be identified by their navy blue Sports Crew T-shirts. We are extremely proud of their commitment and leadership. They have demonstrated great responsibility in organising lunchtime activities that promote fun, participation, and teamwork across the school.

## Sports Hall Athletics

On Wednesday 5th November, eighteen pupils from Years 5 and 6 represented the school at Sackville School in an Indoor Sports Athletics event. The competition included a range of both track and field events, and our team performed exceptionally well throughout. We are delighted to share that the children placed fourth in the Wednesday session and seventh overall out of all participating schools. This is a tremendous achievement, and we are extremely proud of their determination, teamwork, and sportsmanship.



# After School Clubs

Netball club –

We are delighted to share that a professional netball coach now leads our after-school Netball Club every Thursday. The club is open to pupils in Years 4 to 6. If you would like your child to join, please contact the school office for further information.



Friends of Baldwins Hill – A New Name for Our School Community 🌿

You may have seen from our recent email that we've changed our name from Baldwins Hill PTA to Friends of Baldwins Hill. We've made this change to reflect something really important to us: community.

We want everyone connected to Baldwins Hill — parents, carers, grandparents, family members and friends — to feel welcome to get involved, offer support, share ideas, and be part of making school life even better for our children.

## Upcoming Events:

**12th Dec – Topsy Turvy Day**

**19th Dec – Festive Friday (after school until 4.15), stalls, santa and choir performance.**

## Decoration Design-Off Competition

From Friday 28th the tuck shop will be selling decorations for your children to design. They will be 50p (although anything more you can give will be appreciated). They can then take them home, decorate however they like and send in a picture of their creative design (so they can keep it to hang on the tree). There will be a prize for KS1 and KS2 winners, which will be announced at Festive Friday. We are working on a link to send the finished pics via Whatsapp – in the meantime they can be emailed to: [ptabaldwinshill@outlook.com](mailto:ptabaldwinshill@outlook.com)

## Ways you can help this month:

Helping us find some great raffle prizes

Donate something for the tombola on Topsy Turvy Day

Mention the school if you are buying your Xmas tree from Kingsley farm (they are donating money for each tree bought)

Christmas Lunch – 17th December (11.30-1pm) we provide the crackers and look for volunteers to hand them out – a lovely way to be part of your child's Christmas experience!

Offer to time to help set up or run a stall for Festive Friday.

Join our WhatsApp group or Follow our Facebook page

If you can support in any way this month please get in touch either by sending a message to 07762475129 or emailing [ptabaldwinshill@outlook.com](mailto:ptabaldwinshill@outlook.com). We would love to hear from you!

# 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>

1 <sup>st</sup> December	INSET Day
11 <sup>th</sup> December	West Sussex Parent Carer Forum 2pm
12 <sup>th</sup> December	Topsy Turvy Day
15 <sup>th</sup> December	Year 4 walk
16 <sup>th</sup> December	Nativity play, cherry, pine & hazel
17 <sup>th</sup> December	Christmas Lunch (to be ordered by the 4 <sup>th</sup> December)
18 <sup>th</sup> December	Nativity play, cherry, pine & hazel
19 <sup>th</sup> December	Last day of term
19 <sup>th</sup> December	Festive Friday (after school until 4.15pm)
20 <sup>th</sup> Dec – 2 <sup>nd</sup> Jan 26	Christmas Holidays
5 <sup>th</sup> January	First day of term
13 <sup>th</sup> February	Last day of term
16 <sup>th</sup> -20 <sup>th</sup> February	February half term
23 <sup>rd</sup> February	First day of term

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](http://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!

## 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>

## Early Years Intake 2026

Apply online at:  
[www.westsussex.gov.uk/admissions](http://www.westsussex.gov.uk/admissions)

**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!**

It's simple, convenient and free of charge. If your application is received after the deadline, your chance of securing a place at one of your preferred schools could be seriously affected.

You can apply online from **Monday 8 October 2025**. If you need the further advice or information, please call 03330 142 903.

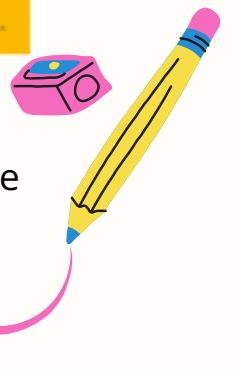
**Deadline: Thursday 15 January 2026**

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

westsussex.gov.uk

## Reminders

Celebration Assemblies are Friday afternoons



# Community Events

**west sussex music**

**TOMORROW'S ORCHESTRA PROGRAMME**  
Bognor Regis, Chichester, Crawley  
Horsham, Midhurst, Worthing



**Book now for January 2026 start**  
Lessons + orchestra + instrument loan for beginners

First term FREE  
FIND OUT MORE AT  
[westsussexmusic.co.uk/top](http://westsussexmusic.co.uk/top)

Supported using public funding by  
Department for Education  
ARTS COUNCIL ENGLAND

**SIGN UP HERE**

**west sussex music**

**Starting January 2026**  
**TOMORROW'S ORCHESTRA PROGRAMME**

Tomorrow's Orchestra Programme is a three term programme (Jan-Dec) for complete beginners aged 7 to 11 yrs old (Yr3 to Yr6)

It includes:

- Instrumental lessons on brass, wind, or strings
- Free instrument loan for the year
- Membership of the TOP Orchestra

The first term is **free** and terms 2 and 3 are just £78 per term or **free** to those on free school meals

<b>BOGNOR REGIS</b> The Phoenix Centre, PO21 5JD Thursdays 16:30 - 18:00	<b>CHICHESTER</b> St Joseph's CE Junior, PO19 10Q Saturdays 09:00 - 10:30
<b>CRAWLEY</b> The Mill Primary Academy, RH11 0EL Fridays 16:30 - 18:00	<b>HORSHAM</b> Milla's School, RH13 5HR Saturdays 10:45 - 12:15
<b>MIDHURST</b> Midhurst Rother College, GU29 9DT Tuesdays 16:30 - 18:00	<b>WORTHING</b> Bohunt School, BN14 8AH Saturdays 10:00 - 11:30

Creating the next generation of musicians

[musiccentre@westsussexmusic.co.uk](mailto:musiccentre@westsussexmusic.co.uk)  
[westsussexmusic.co.uk/top](http://westsussexmusic.co.uk/top)

**SIGN UP HERE**

**west sussex music**

**WINTER HOLIDAY ACTIVITIES**  
Bognor Regis, Crawley, Worthing



Music activities for children & young people  
FIND OUT MORE AT  
[westsussexmusic.co.uk/holidayactivities](http://westsussexmusic.co.uk/holidayactivities)

Supported using public funding by  
Department for Education  
ARTS COUNCIL ENGLAND  
West Sussex County Council

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**west sussex music**

**WINTER HOLIDAY ACTIVITIES**  
22-23 DECEMBER 2025

**Rap & Songwriting**  
BOGNOR REGIS - The Phoenix Centre, PO21 5JD  
Explore the fundamentals of rap and songwriting. From rhythm and flow to crafting compelling stories through lyrics. This hands-on workshop encourages creativity, self-expression, and collaboration - whether you're new to rap or have experience, you'll gain practical tips to enhance your songwriting skills.

**Music Production & DJ**  
CRAWLEY - The Mill Primary Academy, RH11 0EL  
Get a hands-on introduction to music creation and mixing. Learn beat-making, sound design, track arrangement with professional tools, DJ-ing, beatmatching, and seamless transitions. This workshop offers practical skills and insights into both the creative and technical aspects of music production.

**Play In A Band**  
WORTHING - Northbrook College, BN12 6NU  
Come and experience Northbrook College's state of the art music studios to form a rock or pop band. Collaborate on covers and originals, and develop song arrangement, stage confidence, and live performance techniques.

Join for one or both days. Lunch will be provided.  
Free for those in receipt of free school meals  
£39 per day for those paying  
[westsussexmusic.co.uk/holiday-activities](http://westsussexmusic.co.uk/holiday-activities)

**SIGN UP HERE**

**HOLIDAY CLUBS**



**PREMIER HOLIDAY CLUBS**

MORE fun, MORE friendships, MORE smiles during the WINTER HOLIDAYS!

Book today  
premier-education.com

Premier Education

Excellent  
Trustpilot

**YOUR NEAREST HAF CLUBS...**

Worthing/Lancing	Crawley	Arun	FREE HAF Spaces
Our Lady of Sion School Scampton Village Primary School	Seymour Primary School Hilltop Primary School	Barnham Primary School Angmering High School	*HAF for children who receive benefits related free school meals

**PLEASE BRING**  
Plenty of water  
Suitable clothing  
Loads of energy!

Our 5\* Holiday Clubs are the perfect place to keep your kids entertained over the winter holidays.

And with the HAF programme, your children can attend sessions free of charge. Each session includes healthy food and enriching activities.

Every day is different, with a mix of fun activities that children may not have tried before - from dodgeball to cricket, basketball to archery.

Book now for lots of festive fun!

SCAN HERE FOR MORE INFORMATION  
or visit [premier-education.com/holiday-camps/HAF](http://premier-education.com/holiday-camps/HAF)

Excellent  
Trustpilot



**East Grinstead Foodbank**  
Together with Trussell

Can you help us to put food on the tables of those in need this Christmas?

## ★ Extended Opening Hours & Christmas Room

From Friday 12th December, our CHRISTMAS ROOM will be open, and we'll be offering extended hours (1-4pm) on:

- Fri 12th Dec
- Mon 15th Dec
- Wed 17th Dec
- Fri 19th Dec
- Mon 22nd Dec

We will then close for Christmas and reopen on Monday 5th January 2026, 1-3pm.

# Community Events



**HOLIDAY HQ Winter Fest**  
WINTER HOLIDAY CAMP



**SPORTS | TEAM GAMES | STEM  
ARTS & CRAFTS | MAKE & TAKES  
& MUCH MORE!**

BLIZZARD BASH REINDEER ROUND UP

22nd, 23rd Dec 2025  
**At Halsford Park Primary School, East Grinstead**

Book online at [www.pioneerchildcare.co.uk](http://www.pioneerchildcare.co.uk)

**Plus FREE HAF Places Available!**  
HAF Places are FREE to those accessing benefit related free school meals





**BREAKFAST With Santa**

**YUMMY BREAKFAST | LETTERS TO SANTA | MEET SANTA | BISCUIT DECORATING | A GO ON OUR SNO-TUBING (FROM AGE 6) | ARTS & CRAFTS**

SATURDAY 13TH DECEMBER 2025 | 9AM - 12PM  
SUNDAY 14TH DECEMBER 2025 | 9AM - 12PM

CHILDREN £22 | ADULTS £10

Booking via our website under the 'What's On' page!



Lodge Hill Centre  
London Road  
Watersfield  
Nr Pulborough  
RH20 1LZ

LINGFIELD COLTS  
**CHRISTMAS FOOTBALL CAMP**

Mon 22nd, Tues 23rd & Mon 29th,  
Tues 30th December, 9.30am to 3pm

Camp aimed at Year 2 to Year 8 students,  
all abilities welcome

LINGFIELD COLLEGE  
SENIOR CAMPUS  
ASTROTURF



£35 per day per child, reduced fees  
available if booking made before December 5th  
- see website for details

[sites.google.com/view/lingfieldcolts/home](https://sites.google.com/view/lingfieldcolts/home)  
[lingfieldcoltsfootballcamp@gmail.com](mailto:lingfieldcoltsfootballcamp@gmail.com)

OUR CAMPS<sup>®</sup>  
**SNOW MUCH FUN CAMP 2025**

ARTS & CRAFTS | PARTY GAMES | SPORTS & TEAM CHALLENGES  
CHRISTMAS BISCUIT DECORATING | DRESS-UP DAYS | FESTIVE SURPRISES!

**CAMP DETAILS:**

- Dormansland Primary, Clinton Hill, Dormansland, Surrey, RH7 6PE
- 22<sup>nd</sup> & 23<sup>rd</sup> of December
- 9AM - 3PM
- AGES 5 - 11

**PAID SPACES:**  
Book Online at OurCamps:  


**FUNDED SPACES:**  
If your child is eligible for Benefit-Related Free School Meals,  
Book Online at Equu:  




IN PARTNERSHIP WITH SURREY COUNCIL  
AWARD WINNING HAF PROVIDER

07306297789 SCHOOLCAMPINFO@OURPARKS.ORG.UK  
[WWW.OURCAMPS.ORG](http://WWW.OURCAMPS.ORG)