



# Balcombe

Church of England  
Primary School

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



## 12 JUNE - 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/Carers,

As we begin the final half term of the school year, there is a real sense of excitement across the school. This is always a special stretch of the year, filled with key events, celebrations and opportunities for pupils to shine. Please do take a moment to look carefully at the diary dates, as we would not want anyone to miss the important moments planned for the weeks ahead.

I am also very pleased to share some extremely positive feedback from our recent external leadership review, carried out on 4th June by Dr Justin Smith (an external advisor employed by the Hurst Education Trust). The report reflects the hard work, commitment and shared ambition across our whole school community.

- Strong ethos and culture — The report emphasises the strong, positive culture at Balcombe, which remains central to the school's success and ongoing improvement.
- Behaviour and attendance praised — Behaviour and attendance continue to be areas of real strength.
- Strong leadership structure — The move to an Executive Headteacher model, supported by two Deputy Headteachers, has been described as highly successful. The review highlights the clarity, stability and strong capacity this structure has brought to the school.
- Highly effective governance — Governors continue to be a significant strength of Balcombe. Their strategic guidance through academisation and leadership changes was

praised, along with their thoughtful approach to succession planning.

- Positive impact of senior leaders — Both Deputy Headteachers were recognised for their increased visibility, strong relationships with parents and pupils, and their growing influence across the whole school.

It is lovely to hear from a trusted external advisor that the change to our leadership structure has been received so positively. This was a big change for the school and I am proud of everything that has been achieved over the year.

As we look ahead, school leaders are already in the process of developing an ambitious and carefully considered plan for the next academic year. This will build on the strong foundations highlighted in the review, ensuring that our priorities remain sharply focused on what makes the biggest difference for pupils. Our work will continue to centre on high-quality teaching, strong pastoral care, and a curriculum that inspires, challenges and supports every child to thrive.

As we look ahead to the final weeks of term, I want to thank you for your continued support, encouragement and partnership. Our pupils achieve their very best when school and families work closely together, and this review is a testament to that shared commitment. We are excited for all that lies ahead this half term and look forward to celebrating the many achievements of our children with you.

Best wishes,  
Ben Turney  
Headteacher

## Celebration Assembly

***Be Respectful, Be Ambitious, Be Resilient,  
Be Caring, Be Creative, Be Curious,  
Be The Best That You Can Be***

Since our last newsletter, the following children have been celebrated for demonstrating one of our Values in Action:

Annie – Lake Class – being creative with her rainbow drawings.

Albie - Coombe Class – showing curiosity when investigating materials in science.

Jacob – Forest Class – being caring – an amazing support for a classmate.

Alexander - Spring Class – an ambitious attitude to learning times tables.

Natalie – Mill Class – creativity – outstanding artwork and thoughtful design ideas in DT.

This week, the following children have been celebrated for demonstrating one of our Values in Action:

Oraia - Lake Class – being so kind and caring to others in class, including helping the teachers when they need it!

Isla - Coombe Class – **always** being such a kind and caring friend.

Tom - Forest Class – Being resilient! Brilliant effort **in class** this term.

Colby - Spring Class – being respectful to all staff members in school.

Elliott - Mill Class – curiosity in history lessons, class debates and discussions.

## Behaviour Award



This week platinum awards have been given to the following children

Isaac, Guillaume and Patrick in Forest Class.  
Henrietta, Matilda, Frieda and Iris in Spring Class.  
Congratulations to you all!

## Attendance and Punctuality Policy

Good attendance is key to successful learning in school and we would like to express our thanks for your ongoing support to achieve good attendance for all our pupils. We have recently updated our policy and encourage all parents to read our Attendance and Punctuality Policy which can be found on our website.

## Costumes for production

For those children taking part in the Junior Production, please note that costumes will need to be in school in a named bag on Monday 29 June.

## Term finish time

The Summer Term will finish at 1.30pm on Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> July.

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

## Club Parking

Please can we kindly ask parents to be mindful when collecting children from clubs particularly if you are parking on Westup.

## Dates for your Diary

**Fri 19<sup>th</sup> June** – HET Sports Day, Spring Class  
**Mon 22<sup>nd</sup> June** – Year 6 new parents evening at Warden Park  
**Fri 26<sup>th</sup> June** – Year 6 Warden Park induction day Mon  
**Tues 30<sup>th</sup> June** – Lake & Coombe class trip  
**Fri 3<sup>rd</sup> July** – \*\* INSET DAY \*\*  
**Thurs 9<sup>th</sup> July from 12noon** – Sports Day  
**Tues 14<sup>th</sup> July @6pm** – Junior Production  
**Thurs 16<sup>th</sup> July @ 6pm** – Junior Production  
**Fri 17<sup>th</sup> July @ 2pm** – Rock Steady Concert  
**Weds 22<sup>nd</sup> July** – Summer Term finishes @ 1.30pm  
**Tues 1<sup>st</sup> Sept** – INSET Day, school closed  
**Weds 2<sup>nd</sup> Sept** – Autumn Term starts

## 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.

Tennis Event at Hurst College – 14 June

Tennis Open Morning at Hurst College - Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> June - 10:00-12:00. **The event is open to all** to come along and enjoy time on the on the Ruckford Tennis courts at Hurst (see G on the map below). Please park in either of the red highlighted areas and then make your way down the path to the tennis courts (G on the map) where the Hurst team will be waiting.

