



Balcombe

Church of England
Primary School

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



NEWSLETTER

June 2018

Dear Parents,

This time of year in school is my favourite! Although it is unbelievably busy and often quite stressful, it is the time of year when I get to spend more time with the children. Whether it is with the year 6 children getting ready for and managing the Helper's Tea Party or with the younger children playing games at our Summer Festival, spending time with small groups engaging them in conversation is what I enjoy best. I find out all sorts of information (some of which you'd probably rather I didn't know) but I also get to know individuals just that little bit more and understand what makes them tick. What seems to be making lots of pupils tick at the moment unsurprisingly is the football. I've been astounded at the number of facts and level of understanding that some of our youngest children have about the matches and teams - now just to find a way to replicate that enthusiasm and memory skill for maths and spelling!!!!

I'm enjoying having more opportunities to chat, I'm enjoying working with your

children in this lovely school - I'm a lucky headteacher!

STAFFING MATTERS

Sadly, we will be losing two very highly valued members of our office team at the end of this term. Andrea Hewitt and Margaret Lawrance will both be leaving.

We have all enjoyed having Andrea with us for a few more weeks than we thought we would and as previously stated, I have greatly appreciated Andrea's hard work and flexibility in her role. I will miss her sense of humour but look forward to spending the rest of term enjoying it!

Margaret Lawrance has worked at the school since before my time here and I remember thinking when I arrived, how thankful I was that she had such a firm grip on everything school related. I have continued to be thankful about that, during the past (extremely busy) nine years and am very grateful to Margaret for her commitment, efficiency and decisive approach to her role. I will miss her wealth of knowledge, good spelling and grammar

and her continued support in all that I do. Margaret's last day will be Thursday 12th July, after which time I'm sure she will enjoy playing more golf and spending time with her family.

From the beginning of next term, Lara Power will be joined by Sarah Cornwell in the office.

We will also be losing Perri Jobbins from her role as teaching assistant in Lake. Lake will miss Perri's creativity and gentle manner but we are very glad that Perri will continue to lead Forest School for us on a Thursday and Friday afternoon.

I am delighted to say that we have managed to steal Sharon Kingsland from Chartwells and from September, Sharon will be working every afternoon as Lake's teaching assistant, with Annette Wilkinson working in that role each morning.

As for the rest of the school, Rachel Bolland and Liz Jones will continue to split the role of Coombe TA, with Lara Power providing some additional hours of support to Coombe, Trish Gardiner will work with Forest class, Jasmine Waters with Spring and Audrey Kirby with Mill.

Lunchtime cover will be provided by TAs and Mr Sitford, so from the end of this term we also say good bye to our lovely lunchtime ladies –

- Mrs Davidson
- Mrs Moore
- Mrs Kenward
- Mrs Sanderson
- Mrs Thompson

- Mrs Dodgson – who sadly is no longer able to support Lake Class either.

Thank you ladies, for your help in school, especially during those horrid cold and windy days. We will miss you!

As you know, we are also starting a breakfast club which will be run by Mrs Power, Mrs Cornwell, Mr Sitford and Mr Elborough, with two adults present each morning.

PTA

I would like to say a huge thank you to the PTA this year, who have (despite being small in number) managed to organise and plan some very successful events. The Summer Festival had such a lovely, laid back feel, with many parents commenting on what a super evening they had and from the looks on the children's faces, they all enjoyed it too. From the galloping horses, and the talent show (well done to the winner, Eloise) to the use of The Pod, it was all managed calmly and efficiently. Of course it takes a team to bring plans to fruition and I would like to thank all of the members of the PTA for their support but HUGE THANKS and congratulations go to Lucy Chettleburgh and Vikki Cripps for a fantastic fundraising year.

The total raised by the PTA at the Summer Festival was a whopping

£1537 Thank you all very much!

Some of the PTA funds this year have already been spent on ICT resources, including a new smart board, The Pod and shade sails. The rest will go

towards topic related resources, website subscriptions for learning resources and further enhancing our outdoor learning and playing.

SPORTS DAY

What a wonderful day it was – I'm so sorry that I couldn't be in school to share it. I'm told that the children (and parents) behaved and competed brilliantly, with all of the children trying really hard to win points for their teams. Well done everyone and congratulations to the BEES!

See [PHOTOS](#) on our website

WOODSMILL – COOMBE & LAKE

Both classes had a fabulous time at Woodsmill, please click [here](#) to view some pictures.

SPONSORED SKIP

Referring to our April Newsletter regarding the Sponsored Skip where children wished to raise more money for the school in Uganda to provide sporting equipment for the orphans. We are pleased to announce a **HUGE £897** has been raised – well done to all who have taken part in raising so much money. For those of you who still need to bring their sponsor money in, please do so by Wednesday 4th July **AT THE LATEST.**

FOREST CLASS – OUTSIDE AREA

A huge thank you to Sammy Mackrill and Georgia Lawe for sprucing up our

outdoor area! They have been hard at work over the past few weeks, painting, weeding and planting! We think you'll agree it looks wonderful and the children can't wait to enjoy working outside. Also our thanks go to Julia Fairweather and Ian Tremble for sorting out much needed shade for the areas and putting up sails! Finally a big thank you also goes to B&Q for donating the plants.



PHOTO COMPETITION

On Monday afternoon (2nd July), all of the entries into our photo competition “Nature is awesome” will be exhibited in the hall. During the afternoon the children will all be given a chance to visit the exhibition and vote for their favourites. We would love it if parents too came to view the photos and help us with the vote. The exhibition will be open to parents from 2:45 – 3:30 (please use main entrance if coming before 3:15).

OLD DISCS

Does anyone have an old CDs, DVDs or blank computer discs that they no longer need. We want them for reflective purposes, so it really doesn't matter if they are scratched!

RUBBISH DISPOSAL

We have some pieces of wood in our car park that need to be taken to the tip. Is there anyone out there with a large enough car and some time to help us out with this please?

CHILD SAFETY ONLINE

The Community Safety & Wellbeing Team (CSWB) is asking West Sussex Parents & Carers for their views & experiences in relation to keeping their children safe online.

We are looking to establish what parents & carers main concerns are when parenting in the digital age and what challenges they have faced. We want to understand how confident parents & carers are when dealing with these issues and if they know where to go for help, advice & support. [Read more](#)

FINAL ASSEMBLY

On the last day, 24th July, as always, we will be holding our final celebration assembly of the year. We will be saying good bye to children and staff, taking a look back at the last year and announcing a variety of awards. The assembly will begin at 9 am (or as soon as everyone is gathered in the hall) and all parents are very welcome to join us.

Secondly, we will be announcing the winners of the “Nature is Awesome” photo competition in assembly tomorrow and photos will be returned to the children to bring home. We were so impressed with the quality of the photos that would like to use some of them in the future for learning resources and display around the school. In order to do this, we need the photo in an electronic format.

CLUBS

[Link to Website](#)

CALENDAR

MONDAY, 2 JULY

09:45 HANDCROSS PARK – NEARS ATHLETICS

FRIDAY, 6 JULY

BOWLES: - FINAL DATE FOR OUTSTANDING BALANCE PAYMENTS

TUESDAY, 10 JULY

Y6: LEAVERS' CELEBRATIONS AT WORTH ABBEY

THURSDAY, 12 JULY

09:15 OPEN MORNING – PARENTS

FRIDAY, 13 JULY

INSET DAY

SATURDAY, 14 JULY

BALCOMBE VILLAGE FETE

TUESDAY, 17 JULY

19:00 JUNIOR PRODUCTION

WEDNESDAY, 18 JULY

13:30 SCIENCE AFTERNOON

THURSDAY, 19 JULY

REPORTS SENT HOME

13:30 SHUFFLE UP

19:00 JUNIOR PRODUCTION

MONDAY, 23 JULY

13:45 LEAVERS SERVICE @ ST MARY'S CHURCH

15:30 LEAVERS' PARTY

TUESDAY, 24 JULY

09:00 FINAL CELEBRATION ASSEMBLY

13:30 END OF SUMMER TERM

SUMMER HOLIDAY CLUBS / ACTIVITIES

Victory Hall Films – July [click here](#)

BUSHCRAFT [Activities](#)

WARDEN PARK ACTIVITIES

- [Netball](#)
- [Basketball](#)
- [Cricket](#)
- [Football](#)
- [Rugby](#)

THE TRIANGLE – [holiday camps](#)

Gracie Grooves DANCE STUDIO

BRAND NEW BALLET, TAP & MODERN
DANCE CLASSES IN BOLNORE VILLAGE

Thursdays

Ballet 4.30-5.00pm

Tap & Modern 5.00-5.30pm

The Orchard Room - Bolnore Village

Primary School

Specifically for ages 4-7 years (Reception, Year 1 and Year 2)



Classes will follow the
outstanding Melody
Movement First Ballet and
First Tap & Modern Syllabuses



COME AND TRY YOUR FIRST CLASS FOR FREE!

Email: grace.meeking@sky.com

Call: 07590403232

Facebook: www.facebook.com/graciegrooves

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