



# Balcombe

Church of England  
Primary School

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



## NOVEMBER NEWSLETTER

[parents@balcombeschool.co.uk](mailto:parents@balcombeschool.co.uk)

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

Dear Parents,

I write with good news – Miss Bendall was able to visit us earlier this week and is planning to come in a few more times over the remainder of this term. She is feeling much better and is well on the way to making a full recovery. We are very hopeful that Miss Bendall will be back with us in Coombe after Christmas. We are incredibly grateful to Mrs Taylor and Miss Sears for taking the reins in Coombe during Miss Bendall's absence and are delighted that Miss Bendall's return won't mean saying goodbye to them both. Mrs Taylor will resume leading Nature Ninjas in January, (huge thanks to Mr Graham and Kathryn Owen for taking that on this term) and Miss Sears will be back with us, this time for two weeks in Lake whilst Mrs Hoddell undertakes jury service.

**Sat 2<sup>nd</sup> Dec** – Christmas Fair

**Mon 4<sup>th</sup> Dec** – Christmas Lunch

**Thurs 7<sup>th</sup> Dec** – Christmas Jumper Day – Save the Children

**Thurs 7<sup>th</sup> & Fri 8<sup>th</sup> Dec** – Nativity @ 9.30am

**Mon 11<sup>th</sup> Dec** – Music week (special visitor in school)

**Fri 15<sup>th</sup> Dec** – final Celebration assembly of 2023

**Fri 15<sup>th</sup> Dec** – finish school @ 1:15pm

**Tues 2<sup>nd</sup> Jan 2024** – Spring Term starts

### Christmas



On Monday 4 December we will be having Christmas Lunch. The children are invited to wear a Christmas accessory (a hat, glasses, hairband etc) with their uniform if they would like to.

On Thursday 7 December it is Christmas Jumper Day and we will be raising money for Save the Children. In return for a donation, the children are invited to wear anything Christmassy instead of school uniform!

### School Gates

Please can we kindly ask that the electronic entrance gate is not propped open at any time by parents.

### Music

Well done to our piano players, Alma, Joseph, Bethany, Henry, Eleanor and John, who shared their talent with us in assembly last week.

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Our pupils were impressed with how well they played. Keep up the good work pianists!

Also congratulations to guitarists Ronnie, Lawrence, Iris and Angus (aka 007) for a marvellous performance of the James Bond theme in celebration assembly.

## Team Leaders

Introducing our new team leaders. They are:

- Ronnie, Eleanor and Ellie for the Bats;
- John, Eloise and Annie May for the Bears;
- Freddie, Matilda and Leighton for the Bees;
- Jan, Charlotte and Ruby for the Badgers.

These pupils volunteered to lead their teams (to victory) over the course of the year. In addition to carrying out the counting of team points, reporting back to me after school council meetings and being good ambassadors for their teams, they will help to organise team events and challenges as the year goes on.



## Children In Need



Thank you to all parents who supported us in raising money for Children in Need, either by giving your child money to spend, or by providing them with the things they needed for their stall at the games fair. We are very proud of our pupils in Mill and Spring for organising and running such a great variety of games and challenges for our younger pupils to participate in. The event raised a total of **£278.76**.

Huge congratulations to our pupils for raising this money to help others less fortunate than themselves.



## Emails to School

Please note that [office@balcombeschool.co.uk](mailto:office@balcombeschool.co.uk) is used for sales companies and is not regularly monitored. We receive 100's of emails to this account every day so important emails from you about your children, are very easily missed.

Please send emails to [parents@balcombeschool.co.uk](mailto:parents@balcombeschool.co.uk) (**only** the office

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staff receive your message) it does NOT send an email to all parents.

## PE Kit

A polite reminder that our PE kit does not include skins and shorts over the top. The PE kit consists of shorts, joggers or leggings, which can be school blue, navy or black.

If the skins are being worn to combat the cold, these may be worn under joggers, but please not with shorts on top. Plain white, navy or black long sleeve tops may be worn underneath the school PE top on cold days, but please also make sure that your child has a school jumper or cardigan too, as PE lessons may be outside. Trainers should **only** be worn on PE days.

## Music Week

We have some lovely activities planned for our music week coming up and would like to invite you in to share in a couple of them.

On Monday 11<sup>th</sup> December, we are excited to be welcoming Ollie Heath back into school to work with the children ( thank you to the FOBS for funding this). We would love you to see what the children achieve during the day with Ollie and so have scheduled a special concert at 2:55pm that day. Please try to join us if you can.

On Friday 15<sup>th</sup> December, we will be holding our last celebration assembly of 2023 and all celebrating will be musical. All parents are also very welcome to join us from 9am – it's always good fun and guaranteed to get you into the Christmas spirit.

## Sponsored Walk



## Fundraising for School

Amazon wish lists will remain open should you wish to purchase anything for your child's class.

**Please ensure you include your child's name and the class on a gift receipt so we can get your gift to the correct class and thank you for your generosity!**

Donate with  
**JustGiving**

**Remember to join easyfundraising - you can collect free donations for us every time you buy something online. It won't cost you a penny extra, so please help us to raise funds.**

<https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/balcombprimary>

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## 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 contact the office if you think you may be eligible for Pupil Premium funding. Any accepted applications for Free School Meals (whether or not your child takes the meal up) attract over £1300 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.



**CHRISTMAS SPORTS COURSES.**

**Multi-Sports 18th & 19th December**  
**Indoor Football 20th December**

9.15 to 3.30 - £22 per day  
Warden Park Secondary  
Open to years Reception to Year 9  
[jamesprostarsports@gmail.com](mailto:jamesprostarsports@gmail.com)

 Pro Star Sports



**The magical winter lantern trail**  
23 November 2023 – 1 January 2024

**Glow Wild**  
**Wakehurst**

Opening week promotion and flexi tickets available  
[kew.org/glowwild](http://kew.org/glowwild)

**Kew**

Under 4s go free!  
10th anniversary celebrations



## HOLIDAY ACTIVITIES



**18-20 DECEMBER**  
BOGNOR REGIS - RAP & LYRIC WRITING

**18-20 DECEMBER**  
CRAWLEY - DJ & MUSIC PRODUCTION

**21-22 DECEMBER**  
LITTLEHAMPTON - RAP & LYRIC PRODUCTION

**18-21 DECEMBER**  
WORTHING - ROCK & POP BAND

AGES 8 - 16YRS

**SIGN UP HERE**

[WWW.WESTSUSSEXMUSIC.CO.UK/HOLIDAYACTIVITIES](http://WWW.WESTSUSSEXMUSIC.CO.UK/HOLIDAYACTIVITIES)

