



Balcombe
Church of England
Primary School

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



NEWSLETTER

MAY
2017

INSET DAY
TOMORROW

Dear Parents,

As you know, Headteachers across the county (and indeed the country,) continue to fight for fair funding for our pupils. With this in mind, when I had the opportunity to show Jeremy Quin around our school, I took it.

He was impressed with the improvements we have made to the building and grounds, how we motivate and challenge our children and how we make the best use of the money we have. I, of course, made the most of the opportunity to talk to him about the Worthless? Campaign and in particular, our future funding issues. We discussed the impact that falling funding amounts would have on Forest Schools, curriculum enrichment and human resources. We also discussed why some of his quick fix ideas would not work for our school.

Whilst here, he spoke to four of our prefects, who as expected were brilliant ambassadors for the school, and I was able to take him on a tour, explaining all of the things that we do that make us special. He commented on the tangible positive ethos of the school which he stated he had felt as soon as he walked through the door.

I'm not sure if Jeremy's visit to the school will make a vast difference to the whole fair funding debate, but I do know that he left impressed by what he saw and will certainly remember the name of Balcombe Primary School!

IN THE SPOTLIGHT

In the spotlight this time round is James Merrick. James is an avid historian and deep thinker. He has written a very interesting piece on King James I of England. Writing this at home, he has put in a lot of time and effort in the research and structure of his non-fiction piece. It makes for a very informative read. Thank you for your contribution James.

[Article](#)

SCHOOL ELECTION

.... to find a headteacher- for- the -day



We will be running our own election here on June 8th and have today announced our 4 leading candidates.

Congratulations to Eva, Scarlet, Alex and Caitlinn who will be beginning their campaign straight after the half term holiday – look out for their posters!

Play fair ladies and let the battle commence!

OPEN MORNING

An opportunity to come in and look at children's work in class. We realise



some parents find the 2.15 slot tricky, so this time we will be welcoming you from 9am to 9.45am on Wednesday 21 June. For younger children especially please let us know if you won't be able to attend. (Lake may also offer an additional time).

BALCOMBE VILLAGE FETE

We have been asked by the Village Fete Committee to run the poster competition



again this year -something for your child to do over the holiday perhaps? Posters should be on A4or A5, brightly coloured and photocopyable. The main details to include are below.

Date: July 15th

Time: 12-5pm then 7pm-1030 for the party with band

Events include:

- Zumba
- Children's dancing
- Classic cars
- Fox hounds
- Dog show



- Arts & crafts (cakes, vegetable animals, flower show, etc!)
- Bouncy castle
- Beer festival 
- Tug of war
- Children's races (sack races etc)
- Horse riding demo (side saddle)
- Scouts display
- Judo display
- Food & stalls 

Please return any posters to school by the end of the day on Monday June 12th.

FLU IMMUNISATION PROGRAMME

Following last year's achievement of the national target for immunisation of children up to Y3 in our area the NHS will again provide this programme in schools. This year they will increase the age range up to Year 4.

We have been given a date of Friday 1 December for Balcombe School when children from Reception to Y4 will receive vaccination against the flu virus - if permission has been received from parents.

Further information and consent forms will be sent out later in the year.

SAINSBURY'S VOUCHERS

Today is notified cut-off. Total to date is **15096** which is up on last year, well done! We can take a few stragglers immediately after half term if you find them.

HOT LUNCHES

Please note the first two days after half term will be the 'back to school' lunch, as always - jacket potatoes with a selection of toppings.



BALCOMBE SUNFLOWER COMPETITION



See [POSTER](#)

We were sent some sunflower seeds today from the organisers but unfortunately not enough for everyone, more supplies will be available tomorrow - *but we're not here!*

If your child would like to take part and doesn't have seeds please contact Neil on 01444 819354. / balcombesunflowercompetition@gmail.com,

**FINAL DAY OF TERM –
TUESDAY 25 JULY –
SCHOOL WILL FINISH AT**

Balcombe Village Craft Fair 17th June

The Governors and PTA are working together @ the craft fair:

Tombola – run by Governors
Refreshments – provided by PTA

Please help with donations

- cakes / biscuits to be sold as Refreshments
- bottles for the Tombola.

Pease leave in the box
in Reception week
commencing 12th June

CALENDAR – see [website calendar](#) for all dates

CLUBS – see [website](#) for all club information

PARENT / COMMUNITY INFORMATION

BUSHCRAFT – [holiday club](#)

Chartwell's Summer Menu - [SUMMER MENU](#)

After School Karate - [KARATE CLUB](#)

Victory Hall Films - [VICTORY HALL FILMS – JUNE 2017](#)

Bee Hotel Challenge - [BEE HOTEL CHALLENGE](#)

Poster Design - [DESIGN A POSTER COMPETITION](#)

Summer Musical - [SUMMER MUSICAL – Registration form / SUMMER MUSICAL - poster](#)

STELLA ARTS ORCHESTRA

The SAO is a proposal for a new, world-class orchestra in West Sussex. We plan to instigate a cultural revolution in the region and would like you to join us!

There will be countless opportunities for children to get involved and our activities [read on](#)

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