# JULY NEWSLETTER

#### parents@balcombeschool.co.uk

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

Dear Parents,

Well, it's arrived. The end of term is upon us and I'm sure I speak for all of our pupils and staff when I say we are all looking forward to a jolly good rest.

This year has been as busy as ever, packed full of fantastic visits, inspiring visitors, motivating learning activities and of course, lots of fun along the way. Your children have been an absolute pleasure to spend time with and have contributed brilliantly to making this academic year a most memorable one.

On behalf of all of the staff, huge thanks for the lovely cards and gifts, they are so appreciated and also for your support throughout the year. We all wish you a wonderful summer!

# SATS Results - Year 6

Congratulations to our outgoing year 6 pupils, who achieved so well in the SATS tests. We were particularly proud of their attainment in grammar punctuation and spelling (12/14 86% at the standard and 7/14 50% reaching greater depth) and reading (13/14 93% at the standard and 10/14 71% at greater depth). When you consider that the national average for pupils reaching the standard was 72% for GPS and 74% for reading, you'll understand just how well they've done.

### Grow Your £2

Thank you very much for all of your efforts with our "Grow your £2" fundraising challenge. As you will know from the FOBS newsletter, it was certainly worth doing!

# Meet the Teacher

Meet the teacher sessions will take place early in September. These meetings are an opportunity for you to meet you child's teacher (or meet them again) and to find out about expectations for the coming year, learning topics on the horizon, homework, PE days etc. They take place straight after school, last about 40 minutes and we offer child care for school aged children whilst you are attending.

3<sup>rd</sup> September – Coombe

4<sup>th</sup> September – Spring

5th September – Mill

6<sup>th</sup> September - Forest.

Please try and attend if you can.

# **Pencil Cases**

Pencil cases – all Junior children should come to school with their own pencil containing basic supplies – 2 pencils, (fountain pen if they have their pen license), ruler, rubber, sharpener, glue stick, white board pen, green biro and highlighter. A few coloured pencils would also be useful.

#### Clubs

REMINDER: Club information has been sent out, clubs will restart week beginning 9 September. Any clubs where you need to register and pay for using MCAS will not be available to book until we return to school – sorry for any inconvenience.

# **Parking**

Parking at drop off and pick up seems to have been particularly problematic recently, resulting in complaints to the school from local residents. Please only park where you can do so safely and without obstructing the vision of pedestrians crossing the road. Please consider parking at the club and walking to school, or even in the huge lay by just past the church.

Please do not drive down the lane beside school (Westup) during drop off or pick up times.

#### **FoBS**

Huge congratulations to the FOBS for their fantastic efforts this year with fundraising. They are a small but extremely hard working group of parents, whose support is incredibly important and very much valued. Thank you to all who have helped in organising, running or attending any FOBS events this year.

# Drama Club Round-up!



Thank you for all those children who attended this year, it has been so rewarding to see obvious improvements in so many children's abilities to present themselves in front of their peers and adult audiences. The lower group had a lot of fun with the story of Snow White and the Seven Dwarves; Christmas elf dramas; snow stories; parachutes and games. They produced a lovely take on 'The 3 Little Pigs' which we performed in assembly, at Russettings care home and only last week, at Balcombe Fete! I couldn't be prouder of them.

The Upper Group did a lot of brilliantly creative work developing their own performances using 'magic realism' - the idea that something magical could take place in what seems like a normal scene, a shop where the toys come alive for instance. They began work in the Autumn for our biggest show yet 'Alice in Wonderland'. This magical show performed to parents and in assembly and transported us all to its strange dream world. The students demonstrated great focus and super acting skills and they should all be very proud! The term finished with all sorts of spontaneous improvisation exercises and this group have proved to be full of comedians in the making!

My secondary age group do monthly workshops and performed a comedy Macbeth over the Spring term. If anyone is interested in receiving the information about that group after leaving Balcombe then please get in touch!

Helen Savage (Butcher)





# **Pre-loved Uniform**

In preparation for next year at school (yes, already!) we have a wide range of pre-loved school uniform cleaned and available for collection in the village. We have items with the school logo, as well as white polos, PE kit, trousers, skirts, dresses and more.

Donations are voluntary and any money raised goes to FoBS.

We are also in need of donations, so please think of us when you sort through your little ones

uniform over the holidays. We will happily take anything they have outgrown and find a new home for it.

Please email Amy and Lizzie at FoBSuniform@gmail.com and we can let you know about browsing, collection and donation Arrangements.

# Dates for your Diary

Tues 23<sup>rd</sup> July @ 1.30pm – SUMMER TERM ENDS
Mon 2<sup>nd</sup> Sept – INSET DAY, school closed
Tues 3<sup>rd</sup> Sept – Autumn Term starts
Tues 3<sup>rd</sup> Sept – Coombe Meet the Teacher
Weds 4<sup>th</sup> Sept – Spring Meet the Teacher
Thurs 5<sup>th</sup> Sept – Mill Meet the Teacher
Fri 6<sup>th</sup> Sept – Forest Meet the Teacher
Weds 11<sup>th</sup> – Fri 13<sup>th</sup> Sept – Bowles Residential
trip for Year 5 & 6

# **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!



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/balcombeprimary

# **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.









TRIANGLE LEISURE CENTRE. BURGESS HILI Triangle Way, Burgess Hill, RH15 8WA

Mid Sussex Netball Club are excited to invite players who will be going into Year 3 (Sep 24) to join us for a

FREE TASTER SESSIONI

#### ALL ABILITIES WELCOME!!

Come start your netball journey, meet our fab coaches and take part in fun sessions where you can learn new skills, play games and make new friends.

For more information or to request a place please email:

u8@midsussexnetball.org.uk











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