



Balcombe

Church of England
Primary School

"In all that we do we are guided by God"



We do have learners with allergies, so please remember - no nuts in school.

NEWSLETTER

November 2018

Dear Parents,

I hope that you all had a lovely half term holiday; the children (and staff) were certainly ready for a week off.

Well, we are back to a short week and a busy one, no doubt some of you will be organising a variety of costumes for tomorrow and will be venturing out to the Scout's bonfire and fireworks event on Thursday 1st November.

Undoubtedly there will be more fireworks over the weekend too, also let's hope the weather holds at least until the end of this week. Talking of weather, please do make sure that all children are bringing a coat into school, plus hats, gloves, scarves if you feel they need them. Of course, being the well organised, efficient parents that you are, they will all be named won't they?

We do have a surprisingly large pile of **lost property**, which has been sorted, and any unnamed items will be put outside the front entrance at pick up on Wednesday and Thursday this week to enable you to have a search for those

missing socks or water bottles. After this the remaining items will either go into our "spares" boxes or be disposed of in another way.

Children in Need – Friday 16 November

This year, we will be supporting the BBC's children in Need appeal by holding an activity session in the hall. The event will be organised and run by children from Mill and Spring class and will take place from 9.30 am. All pupils will have the opportunity to spend time with their friends, trying out challenges and games, in order to win prizes. If you are happy for your child to support this fundraising event, please ensure that they have some change to spend. All children are also invited to wear something stripy on the day for a donation of £1.00 This may either be in addition to, or instead of, school uniform.



Inset Day(s)

15 Feb 19 / 23 Apr 19 / 3 Jun 19

Pencil cases

In order to help us remote and develop responsibility and organizational skills in our children, we would like to encourage pupils in Forest, Spring and Mill classes to have their own equipment to use in school. If you are looking for an additional idea for Christmas presents, please consider a pencil case with the usual contents – pencil(s), ruler, rubber, pencil sharpener, coloured pencils, a highlighter or two and a glue stick, and for Pen People only, fountain pen (preferably a Parker Vector available from the school office with blue ink) and Berol handwriting pen (blue ink). Obviously it will make life much easier for everyone if these things are labelled.



There is no need for children to bring in set squares or protractors.

Mill/Spring/Forest Class Exhibition of Work

Mill, Spring and Forest classes will be holding an exhibition of work in their classrooms on Tuesday 27th of November.

Classrooms will be open to parents from 9.05 until 9.45 am. Please come and see the fantastic work the children have produced over the term and chat to them about their learning.

We look forward to seeing you.

Dressing-up clothes appeal

Do you have any out-grown dressing up clothes tucked away that would be suitable for children to use in their role-play at school? Costumes for kings,



princesses, doctors, knights, police officers and so on, in sizes 4 years and up, would be very welcome donations, thank you.

SPOTLIGHT ON STAFF

In order to encourage our children to write with purpose some of our older pupils were set the challenge to interview a member of staff to find their innermost secrets!

The children have used their own style to share their findings.

Here are the first two.

Interview with Mrs Hoddell By Emily, Year 6.

Mrs Hoddell is a charming lady who spends most of her time and effort to ensure all in her care learn safely and well. Her position in school is to teach the children aged 4 – 6 (Years R and 1) as their class teacher. When she was interviewed earlier, she said, “Every day is so different, it is such fun; I love the children.”

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Each morning, Mrs Hoddell arrives at school and the first thing she does is check that the classroom is safe for all the children when they arrive. Next, she sets out the learning resources for the day. At lunch, Mrs Hoddell looks after children who feel ill or who are tired. She then does work. Mrs Hoddell's favourite food is chocolate buttons and she likes to do drama.

Interview with Mr Sitford

By India, Year 5

Mr Sitford likes mending cars and lots of other things. If he didn't do his current job he would be a chef. When he gets home he plays with his cats as they are his favourite animals. He usually arrives at school at 7 o'clock as he runs a club called Breakfast Club. He

will probably have a bowl of pasta at some time in the day as it is his favourite type of food. Hopefully, Mr Sitford will go to Italy to take a break from all this wok because it is his favourite place to go on holiday.

PARENT CONSULTATIONS

Booking is now open for the parent consultations on 6 and 15 November. Instructions for using the online booking system can be found on the school website, or by using the link [here](#).

CLUBS

[Link to Website](#)

FRENCH CLUB

La Jolie Ronde Languages for Children has triumphed at the prestigious children's education awards "What's On 4 Kids Awards 2018" to win, for the fifth year in succession, **Best National Licensed Activity for 5-12 year olds.**

This award-winning programme is taught at lunch time by Caroline Dernoncourt on **Tuesdays for Years 1 and 3, Wednesdays for Years 5 and 6 and Fridays for years 2 and 4.**

The focus is to provide fun and enjoyable language learning activities through interactive songs, games, stories, rhymes and role-plays without any pressure thus encouraging a positive and confident approach to languages and a well-designed transition for secondary. The 30-minute classes are small and numbers are limited. **If you would like more information please contact Caroline Dernoncourt on Tel: 07591932307 or email learnfrenchwithcaroline@gmail.com**



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CALENDAR

| | | |
|-------------|---------------------------------|-----------------|
| 1 November | Scouts' Bonfire and Fireworks | 6 pm – 8 pm |
| 2 November | Open Morning for Parents | 9.15 – 10 am |
| 5 November | Flu Immunization | 11 am – 1 pm |
| 6 November | Parent Consultation Evening | 4 – 7 pm |
| 14 November | KS2 Trip to Butser Ancient Farm | 9 am – 4 pm |
| 15 November | Parent Consultation Evening | 3.30 – 5.30 pm |
| 16 November | Children in Need | |
| | PTA Chilli and Quiz Evening | 7.30 – 10.30 pm |

REMINDER

Pupil Premium

If you are on a low income making a FSM application can greatly benefit your child.

It is often thought that parents of children in KS1 who currently receive Universal Free School Meals do not need to make a Free School Meals Application for the school to receive Pupil Premium. THIS IS NOT THE CASE.

Please read the linked information letter which explains that any accepted applications for Free School Meals (whether or not your child takes the meal up) attract £1320 per child per year which the school can use to greatly enhance the resources available for your child both within the classroom and for extra-curricular activities. We may be able to help with school uniform costs, trips and other extra-curricular activities like swimming and music tuition.

Making an application is easy and confidential.

[LINK](#) to pupil premium letter.

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