

Dear Parents,

Welcome back! I hope you all had a lovely Christmas and enjoyed some family time together. Thank you very much for the Christmas gifts, cards and good wishes. I wish you all a very happy 2019!

We have really hit the ground running today and launched straight into our space topic – the infants spent the morning investigating a pile of what first appeared to be rubbish on the field, but after close scrutiny turned out to be a crash site of an alien space ship! Who knew that Balcombe was such an exciting place to live?!

I'm sure that your houses are now full of new toys, books and gadgets and having a clear out is on your "to do" list. Please remember that we are always grateful for games and construction kits to use for learning or play (especially Lego, K'NEX or similar) and very soon will be writing to you to tell you about our new reading initiative for which we will be requesting book donations.

A full newsletter will follow later in the month, but for now please see a few reminders and some key information below.

Happy New Year,

Wendy Millbanks

### Staffing

Miss Bendall has been called for Jury service and will not be in school for two weeks commencing 14<sup>th</sup> January. We are very fortunate to have Mrs Alisa Burton join us to teach Coombe during that time; Mrs Burton is a very experienced teacher, who taught at St Mark's in Staplefield for a good number of years and we are delighted that she has agreed to spend some time with us.

### Forest School

Unfortunately, at the end of last term Mrs Jobbins informed me that she was no longer able to continue working for us as Forest School leader. We are very sad to see Mrs Jobbins leave and thank her for her hard work in helping to provide such a valuable opportunity for our children. When Forest School begins again (see dates below) Mrs Jobbins will be on hand to help Mrs Cornwell and Ms Jenny Worrall for the first couple of sessions, then Jen Worrall will take over as Forest School leader. Thank you, Jenny, for stepping in.

### **Dates for your Diary**

#### **Forest School**

#### **Club starting dates:**

<b>Year 2 Fridays</b>		<b>Year 4 Thursdays</b>	<b>Year 6 Thursdays</b>
<b>Group 1</b>	<b>Group 2</b>	10th Jan	17th Jan
11th Jan	18th Jan	24th Jan	31st Jan
25th Jan	1st Feb	7th Feb	14th Feb
8th Feb	1st March	28th Feb	7th Mar
8th Mar	15th Mar	14th Mar	21st Mar
22nd Mar	29th Mar	28th Mar	

<b>MON</b>	<b>TUE</b>	<b>WED</b>	<b>THU</b>	<b>FRI</b>
Football 14/01/19	French 08/01/19	French 09/01/19	Keyboard 10/01/19	Pathfinders 11/01/19
	Guitar tbc	Netball 16/01/19	Karate 17/01/19	Hockey 18/01/19
	Drama 15/01/19	Chess 09/01/19		

**Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> January** – Space dress up day (To see some inspirational ideas for home-made costumes, have a look at the pictures [here](#).)

**29<sup>th</sup>/30<sup>th</sup> January** – Creative Science Space Workshop

**Friday 15<sup>th</sup> February** – INSET Day

**Monday 18<sup>th</sup> to Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> February** – Half Term

**Friday 5<sup>th</sup> April** – End of Term.