



# Balcombe

Church of England  
Primary School

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



## 20 MARCH - 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 and Carers,

I am delighted to share some wonderful feedback from our recent School Improvement Advisor visit by Dr Justin Smith, who spent time with us earlier this month.

Dr Smith noted that Balcombe continues to be a school held in positive regard within the local community. One of the highlights of the visit was the time Dr Smith spent talking with our children. He confirmed that the pupils at Balcombe are a considerable strength of the school, describing them as engaging, thoughtful and demonstrating a clear understanding of the school's expectations. This is something we see every day, and it is wonderful to have it recognised by an external expert.

Dr Smith observed several areas where we are making strong progress:

**Our New Behaviour Approach** – Our Ready, Respectful, Safe framework is providing clarity and simplicity for both pupils and staff.

**SEND Support** – The appointment of Mrs Hoddell as SENCO has brought energy, passion and clarity to this area of the school's work with a clear focus on developing inclusive practice that benefits all our learners.

Dr Smith concluded that Balcombe is a school with a clear sense of direction and a team committed to establishing effective systems that support our pupils.

### **Easter Service Reminder**

Please don't forget that our Easter service will take place at St Mary's Church next Thursday at 2pm. We

would love to see as many of you there as possible to celebrate this special time with our school community – we still need volunteers to help us walk the children to and from the service, please let the office know if you are able to help.

Thank you for your continued support.

Warm regards,  
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:

Lyra – Lake Class – always being so caring towards others.

Sam - Coombe Class – being the best that he can be, always ready to listen and learn.

Myles – Forest Class – being ambitious with his reading, great improvement!

Nicholas – Spring Class – being ambitious and having a mature attitude to his learning in every lesson.

Logan – Mill Class – showing resilience in his approach to challenges (in tests and lessons)

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

George - Lake Class – always being so curious, for asking questions to find out more and for learning so many facts about the Amazon Rainforest.

Carter - Coombe Class – working hard to be the best that he can be in all lessons.

Sam - Forest Class – being respectful – good manners, follows our rules.

Dylan - Spring Class – showing resilience and adapting when things didn't go to plan.

Josh - Mill Class – respectful behaviour – a positive role model in class and around our school.

## Behaviour Award



In January we launched our new system for highlighting and rewarding positive behaviour in school. We are delighted to announce that we have our first recipient of a platinum award - to achieve this milestone, children need to earn themselves 75 teams points for positive behaviour.

Congratulations to: Florence in Mill Class

## Staff Changes

Unfortunately, we Miss Vardy will be leaving us at the beginning of May. In her short time with us, she has been a great asset as a TA in Forest and Spring. She is leaving us to pursue a new career in graphic design. We wish her the very best in her new job.

As a result, we have a vacancy for a TA role – more details can be found about this on our website.

## Sublime Science Workshop

We enjoyed a fantastic workshop presented by Sublime Science on Wednesday. Many gasps could be heard as the children marvelled at the spectacle! In addition to the fun, a wealth of knowledge was learned as Professor Alex explained the science behind the magic.



There are two activity packs to continue to inspire interest in all things Science – they can be found on our website with the newsletters.

## FoBS

Curry & Quiz Night

Don't forget to get your tickets for this fabulous event – Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> March @ 7.30pm. Teams of 6, at Balcombe Social Club. [Tickets](#)

Bull Run:

Once again, FoBS are running the refreshments for the Bull Run on Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> March. We would be grateful for cake donations (please include a list of ingredients with your cakes).

## Stationery - Juniors

Please remember to check and re-stock your child's pencil case regularly. The children use pencils in their learning every day so it would be helpful to provide

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them with a few to ensure they always have one to use in school.

## Clubs

Please note that Clubs finish on Friday 20 March with the exception of Breakfast Club and Cool 4 School. Children should be collected at 3.15pm as normal for the final week of term.

Following parent feedback, clubs next term will start from the first week of term and will finish at the end of the last full week of term – please note that not all of our club providers are able to offer this so you must check the schedule or the school calendar for dates.

Some of our clubs are also opening up places for children in Reception – again please check this on the schedule carefully

The Club Schedule for the Summer Term is being finalised ready to send out next week.

## Dates for your Diary

**Sat 21<sup>st</sup> March @ 7.30pm** – FoBS Curry & Quiz Night  
**Sun 22<sup>nd</sup> March @ 10am – 12noon** – Bull Run & Cafe  
**Mon 23<sup>rd</sup> March** – School Photographs  
**Thurs 26<sup>th</sup> March @ 2pm** – Easter Service, St Mary's Church  
**Thurs 26<sup>th</sup> March** – Spring Term ends at 3.15pm  
**Fri 27<sup>th</sup> March** – \*\* INSET DAY \*\*  
**Mon 13<sup>th</sup> April** – Summer Term starts  
**Mon 25<sup>th</sup> May to Fri 29<sup>th</sup> May** – Half Term  
**Mon 1<sup>st</sup> June** – \*\* INSET DAY \*\*  
**Fri 3<sup>rd</sup> July** – \*\* INSET DAY \*\*

## 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.**

Do more.  
Learn more.  
Be more.

Join a group where you can try new activities, build confidence and make great friends. At 1st Balcombe, every week brings something different — from outdoor adventures to creative challenges across Beavers, Cubs and Scouts.

We meet on Wednesdays and Thursdays at the Balcombe Scout Hut. Everyone is welcome to get involved, and you can start at any age!

Discover the excitement of Scouting at 1st Balcombe. From exploring the outdoors to learning skills for life, there's an adventure waiting for every young person.

Get in touch and start your journey today.

[join@1stbalcombe.cdscouts.org.uk](mailto:join@1stbalcombe.cdscouts.org.uk)



**INSET DAYS: 27 March, 1 June & 3 July 2026**

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# Easter Holidays Sports Courses

Multi-Sports 30<sup>th</sup> March to 1<sup>st</sup> April

Rugby 31<sup>st</sup> March to 2<sup>nd</sup> April

Football 7<sup>th</sup> to 9<sup>th</sup> April

Netball 7<sup>th</sup> to 9<sup>th</sup> April

Cricket 8<sup>th</sup> to 10<sup>th</sup> April

**9.15 to 3.30 - £25 per day**

**At Warden Park Secondary**

**Open to years Reception to Year 9**

**Jamesprostarsports@gmail.com**



## EASTER FOOTBALL CAMP

AGES  
5-12 YRS



10am - 3pm

Tuesday 31 March - Thursday 2 April  
Tythe Barn, Pondtail Rd, Horsham, RH12 5JF

**BOOK ONLINE:** [www.southcoastsports.org.uk](http://www.southcoastsports.org.uk)

**CREST SWIM SCHOOL**

## SPECIAL OFFER FOR SELECTED SCHOOLS

First come first served,  
Limited availability as spaces last.  
availability at Great Walstead School and  
Chailey Heritage School only

Group Lessons  
£10 per lesson  
until Easter  
holidays

offer expires 9th March 2026

available on selected classes only,  
available to new swimmer or current  
swimmers in additional sessions.

Private Lessons  
1-1 £25 per lesson  
2-1 £30 per lesson  
until Easter  
holidays

Contact

[hello@crestswimschool.co.uk](mailto:hello@crestswimschool.co.uk) or 01825 790896 for more information



## JOIN OUR ACTION PACKED EASTER HOLIDAY CAMP IN HANDCROSS

AGES  
5-11  
YRS



**FREE**  
TO THOSE ACCESSING  
BENEFITS RELATED  
FREE SCHOOL MEALS.  
BOOK WITH YOUR HAF  
ID VIA THE  
WSCC WEBSITE

### DATES & LOCATION

Handcross Primary School, Handcross  
Monday 30 March - Thursday 2 April

**We accept childcare vouchers**

**BOOK NOW:** [www.southcoastsports.org.uk](http://www.southcoastsports.org.uk)

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**JOIN OUR ACTION PACKED  
EASTER HOLIDAY CAMP IN HAYWARD'S HEATH**

**AGES  
5-11  
YRS**



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TO THOSE ACCESSING  
BENEFITS RELATED  
FREE SCHOOL MEALS.  
BOOK WITH YOUR HAF ID  
VIA THE  
WSCC WEBSITE**

**DATES & LOCATION**  
St Wilfrid's CoE Primary School, Hayward's Heath  
30 March - 2 April | 7 - 10 April

**We accept childcare vouchers**

**BOOK NOW:** [www.southcoastsports.org.uk](http://www.southcoastsports.org.uk)



**E A S T E R**

**Thurs 2<sup>nd</sup> April to  
Mon 6<sup>th</sup> April (incl)**

**Thurs 9<sup>th</sup> April to  
Sat 11<sup>th</sup> April (incl)**

**9.30am - 4.30pm (last entry 3pm)**

**£3 per adult / £4.50 per child**

**Entry includes Easter bee trail  
plus prize for children**

**WARDEN PARK  
TENNIS CAMPS**  
*Tennis Camp 2026*

**Easter**  
Monday 30th March - Thursday 2nd April  
9:30am - 1pm  
4-15 year olds  
£79 for 4 days  
£25 per day

**Summer Week 1**  
Monday 27th July - Friday 31st July  
9:30am - 1pm  
4-15 year olds  
£99 for the week  
£25 a day

**Summer Week 2**  
Monday 10th August - Wednesday 12th August  
9:30am - 1pm  
4-15 year olds  
£65 for 3 days  
£25 a day

**BOOK NOW!**  
For more information & to register contact:  
**Sally Turner 07766 006757**  
[sally79turner@gmail.com](mailto:sally79turner@gmail.com)  
LTA qualified Tennis coach  
PE Teacher at Warden Park School

Explore, rescue and protect this Easter  
28 March - 12 April 2026

**Book now**



**OCTONAUTS  
ABOVE &  
BEYOND**

**Wakehurst**

A buzzing family mission awaits!  
Visit [kew.org/wakehurst](http://kew.org/wakehurst)

Presented in partnership with  
**meomi Kew**

[Link to Book Octonauts Above and Beyond](#)

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**QUACK TO THE FUTURE EASTER CAMP**

4 - 12 YRS 9-6PM FROM £16.99  
MARCH 30<sup>TH</sup> - APRIL 3<sup>RD</sup>  
FULL, HALF OR EXTENDED DAY  
AVAILABLE WITH HOT MEALS!

Easter  
Egg Hunt

**COOL 4 SCHOOL CLUBS**  
BOOK NOW

Join us this half term for our Duck Hatching adventure! Watch adorable ducklings hatch with fun games & activities. Limited spaces



**OUR ACTIVITIES**

- From Dodgeball, Cricket, Football & more
- Arts & Crafts, Drama, Party games & more
- Play ground adventures

**OUR FEATURES**

- Certified Coaches
- Duck hatching experience
- Lunch & Tea options
- Drop off available
- Child tax vouchers & credits

07475724576 www.cool4schoolclubs.co.uk Lindfield, Haywards Heath

**Multi-Sport:**  
Monday 30 March  
(Reception - Year 6)

**Outdoor Education:**  
Monday 30 March (Year 7 - Year 8)  
Tuesday 31 March (Year 9 - Year 10)

**Art and Forest:**  
Monday 30 March - Thursday 2 April  
(Year 3 - Year 8)

**Tennis:**  
Tuesday 31 March - Thursday 2 April  
(Reception - Year 10)

**Football:**  
Tuesday 7 April (Year 4 - Year 6)  
Wednesday 8 April (Year 7 - Year 9)

For more information, please contact:  
**camps@hppc.co.uk**

**Hurst**   
**Holiday Camps**

**Monday 30 March to Wednesday 8 April**

Hurstpierpoint College  
9am - 3pm

Tennis: £25 per day  
Football: £25 per day  
Multi-Sport: £25 per day

Outdoor Education: £30 per day  
Art and Forest:  
£30 per day / £100 for all four days

Early bird prices available until 23 March, prices increase by £5 per day thereafter



To book, please scan the QR code



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