



19 DECEMBER- NEWSLETTER

parents@balcombeschool.co.uk

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

Dear Parents/Carers,

As we come to the end of a truly wonderful term, I wish to take a moment to reflect on all that we have achieved together. This term has been filled with positivity, hard work and a real sense of community across our school.

First and foremost, thank you for your continued support. Your encouragement and involvement make such a difference to the experiences and successes of our children. Whether it is attending events, helping with homework or simply cheering them on, your partnership is invaluable.

To our incredible children – well done! Your effort, enthusiasm and resilience have shone through in every aspect of school life. You have worked so hard and should be very proud of all you have accomplished this term.

I would like to say a big thank you to our wonderful FOBS team; the Christmas fayre was amazing. Thank you to everyone who helped with this event and all FOBS events this term- I am sure you will all find yourselves on the Nice List for your good deeds!

As we approach the festive season, I want to wish every one of you a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. May this holiday bring joy, peace and time to relax with loved ones.

We look forward to welcoming everyone back on Monday 5th January for another exciting term full of learning and growth.

Best wishes,
Ben Turney
Headteacher

Celebration Assembly

Since our last newsletter, the following children have been celebrated:

Fionn – Lake Class – being so creative, thinking of different ways of making things.

Isla - Coombe Class – showing great resilience when writing.

Alice – Forest Class – Being the absolute best you can be! Always working hard in every lesson.

Max S – Spring Class – showing ambition in his writing.

Kika – Mill Class – Creativity and resilience in designing and making a bridge from spaghetti and marshmallows.

This week, we have celebrated:

Bella S - Lake Class – singing our Christmas songs so well – being the best that she be!

Jasper - Coombe Class – creativity in computing. He designed an amazing Christmas picture.

Immy- Forest Class – being the absolute best that you can be.

Toby - Spring Class – creativity in his Factopia Book Bellow

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Freddie - Mill Class – Caring and supportive behaviour towards peers and younger children in Nature Ninjas and at playtime.

Clubs

With the exception of Cool 4 School and music lessons, all other clubs will restart week beginning 12 January.

Nature Ninjas



We are delighted to share that our brand-new shelter, generously funded by Shanly Homes, is now officially open! This fantastic space has already been put to great use by Mill Class, helping them stay warm and dry during their Nature Ninjas sessions this half term.



School Photographs

School photographs will be taken on Monday 23rd March – this is to replace the session that we had to cancel earlier this term.

Flu immunisation

Earlier this week the immunisation team came into school to administer the flu vaccine. Information has been sent to all parents with details about how to

book your child an appointment for a flu vaccination if you missed this and you would like them vaccinated.

Eco Warriors



The Eco Warriors had a very successful time at the Balcombe village Christmas fair!

The children raised an incredible £164 by selling beautiful handmade wreaths and spider plants. 🌲

A massive thank you and well done to all the children who helped to make and grow these wonderful items and to Toby, Hen, Jacob and Flora for their selling skills. Your hard work and dedication really paid off! Thank you also to Mrs Beale for helping the children to make the wreaths.



The money raised will be used to support eco projects within our school, helping us to continue our commitment to sustainability and caring for our environment.

Thank also for all the entries for the eco competition. The results will be announced in the Spring Term.

FoS

We've made it to the end of term, and what a brilliant (and busy!) few months it's been. We kicked things off the school year with the Lake Cake Challenge — a **huge** effort from everyone involved and the most profit we've ever made from a cake sale. Next came the Bounce-a-thon, which the children absolutely loved, followed by the Coombe Cake Challenge and our cosy Hot Chocolate Friday, where the children were so polite and full of smiles, telling us how delicious the drinks were! We also

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hosted a Christmas wreath-making workshop for our mums, who created the most gorgeous festive wreaths. And of course, we wrapped up the term with our magical Christmas Fair... complete with a snowy school pick-up!



We're also excited to share that Friends of Balcombe School is now signed up with **Benevity**, making it even easier for families to donate. Many employers offer matched giving through the platform, so your support can go even further. Check if your workplace uses Benevity and feel free to get involved!

A huge **thank you** to everyone who volunteered, baked, donated, crafted, poured hot chocolate, or simply turned up to support an event. Thanks to you, we've raised an incredible **£4,150** this term — an amazing achievement for a school our size.

We're so grateful for your continued support.

Key Dates

- Spring Cake Challenge - 23rd January
- Break the Rule Day - 30th January (more details soon!)
- School Disco - 13th February (more details soon!)
- Forest Cake Challenge - 27th February

Here's to a wonderful break and an exciting new term ahead!

Cool 4 School - update

We hope you and your families have a wonderful and relaxing Christmas holiday.

We are excited to let you know that our new activity clubs for January are now available to view and book

through Magic Booking. These clubs will begin once the children return to school after the holiday break.

We are also pleased to confirm that our **After-Care Hour (4:15pm – 5:30pm)** is now back and available to book at **£6.50 per session**, offering a smooth transition for children who wish to stay on after their activity club

Balcombe C.E. Primary – Lego & Loom Band Club

Monday: 3:15pm – 4:15pm

Our Lego & Loom Band Club is a fun and creative after-school club where children can explore building and crafting activities each week.

Here's what's included:

LEGO Building Zone

Children can freestyle build, take on weekly challenges, or collaborate on big creations.

Loom Band Making

From bracelets and rings to charms and mini keychains, children can get creative with colourful loom bands—perfect for sharing or swapping with friends.

Sibling discount available at checkout.

To secure your child's place, please log in and book early using the link below:

magic booking login:

<https://cool4schoolclubs.magicbooking.co.uk/Identity/Account/Login>

We look forward to welcoming the children back and starting another fun-filled term!

Warm regards, Cool 4 School

Dates for your Diary

Mon 5th Jan – First day of Spring Term

Thurs 8th Jan – Forest Class Roman day and Workshop

Mon 12th Jan – Clubs restart

Mon 16th Feb – Fri 20th Feb – ** HALF TERM **

Thurs 26th March – Spring Term ends at 3.15pm

Fri 27th March – ** INSET DAY **

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Fundraising for School

[Link to PayPal](#)

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.

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.