



Balksbury Federation

Across the Playground

Friday 6th June

Dress Down for the Food Bank

On **Friday 27th June**, the federation will be supporting Andover Food Bank by holding a dress down day in exchange for bringing in summer holiday treat items, more information to follow.



The Food Bank are always blown away with the incredible generosity of our families. Your support is always appreciated.

Sports Day

Information regarding Sports Day on **Friday 20th June** was sent to families via School App this week. The information is also available on our website, and can be viewed by clicking the link below. We can't wait to see you there!

[a-guide-to-sports-day-2025.pdf](https://www.balksburyfederation.co.uk/a-guide-to-sports-day-2025.pdf)



We will be selling programmes, ice pop tokens, water tokens and tokens for our coconut shy game by the Hive between the 16th and 19th June.

INSET Days

Our INSET days for next academic year are as follows:

Wednesday 3rd September

Thursday 4th September

Friday 27th March

Tuesday 21st July

Wednesday 22nd July



A reminder that children's first day back after the summer break will be **Friday 5th September**.

Arts Festival Recycling

Thank you so much for all of your plastic and cardboard contributions so far! We can't wait for you to see what your children will create over the course of Arts week at our **Arts Festival on Friday 11th July**. Remember to keep the contributions of **clean plastic recycling and flattened cardboard** coming in. Place your donations in the green bins with the paint splatter posters. They are dotted near gates on both the infant and junior playgrounds.



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Arts Hamper

Our Arts Hamper is back this year and jam packed with amazing prizes including:

- A set of bluetooth karaoke microphones
- A mini electric drum pad
- A bumper art set containing 258 pieces
- A giant box of craft
- And so much more!

To be in with the chance of winning, you can either:

- Send in your £1 (or more!) in with your child in an envelope or a freezer bag. We will then send a ticket home
- **Or** Purchase tickets for £1 at the Hive, before or after school. Good Luck!



Shining a light on Sustainability

Balksbury Federation is committed to educating our children about sustainability, climate action and instilling a passion for the planet.

This half term our assemblies all focus around the theme of sustainability and climate action.

So far, children have listened to stories and taken part in discussions focused around plastic waste, food waste and climate change.

Children even designed their own inventions to clear up the 'Great Pacific Garbage Patch' and created posters to encourage one another to reduce food waste. One invention was chosen per year group, and are proudly displayed on our federated sustainability displays in both schools.

Our winner for our food waste announced next week.

Next week children will be learning all about the federated sustainability plan, which you can find on our website by clicking the link below:

[sustainability-leadership-and-climate-action-plan.pdf](https://www.balksburyfederation.co.uk/contact-us/)

Our Arts Festival this year will also be linked to climate action by:

- Having a federated 'theme tune' to Arts Week (Reduce, Re-use Recycle by Jack Johnson)
- Linking whole school and individual year group projects to the overarching theme of '**Land and Sea**'
- Using recycled materials in our whole school art project
- Studying a year group song linked to our wonderful world



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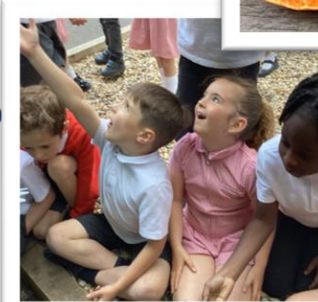
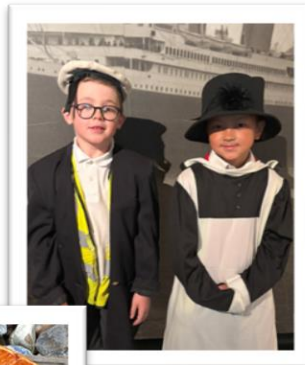
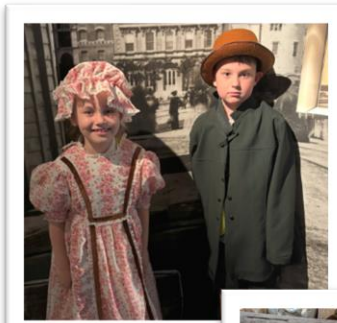
Classroom News



Across the Playground

Year 1

Year 1 were so excited as we had our first introduction to the long jump all the way down on the junior field. First Mr Bensaid helped us to stand in the correct place. Then using our **jumping skills** from previous PE lessons, we tried to jump as far as we could whilst landing on our feet. This took a lot of **balancing skills** as we landed in the huge sand pit. We are feeling confident that we are ready for sports day.



Year 2



Year 2 have been fantastic historians learning all about the sinking of the **Titanic** in April 1912. As part of our learning, we visited the Titanic Museum in Southampton and we were lucky enough to have an **Open Box** session on the Titanic as well. Year 2 have grown sunflower seeds in an investigation to see whether temperature effects growth and we have watched our class caterpillars grow in size, before forming a pupa and turning into beautiful butterflies: there was great excitement when they were released before half term. In **Design and Technology**, we learnt all about healthy eating and designed and created our own delicious wraps!

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Classroom News



Across the Playground

Year 4

Year 4 had an amazing time on their **residential trip to Ufton Court**. They were thoroughly engrossed in a number of activities such as fire lighting, archery, jewellery making and raiding. A firm favourite was when they re-enacted a huge Viking battle between them and the Saxons, and of the course the Viking feast!

They also enjoyed making sling shot cars as part of their **Design and Technology** learning. This was not always easy but we persevered and had much fun testing them out on the playground.



Year 5

Year 5 had the pleasure of being some of the first to test our **long jump**. They worked really hard to use the correct techniques and give it a go (even if some were a bit nervous). Before attempting to jump into the sand, we needed to practice our **sprinting skills**. We tried a few different activities to increase our pace and ensure the correct use of body form. Once we had practised and warmed up we were ready. We wanted to see how fast we could get through each class. Aspen, Olive and Maple all managed to get their jumps in, in under 8 minutes! We can't wait to show off our jumps on Sports Day.

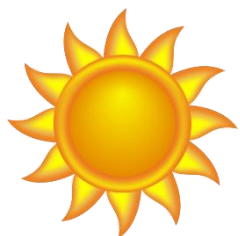


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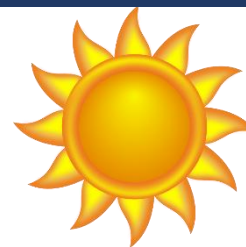
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PTA Summer Raffle



Summer Raffle

This week sees the launch of our Summer Raffle! This is always one of our most popular fundraisers with some **fantastic prizes!** Tickets will be coming home with your children today. **Tickets are £1** each and can be returned to class teachers or the school office once completed. Please can any spare tickets also be returned to school for re-distribution. If you do need additional tickets, please ask at reception or, you are welcome to pop an email to balksburypta@balksbury.org.

Thank you to everyone who has kindly donated raffle prizes to us, it is greatly appreciated.



1st Prize - £80.00 Winchester Science Museum Voucher



2nd Prize – Outdoor Games



3rd Prize – Wooden Summer Games



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The Reading Corner

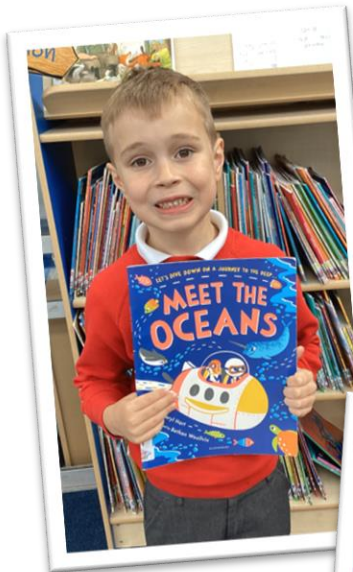


Recommended Reads

This week our recommended reads come from Joseph and Lucas in Year 1 and Aadil in Year 2.

Michelle Paver

Michelle Paver is probably best known for her fantasy series **Chronicles of Ancient Darkness**. These are set in prehistoric Europe and the first book in the series is **Wolf Brother**. This follows the adventures of Torak after he loses his father. She has also written some spine-chilling tales for adults.



'I recommend this book because I think it looks like the dog and the man in the submarine are going to have a great adventure'.



'I recommend the story book bible because it has lots of stories about Jesus in it, if you would like to learn more'.



'I have started reading chapter books recently and there are lots to choose from in our Infant School Library'

Focus Bookshelf

Sustainability

At Barksbury we have a four-part sustainability plan: decarbonisation, adaptation and resilience, biodiversity and climate education. This means we try to buy from companies that are reducing their emissions and we keep going with all the recycling that we do. We also do our best to save water and cultivate the wormery to improve compost efficiency. What could you do at home?



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ESafety



How to set up Parental Controls



What are Parental Controls?

Parental controls are settings that put parents in control of what a child can see/access on a device.

They allow you to block and filter upsetting or inappropriate content. They work across your WIFI, phone network, individual apps and devices.

Parental controls combined with privacy settings and talking to your child about being online, help to protect children from inappropriate content, online grooming, cyberbullying and other online issues.

Device Specific Controls

Apple Devices - iPhone, iPad, Mac

Parental controls are built into each device, allowing parents to manage screen time, restrict access to certain apps, content, and features.

Android Devices

Enable parental controls through Google Family Link, which allows parents to set screen time limits, approve or block apps, and find the device's location.

Microsoft Devices - Windows, Xbox

Microsoft Family provides tools to manage online activity, block websites, and view activity reports.

Platform Specific Controls

Google Play

Enable parental controls to filter content based on type and restrict access to apps, movies, TV shows, and books.

Social Media - Facebook, TikTok, Instagram etc.

Use the platform's built-in tools, like the Instagram Family Centre, to supervise accounts and set time limits.

Entertainment - Netflix, YouTube etc.

Set up parental controls on the platforms' websites or through their apps.

Parent Guides

Click on the images below for specific parent guides on how to set up parental controls.

Social Media



Bluesky



Strava



WhatsApp



TikTok



Snapchat



Instagram



FaceTime



Yubo



Pinterest



Wattpad



Facebook



Facebook Messenger



X (formerly Twitter)

Broadband and Mobile Networks



EE

Broadband



EE

Mobile



Virgin Media



Tesco Mobile



TalkTalk



GiffGaff



Sky Broadband



Sky Mobile



Plusnet



BT Mobile



BT Broadband



Three Mobile



iD Mobile



O2 Mobile



Vodafone

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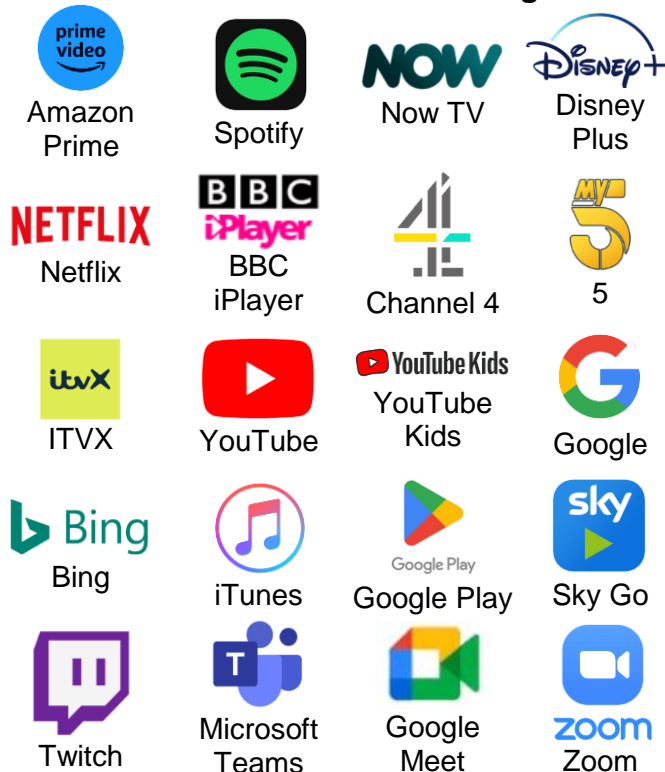
Gaming



Devices



Entertainment and Search Engines



Limits of Parental Controls

Even if you have put things in place on your home broadband and on your child's device, they will not help if your child connects to a different WIFI with no controls in place.



Parental controls are just part of the way you can help keep your child safe online.

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



Coffee, Cake and Chat

Our next Coffee, Cake and Chat will be:

Thursday 26th June 2025

at 8.45am - 10.15am

Head over to the **Junior School reception** and you will see signs directing you. The Junior School reception is at the bottom of the long drive by the pond and tree.



Free SEND and Mental Health Presentations and Courses



Understanding Autism: A Lived Experience Perspective

With guest speaker **Ellie - Lived Experience Trainer | Autism & ADHD**

Join Us For a free online session on: 12th June 10-11am



What does it really mean to be autistic? In this honest and session we explore the lived experience, This session will explore:

- What Autism looks like from the inside
- Misunderstood traits and common myths
- The emotional impact of a late diagnosis
- Practical insights and strategies that helped Ellie thrive
- How you, as a parent carer, can better understand and support your young person

To book onto this session please use our Ticket tailor link : <https://www.tickettailor.com/events/hpcn>





Understanding ADHD: A Journey to Self-Acceptance Presentation

with guest speaker **Ellie - Lived Experience Trainer | Autism & ADHD**

Join For a free online session on: 16th June 4-5pm



An insightful presentation to gain a deeper understanding of ADHD from a lived experience perspective!!

Ellie had no idea she had ADHD until she was 30. In this brand new session, she will share her personal journey to self-acceptance, shedding light on how ADHD impacts her life and what strategies have helped her along the way. This session is an opportunity to learn from Ellie's lived experience and gain insights into navigating ADHD in a positive, empowering way.

To book onto this session please use our Ticket tailor link : <https://www.tickettailor.com/events/hpcn>





A **free** mental health & wellbeing event for all parents and carers who support or work with young people

THURSDAY, 26TH JUNE 2025
WINTON COMMUNITY ACADEMY, LONDON RD,
ANDOVER, HAMPSHIRE SP10 2PS

WHAT CAN I EXPECT?
PACE events consist of two main components:

1. A number of introductory sessions on young people's emotional health and wellbeing.
2. Information stands from local organisations.

Attendees can choose which sessions they would like to attend; select as many or as few as you would like to attend.

SESSIONS:
NEW Connecting with your child, Tics and Tourette's, Understanding ADHD - an extended session

To find out more and booking scan this QR code



BOOK YOUR SESSION SPACE AT:

hampshirecamhs.nhs.uk/events

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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: Emperor.



Tokens - Juniors

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



Achievements from Outside of School

Congratulations to one of our federated families. They undertook the extremely difficult challenge of climbing Mount Snowdon!

The weather wasn't great with visibility being just 30m and winds of up to 50-60mph at the top, but these two soldiers Agnes and Margo walked almost 8 miles and climbed over 3,600ft in just over 6 hours without complaining once! They didn't quite reach the top due to the strong winds, but they scrambled over boulders, splashed through streams and waterfalls and were all soaked to the skin once they got back to the car! Margo says it was her favourite holiday ever!

The girls have certainly demonstrated our federated value of perseverance. Well done girls!



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Diary Dates

June 2025

Monday 9th June 2025 – Friday 13th June 2025	Year 1 Phonics Screening Check
Thursday 12th June 2025	Open Box Year R – Dinosaurs
Thursday 12th June 2025	Year 3 Butser Farm Visit
Tuesday 17th June 2025	New Year R Children - Butterflies Session 1 2:00pm – 3:00pm
Wednesday 18th June 2025	Open Box Year 1 – Moon Landing
Thursday 19th June 2025	Fraser Portraits Class Photos
Thursday 19th June 2025	Year 2 to Year 3 Parents Transition Meeting 3:30pm – 4:30pm
Friday 20th June 2025	Sports Day with Family Picnic 9:15am – 3:00pm (Juniors 9:15am-11:45am. Family Picnic: 11:55 – 12:50 and Infants 1:00pm-3:00pm)
Tuesday 24th June 2025	New Year R Children - Butterflies Session 2 2:00pm – 3:00pm
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 2 Production 2:00pm – 2:40pm
Thursday 3rd July 2025	Year 2 Production 2:00pm – 2:40pm
Friday 4th July 2025	Year 2 Country Dancing Festival
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 – 4:30pm)
Monday 14th July 2025	Balksbury's Got Talent
Monday 14th July 2025	Year 6 Production 6:30pm – 7:30pm

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Tuesday 15th July 2025	Year 6 Production 6:30pm – 7:30pm
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)
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	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
<i>September 2025</i>	
Wednesday 3rd September 2025	INSET Day
Thursday 4th September 2025	INSET Day
Friday 5th September 2025	Children's First Day of Autumn Term
<i>March 2026</i>	
Friday 27th March 2025	INSET Day
<i>July 2026</i>	
Monday 20th July 2025	Children's Last Day of Summer Term
Tuesday 21st July 2025	INSET Day
Wednesday 22nd July 2025	INSET Day

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