



# Balcombe

Church of England  
Primary School

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



## JANUARY NEWSLETTER

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

### From Mrs Millbanks

Dear Parents,

Thank you so much for engaging with us to support your children so well with our space topic. From the amazing models that are being made for homework to the vast array of creative costumes displayed on our space day, your efforts are very much appreciated. The children looked amazing and it made for a day they will remember, alongside a great way to scaffold their learning. We really enjoyed the Space Dome visit on Tuesday and Wednesday which has further fuelled the enthusiasm that we are seeing for all things "spacey"! (Please remember that these extra-curricular events are only possible if parents are willing to help financially. If you have not yet made your voluntary contribution and are happy to do so, sQuid is still open!)



*Inside the Space Dome*

If you are looking for a family space expedition for half term, don't forget there are a number of fairly local options.

The Observatory Science Centre  
(Herstmonceux)

<https://www.the-observatory.org/>

South Downs Planetarium (Chichester)

<https://www.southdowns.org.uk/>

The Royal Observatory (Greenwich)

<https://www.rmg.co.uk/royal-observatory>

The Science Museum (South Kensington)

<https://www.sciencemuseum.org.uk/>

Winchester Science Centre and Planetarium

<https://www.winchestersciencecentre.org/>

We would love to hear from the children after half term if you do manage any space visits, especially if they have photos to show us.

### Will You Join Us and Help Keep All Children Safe Online?

O2 and the NSPCC have joined forces on a mission to help all children and their families in the UK stay safe online. Together, they're offering useful tools, support and guidance to help parents and carers have conversations with their children about their online lives. We teach our children about online safety as part of our curriculum and discuss potential

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issues throughout the year as part of our normal practice. In addition to this, periodically we invite the team from the NSPCC in to speak in more detail to the children.

On 25<sup>th</sup> April, children in EYFS, KS1 and KS2 will take part in an assembly, with our year 5 and 6 children participating in a more in depth workshop later in the day.

The team will also be running free **online safety workshops for parents and carers** at 2pm on 25<sup>th</sup> April. We would like to invite all parents and carers to join us. The hour-long workshop will help parents and carers understand their child's online world and build confidence to have those important conversations that can help keep children safe online.

Until then, if you need any support or guidance, have a look at [these website pages](#) and [step-by-step guides online](#),

Call the **O2 and NSPCC Online Safety Helpline** on **0808 800 5002**, or pop into your local O2 store.

It would be very helpful to know how many parents to expect so **please let us know if you intend to come**.

## Year 6 leading assembly

This year, our year 6 children are being given the opportunity to lead assemblies for our youngest children. They have observed teachers doing it and Mrs Hoddell has given them some handy hints. We have asked the children in small groups to choose a story with a moral or message, think about how they present it, how they ensure that our infants understand that message and have a chance to respond to it and how they really promote an opportunity for reflection. This is a huge challenge, but one that year 6 are all quite excited about and keen to try. They have had 6

years of being in assembly, responding to stimuli that provoke thought about a whole range of questions; it will be interesting to see what they have taken from the experiences and what they can now offer others. Watch this space to see how it goes.

## PTA News

Lucy and Vicky would like to thank you all for your continued support of the PTA, whether that be helping at events, or turning up and parting with your money - everything helps us raise much needed funds for school so we are very grateful. We hope you have enjoyed the events so far, below is a list of what is coming up:

14 February - Film Night

17 March - Bull Run

18 March - Possible Cake Sale After Bull Run

17 May - Quiz Night

28 June - Summer Fair

Don't forget to use easyfundraising (see below) when you do your online shopping - it's money for nothing and every little helps!!

If you would like to become involved with the PTA please speak to Lucy or Vicky.

Many thanks

Lucy

Donate with  
**JustGiving**

## 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>

**INSET DAYS - 15 FEB 2019 - 23 APR 2019 - 3 JUN 2019**

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## Can You Help?

### Old Suitcase

I just wanted to check if anyone has an old suitcase that they would be willing to give us. I have asked before, but in 'case' you missed it we are looking for two old suitcases to use in school. If we can't find any old suitcases we will use modern suitcases. So, does anyone have a modern suitcase that they no longer need? One with wheels would be ideal.

Please let us know if you are able to help .

### Music CDs

I am looking to increase our music library, to share a wider range of music with children in assembly and possibly to be used in general curriculum teaching such as PE, RE, music, Geography etc.

If you are clearing out old CDs, please consider if they might be appropriate for school. I am particularly looking for classical music, instrumental, music from films and music from other cultures or countries. Some popular music may also be suitable for use, but please check there is no bad language or inappropriate themes.

We would also welcome any stories on CD that would be appropriate for our younger children in particular to listen to.

## Get Fit in the New Year

Balcombe Fitness with Beccy

**Come along to my fitness classes:-**

TUESDAYS 9.15 am Boot Camp (a 45 minute fun workout for all abilities at Balcombe Recreation Fields)

THURSDAYS 18.30 PILATES (Starting on 28th February ) A relaxing hour of toning, stretching, core strengthening, improving posture and mental wellbeing. (Balcombe School)

**Please contact me for more details**

07743 899220 [rebecca.cowlard@yahoo.com](mailto:rebecca.cowlard@yahoo.com)

## SCS Holiday Camps



Dear Parents,

South Coast Sports' well established Holiday Camps will be running again over February Half Term in Horsham and Bognor Regis. With activities including Football, Fencing and Tag Rugby we believe there is something for everyone!

Children will enjoy plenty of fun skills, drills, games and match play. Book your place now!

### **Football**

Venue: The Tythe Barn, Horsham, RH125JF

Days: Tues – Thurs Time: 9am - 3pm

Price: 1 day £16, 2days £28, 3 days £40

(LAC and Sibling discount available)

Ages: 5-12 years

Contact: [steve@southcoastsports.org.uk](mailto:steve@southcoastsports.org.uk)

Venue: Longbrook Pavilion, Hook Lane, Bognor Regis, PO22 8AT. Days - Mon-Thurs, 9.00am –

3.00pm Ages: 5-11 Price: £14.00 per day or £50 for 4 days (sibling discount available)

Contact: [james@southcoastsports.org.uk](mailto:james@southcoastsports.org.uk)

### **Fencing**

Venue: The Tythe Barn, Horsham, RH12 5JF

Days: Monday Time: 10am-3pm Price: £20 (LAC and Sibling discount available) Ages: 7-12

Contact: [steve@southcoastsports.org.uk](mailto:steve@southcoastsports.org.uk)

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## Tag Rugby

Venue: The Tythe Barn, Horsham, RH12 5JF

Days: Friday Time: 10am-3pm Price: £15

(LAC and sibling discount available) Ages:7-12

Contact: [steve@southcoastsports.org.uk](mailto:steve@southcoastsports.org.uk)

All South Coast Sports Coaches have completed Child Protection Workshops and hold current Emergency First Aid qualifications, as well as their sports coaching badges and DBS Checks.

Check out our website

[www.southcoastsports.org.uk](http://www.southcoastsports.org.uk) or find us on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram for more info!

## School Diary

### Parents' SATS Information Evening KS1&2

Tues 5<sup>th</sup> Feb at 7 pm

### Open Morning for Parents and Carers

Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> Feb from 9.15 - 9.45 a.m.

### Parents' Evening

Thu 28<sup>th</sup> Feb, 4.00 to 7.00 p.m.

Tue 5<sup>th</sup> Mar, 3.30 – 5.30 p.m.

### Inset Day

Friday 15<sup>th</sup> February

### Half Term

18<sup>th</sup> – 22<sup>nd</sup> February

### End of Term

Fri 5<sup>th</sup> April

### Inset Day

Tues 23<sup>rd</sup> April

### Summer Term begins

Weds 24<sup>th</sup> April

### NSPCC Online Safety Training

Thurs 25<sup>th</sup> April, 2.00 – 3.00 p.m.

## 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

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