



Balksbury Federation

Across the Playground

Monday 23rd June

Sports Mornings

Today has seen the first of our rescheduled Sports Day mornings taking place, with our Year 6 children beautifully demonstrating the federated values of respect, perseverance and collaboration.

We look forward to seeing you over the course of this week and next. Don't forget, your child can wear their P.E. kit into school on their Sports Day morning day. They do not need to bring a spare change of clothes.

Arts Week Competitions

We are running two competitions ahead of the **Arts Festival on Friday the 11th July**.

The children's competition has two incredible **art set prizes containing over 168 pieces!**

The family competition has a winning prize of **£30 to spend at The Lights theatre in Andover**.

All entries will be displayed at the Arts Festival and the winners will be chosen by members of the Governing Body.

The competitions are **free** to enter. We do hope you will support us in taking part.



For feedback, compliments and comments, visit our **Contact Us** page on our website or email one of the admin offices.

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Arts Hamper

Tickets for our Arts Hamper can still be purchased for £1 outside the Hive, before and after school ahead of the Arts Festival.

You can also pop change in an envelope or sandwich bag for their ticket(s) and we can make sure they are entered into the draw.

This is our best hamper yet and you've got to be in it to win it!



Collection Arrangement Forms

This week you will receive a collection arrangements slip for the afternoon of the Arts Festival.

Please support us by ensuring this is filled in and handed back to your child's class teacher by **Monday 7th July**.

Please note, we will only release to the adult named on the slip.



Balksbury's Got Talent

This week children were excited to learn that Balksbury's Got Talent will once again return! Check your child's reading diary for information regarding their audition day if they would like to enter.

In the past, we have had singers, magicians, dancers and even a rubix cube whizz! If your child would like to enter, ensure they let their class teacher know by **Monday 30th June**.



End of Year Discos

Thursday 17th July will be end of year disco day for all children.

Children are invited to wear their disco clothes into school on this day ready to party!

Year 6 children will need to come into school in full uniform ahead of their graduation ceremony at The Lights, but can bring a change of clothes for their return.



End of Year Reports

End of year school reports will be released to families on **Thursday 10th** of July. They will come home with your child at the end of the day, so remember to keep your eyes peeled for the white envelope!



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Dress Down Day

Friday 27 June - support the Foodbank

During the summer holiday, the Andover Foodbank will provide emergency food boxes, treats and support for local families facing hardship.

Donate food



Donate an item or two from our shopping list.

Donate money



Help to cover the costs of buying and distributing food.

Shopping list

Tinned meat/fish

Tinned veg/fruit

Tinned/instant potato

Tinned soup

Tinned rice pudding

Tinned custard

Pasta sauce

Pasta/rice

Ice pops (to freeze)

Crisps (multipack)

01264 362111

andover.foodbank.org.uk

Registered Charity in England & Wales 1199568

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Classroom News



Across the Playground

Year R

The children have had a fantastic couple of weeks learning about the ocean, sea creatures and **pirates**. Last week we launched pirate week with an exciting visit from the **Open Box Theatre Company**. The day began with a mysterious secret message from the pesky pirate Captain Stink! In their classes, the children took part in a thrilling workshop, where they used drama and their superb maths detective skills to solve clues and uncover the five magic numbers needed to open the pirate treasure chest. The children have fully immersed themselves in pirate and ocean life. They've been busy creating treasure maps, crafting pirate hats, hooks, and eye patches, and even building their own pirate ships using large construction materials.



Year 3

It has been a busy start to the term in Year 3! To kick off our new History unit, we had our school trip to **Butser Ancient Farm** where we learnt and explored all about life during the Roman Empire. We took part in some spinning, jewellery making and even had a tour of a **Roman Villa**. The children represented the Federation beautifully and were a real credit. This was a great start to our History learning!

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Classroom News



Across the Playground

Year 6

This term in Year 6 we are learning about variations and adaptations in Science, this includes researching the amazing life of **Charles Darwin** and his contributions to the scientific world. In P.E, we have enjoyed practising for Sports Day, especially the races and long jump! The lovely sunshine has meant that we have been able to have **Free Reading Friday** outside – which we have loved!



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The Reading Corner

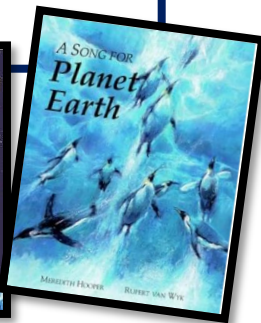
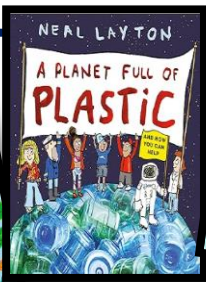


Focus Bookshelf

Responding to Climate Change

How can we respond to climate change? What can we do at school and at home?

Here are some ideas... Reduce the amount of waste by reusing, repairing and recycling. Try and save energy by using long lasting light bulbs, turning things off when they are not in use and look into changing energy sources.



Giles Andreae

Giles Andreae is the author of **Commotion in the Ocean** and **Rumble in the Jungle** (to name a few). He started writing stories in primary school and has gone on to win an award for **I Love My Mummy**. He and his wife have four children and his favourite book is **Yertle the Turtle** by Doctor Seuss

Guess the Character...

Can you guess the character from the description below? Tell your class teacher and if you are correct you will get 100 tokens!

A black shadow dropped down into the circle. It was _____ the Black Panther, inky black all over, but with the panther markings showing up in certain lights like the pattern of watered silk. Everybody knew _____, and nobody cared to cross his path, for he was as cunning as Tabaqui, as bold as the wild buffalo, and as reckless as the wounded elephant



'I love Giraffes Can't Dance' by Giles Andreae. I think the story beautifully demonstrates our federated value of perseverance. Gerald's story never fails to make me smile.'



Recommended Reads

This week our recommended read comes from Mr Watkins!

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ESafety Support for Parents



When should my child have a phone?

There has been a lot of discussion about this in the news recently.

The answer is that there is no answer – each family have their own views and reasons for when to give their child a phone.

PAPAYA is an organisation which has been set up to support with establishing good tech boundaries and safe internet use.



PAPAYA believe everyone, especially teens, have the right to understand the impact that screens have on their well-being.

They aim to support parents to consider:

1. Delaying the first smartphone
2. Delaying the introduction of social media
3. Establishing good tech boundaries and promoting safe internet use

For more information about PAPAYA and how it can support you, please click on

<https://www.papayaparents.com/>

A Healthy Relationship with Gaming

Gaming can be a positive experience which provides children with entertainment, social connections and education.

However, for some children gaming can turn into an unhealthy habit. It can cause problems such as:

- Playing for too long
- Isolation from family and friends
- Poor mental health

If you are worried about your child's gaming habits or want to understand the emotional and psychological factors that contribute to unhealthy gaming, please click on

<https://www.cnwl.nhs.uk/national-centre-gaming-disorders/self-help-resources>

There are videos and helpful guides to support both gamers and their families.



If you are worried about what your child is doing online or need further advice, please speak to one of our DSLs who will be able to help you.



Or find further tips and advice on our website
<https://www.balksburyfederation.co.uk/esafety-2/>

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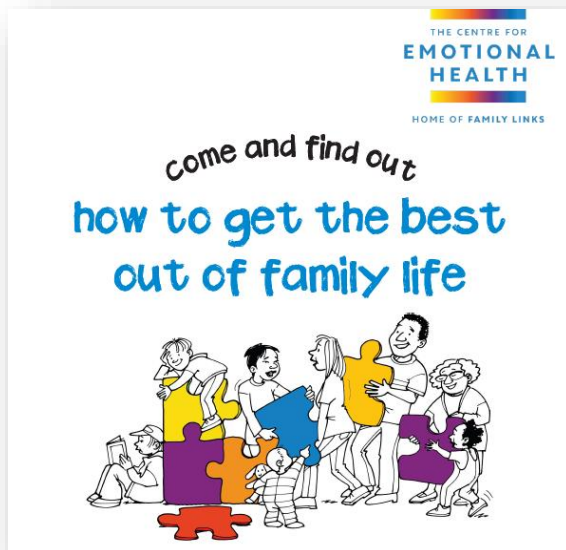


CSL Messages



Calling all Parents and Carers

Fed up of nagging? Having battles at bedtime?
Are you looking for more cooperation at home?
Want family life to be more fun?



*This course does not tell you
how to raise your children.*

*It does not criticise, judge or
put you down.*

**We will be starting the next 10-week
Nurturing Programme
for Parents on Wednesday 24th
September.**

To find out more, please contact
Cheryl Grinham or Emma Whatley
via either Admin Office or email us at

community@balksbury.org

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 Hampshire Child and Adolescent
 Mental Health Services

Mental Health

bite size sessions

We are running a whole week of bitesized workshops to support Hampshire CAMHS Mental Health Focus Week. These are one hour sessions.


Sessions include:

- Introduction to mental health
- Introduction to anxiety
- Introduction to low mood
- Tics & Tourettes
- Supporting your child to transition to a new school
- Sleep hygiene
- Teenage turmoil
- Trauma
- Understanding suicidal language in children and young people and how to support them
- Supporting parents to manage children's anxieties
- Emotionally based school avoidance
- Exam stress

8-12 September 2025
 United Reform Church Hall
 Jewry Street, Winchester, SO23 8RZ

For more information scan the QR code or visit:
<https://hampshirecamhs.nhs.uk/events/>




 Hampshire Child and Adolescent
 Mental Health Services

Mental Health

bite size sessions

8-12 September 2025
 United Reform Church Hall
 Jewry Street, Winchester, SO23 8RZ

Time	Monday 8th	Tuesday 9th	Wednesday 10th	Thursday 11th	Friday 12th
9.30am - 10.30am	Introduction to mental health	Supporting your child to transition to a new school	Introduction to mental health		Supporting parents to manage children's anxieties
11am - 12 midday	Introduction to anxiety	Sleep hygiene	Trauma		Exam stress
12.30pm - 1.30pm	Introduction to low mood	Understanding suicidal language in children and young people and how to support them	Sleep hygiene		Understanding suicidal language in children and young people and how to support them
2pm - 3pm	Tics & Tourettes	Teenage turmoil	Supporting parents to manage children's anxieties	Emotionally based school avoidance	Introduction to low mood

Part of Hampshire CAMHS Mental Health Focus Week

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House Points and Tokens



House Points

The House with the most points across the Federation to date is: Fosbury.



Fosbury



Tokens - Infants

The class with the most tokens in the Infant School to date is: Merlin.



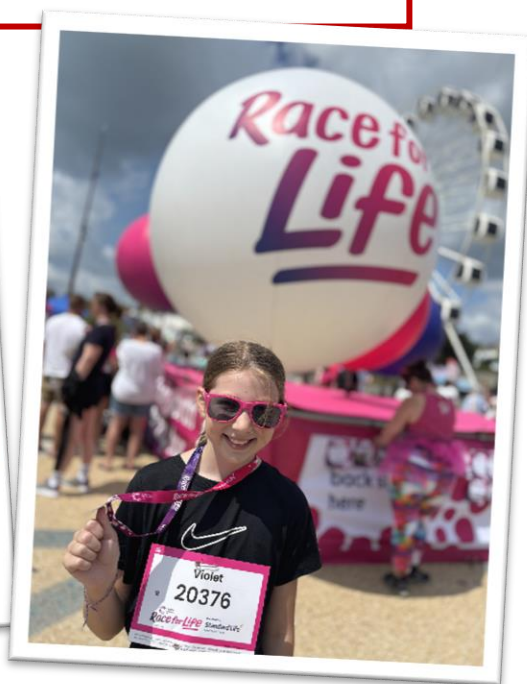
Tokens - Juniors

The class with the most tokens in the Junior School to date is: Palm Class.



Achievements from Outside of School

Violet took part in the 5K Race for Life on Bournemouth seafront last Sunday. She completed it in under one hour at just 53 minutes, she was absolutely thrilled. Violet raised an incredible £1,060.00 in memory of her Grandad! Congratulations Violet! What an amazing achievement.



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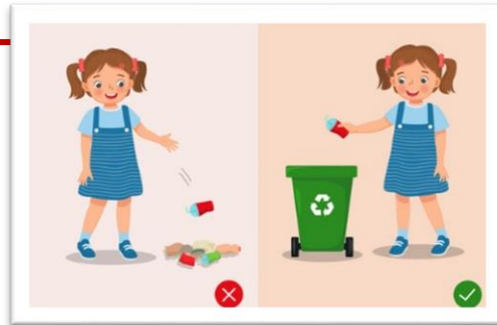
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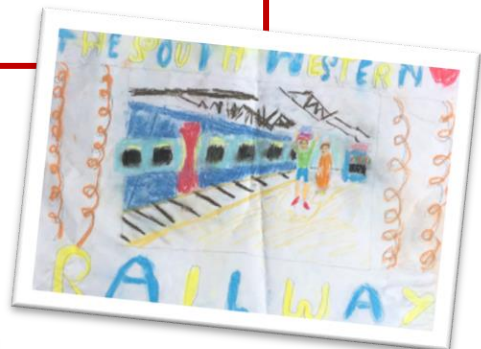
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Achievements from Outside of School continued

Last weekend, Isla designed her own litter posters, laminated them and then put them up around the local community with her dad whilst doing a litter pick on the way! What an inspiration to others. Well done Isla!



Isla took a trip to Andover Train Station last week to view her wonderful art work. Your displayed picture can now be admired by many. Well done Isla! What a super proud grin!



Congratulations to Ivy and Matilda for winning their first ever football tournament last weekend. Well done girls!



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Diary Dates

June 2025

Tuesday 24th June 2025	New Year R Children - Butterflies Session 2 2:00p – 3:00pm
Tuesday 24th June 2025	Year 5 Sports Day 9:00am -10:00am
Wednesday 25th June 2025	Year 3 Sports Day 9:00am -10:00am
Thursday 26th June 2025	Year 2 Sports Day 9:00am -10:00am
Friday 27th June 2025	Year 4 sports Day 9:00am -10:00am
Monday 30th June 2025	Year 1 Sports Day 9:00am -10:00am
Monday 30th June 2025 – Friday 4th July 2025	Swim Gala Week (More information to follow)

July 2025

Tuesday 1st July 2025	Change Up Morning 9:30am – 12:00pm New Year R Children – Butterflies Session 3
Wednesday 2nd July 2025	Year R Sports Day 9:00am -10:00am
Wednesday 2nd July 2025	Year 2 Production 1:45pm – 2:30pm
Thursday 3rd July 2025	Year 2 Production 1:45pm – 2:30pm
Thursday 3rd July 2025	Year 5 Taster Morning at John Hanson
Friday 4th July 2025	Year 2 Country Dancing Festival (Parents to arrive at 12:45pm)
Friday 4th July 2025	Block 2 After School Clubs – Finish
Monday 7th July 2025 – Friday 11th July 2025	Arts Week (Arts Festival on Friday 11 th 2:00pm – 4:00pm)
Monday 14th July 2025	Balksbury's Got Talent (In school event)
Monday 14th July 2025	Year 6 Production 6:00pm – 7:00pm
Tuesday 15th July 2025	Year 6 Production 6:00pm – 7:00pm
Tuesday 15th July 2025	Year 2 Fun Day 9:00am – 3:00pm
Wednesday 16th July 2025	Year 2 Graduation 2:00pm – 3:00pm (School Based)

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Wednesday 16th July 2025	Year 6 Fun Day 9:00am – 3:00pm
Thursday 17th July 2025	Disco Day 9:00am – 2:30pm
Thursday 17th July 2025	Dolce Disco Day Themed Lunch
Thursday 17th July 2025	Year 6 Graduation at The Lights 10:00am – 11:00am
Friday 18th July 2025	Year 6 Graduation 9:15am – 10:15am (School Based)
Friday 18th July 2025	Children's Last Day of Summer Term
Monday 21st July 2025	INSET Day
Tuesday 22nd July 2025	INSET Day
Wednesday 23rd July 2025	Summer Holidays

September 2025

Wednesday 3rd September 2025	INSET Day
Thursday 4th September 2025	INSET Day
Friday 5th September 2025	Children's First Day of Autumn Term

March 2026

Friday 27th March 2026	INSET Day
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July 2026

Monday 20th July 2026	Children's Last Day of Summer Term
Tuesday 21st July 2026	INSET Day
Wednesday 22nd July 2026	INSET Day

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