



Balcombe

Church of England
Primary School

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



DECEMBER NEWSLETTER

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



From Mrs Millbanks

Dear Parents,

What a fantastic day we had yesterday. We were visited by Ollie Heath – a reward for the children's efforts towards our "Be Ambitious" learning value this half term.

Ollie worked with each class in turn, making music together using a selection of percussion instruments and voices. Ollie used technology as a backing to the children's singing and music making to create our own anthems – it sounded great and all of the children were very enthusiastic to participate. Ollie has offered to run an after school club for us along the lines of what the children did today and you will soon be getting some more information about that, so if your child enjoyed spending time with Ollie, then it might be the perfect club for them. Well done to our pupils for being ambitious! Next half term we begin to focus on the third learning value which is "be resilient".

Wendy Millbanks



Treetops After School Club

Unfortunately, despite our best efforts to provide an after school care facility in response to parents requests, Tree Tops will **not** now be running a club for us next term. Although there was initially a good deal of interest, up to about 15 most days, the final number who have confirmed is much lower. The numbers ranged from no children booked in to one day where 8

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

have booked, but with numbers this low, it is just not viable. Tree Tops have agreed to look at this again in the Summer term if numbers are higher.

Christmas Jumper Day



Don't forget to wear your Christmas Jumper on Wednesday 18 December – no school uniform needed, be as Christmassy as you like!

Final Assembly

As well as joining us in Church on Thursday (1.45pm in St Mary's Church), parents are warmly invited to join our end of term assembly at 9am on Friday 20th December. This is a chance to remind ourselves of key events this term and to get into the festive spirit with a few Christmas favourites!

Stationery for Pencil Cases

A reminder to check and top up all pencil cases (great stocking fillers!) for the juniors, ensuring that you supply your own fountain pen (if you have a pen licence) and also ink cartridges. We no longer supply either from the office!

School Prefects

Congratulations to the following Year 6 children who have all been made School Prefects:

Ben, Catherine, Abigail, Charlotte, Evie, Oenone, James D and Freda

A few of them have written a little piece to introduce themselves.

Abigail:

"My name is Abigail. I am kind, caring and a good role model. I have recently become a prefect. I love doing this job because it gives me the opportunity to take on extra responsibilities."

Oenone:

"My name is Oenone, and I am one of the new prefects. Outside of school, I like to swim, play

sports and spend time with my cat.

I have experienced something like being a Prefect before as I was a Buddy in Year 5, which involved helping and encouraging younger children whenever they needed support. Also, my brother Teddy, is currently a Prefect at his school so informs me of the responsibilities and tasks you have to take on.

There are certain qualities a Prefect should have: kindness, compassion, understanding, helpfulness, consideration, fairness and motivation.

In all the roles in which I partake, I try to deliver full commitment, I also try to be my best self around, in and outside the school.

I hope you have enjoyed learning about me, I really want to excel as a Prefect and help everyone I can."

Freda

"I'm Freda and I'm one of the lucky and gleeful Prefects at Balcombe School. I have been asked to tell everyone a bit about me so here you go. It's not like I have no idea what being a Prefect is like, in Year 5 I was a buddy (someone who helps anyone at playtime if they are hurt or have a problem) so I have already had some experience in making sure people are alright. Two years ago, my sister was a prefect so this is not new in our family and I understand that being a prefect means doing all sorts of jobs. A perfect Prefect is kind, helpful, trustworthy, truthful and caring and I try to do my best and be all of those.

I have enjoyed gaining skills to be a Prefect over the years that I have been in Balcombe School and I hope you think I am worthy enough to be a good Prefect."

Finish Time End of Term



Term will finish on Friday 20th December at **1.15pm.**

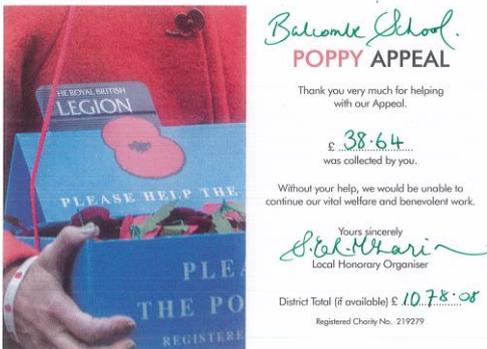
We do have learners with allergies, so please remember - no nuts in school.

School Gate

Please be aware that the gate entrance to the playground will be locked at 9am sharp and will not be reopened until just before 3.15pm when Lake parents are picking up.

Poppy Appeal

Thank you for supporting the British Legion again this year, we raised an impressive £38.64!



Fundraising for School

Remember to join easyfundraising and 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>

School Diary

Wed 18 Dec – Christmas Dinner and Christmas Jumper Day!
Thurs 19 Dec – 1.45pm St Mary's Church, Carol Service, All Welcome!
Fri 20 Dec – 9am Final Assembly, All Welcome!
1.15pm TERM ENDS

**** 2020 ****

Mon 6 Jan – Inset day
Tues 7 Jan – Start of term
Mon 17 Jan – Fri 21 Feb – Half Term

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 read the linked information letter which explains that any accepted applications for Free School Meals (whether or not your child takes the meal up) attract £1320 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.

[LINK](#) to pupil premium letter

Donate with
JustGiving™