



# Balksbury Federation

## *Across the Playground*

Friday 4<sup>th</sup> April

### A Busy Week!

As you may know, this week we welcomed OFSTED who came to carry out an inspection at our Junior School. We wanted to say a huge thank you to our Junior School children, who conducted themselves so well during the visit. They truly represented our federated values of perseverance, respect and collaboration and made us extremely proud.

We also wanted to take the time to thank all of the parents who took the time to feedback over the course of the inspection, either through Parent View or by speaking to the inspector on the playground. Your positivity is truly appreciated.

Lastly, we want to thank our dedicated team of staff, who always go above and beyond to support the children at our federation. What a team!

We hope that you have a wonderful Easter, and we look forward to seeing you back again on **Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> April**. A reminder that Tuesday the 22<sup>nd</sup> is an INSET day.



### Easter Hamper

Thank you so much to everyone who supported us by purchasing an Easter Hamper ticket. The raffle was drawn by Miss Thompson this morning, and we want to say a big congratulations to Lyndon and Elyse who won the hamper this year. We hope you enjoy it over the Easter holidays!



### Book Fayre

Our Book Fayre will be back after Easter! See below for more details:



### Book Fayre

**Date:** 23<sup>rd</sup> & 24<sup>th</sup> April  
**Time:** 3:30pm – 4:30pm  
**Location:** Oak Class (Year 3)

Come along and browse a fantastic range of books to purchase. Prices start from just £2.99!

Walk down the drive towards the junior school, round the left-hand side of the building and through the gate. Oak Class will be signposted.



**Prize Draw**

Anyone who purchases a book from our fayres will be entered into a prize draw to win a bespoke book bundle!

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# Memories from Across the Federation

## Spring 2025



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*Spring 2025*



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# Memories from Across the Federation Spring 2025



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# Memories from Across the Federation

## *Spring 2025*



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# Governors Message

I was lucky enough to visit the federation once again as a governor. This time my focus was on the Quality of Education, in particular Reading at the federation.

During my visit, it was really great to see how much the children at Barksbury love reading! It's clear that the federation puts a huge focus on helping children develop a lifelong passion for books and stories.

The children I spoke to were full of enthusiasm and couldn't wait to tell me all about reading at Barksbury. Amongst this, they shared their favourite reading moments including: Guided Reading sessions, Free Reading Fridays and their class reads.

The children's appreciation and excitement about the wide range of books available at Barksbury stood out most to me. Every child commented about how there's something for everyone to enjoy - no matter what genre, or style of book you prefer. The libraries, with Mrs. Davies' support, play a big part in helping our children explore new books and develop their confidence in choosing what to read. If you haven't had the pleasure of visiting one of the federation's libraries, it is a must - I didn't want to leave myself! The focus book cases, and the enticing range of books is a credit to our federation.

Additional to this, it was great to see how reading is woven into every part of the school day. Teachers provide lots of support, helping children with a variety of strategies and encouraging them to enjoy reading for both learning and enjoyment.

It was a pleasure to see how much effort goes into creating such a positive reading culture at Barksbury. The enthusiasm and confidence of the children were a real testament to the hard work of the staff, and it's wonderful to know that reading is such a big part of federated life.



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# House Points and Tokens

## House Points

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



**Walbury**



## Tokens - Infants

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



## Tokens - Juniors

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



# Achievements from Outside of School



Congratulations to Emily and Darcie from year 3, who are part of the Andover New Street Snows football team. They won the Hampshire Girls Youth Football League Under 8s Cup Final. Well done girls, what an achievement!



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# Diary Dates

## April 2025

|   |                           |
|---|---------------------------|
| <b>Monday 7<sup>th</sup> April 2025 – Monday 21<sup>st</sup> April 2025</b> | Easter Holidays           |
| <b>Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> April 2025</b>                                   | INSET Day                 |
| <b>Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> April 2025</b>                                   | Year R School Nurse Visit |
| <b>Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> April 2025</b>                                   | Open Box Year 4 – Vikings |

## May 2025

|  |                                |
|--|--------------------------------|
| <b>Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> May 2025</b>                                    | Year 2 Titanic Museum Trip     |
| <b>Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> May 2025 – Friday 9<sup>th</sup> May 2025</b>  | Year 4 Ufton Court Residential |
| <b>Monday 12<sup>th</sup> May 2025 – Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> May 2025</b> | Year 6 SATs Week               |
| <b>Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> May 2025</b>                                    | Year R Hillier Gardens Trip    |
| <b>Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> May 2025</b>                                   | Dolce Endangered Species Lunch |
| <b>Friday 16<sup>th</sup> May 2025</b>                                     | Year 6 Trinley Estate Trip     |
| <b>Monday 19<sup>th</sup> May 2025 – Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> May 2025</b>   | Year 6 – Bikeability           |
| <b>Monday 26<sup>th</sup> May 2025 – Friday 30<sup>th</sup> May 2025</b>   | Half Term                      |

## June 2025

|   |  |
|---|--|
| <b>Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> June 2025</b>                                 | Butterflies Transition Evening 4:30pm – 5:30pm                 |
| <b>Monday 9<sup>th</sup> June 2025 – Friday 13<sup>th</sup> June 2025</b> | Year 1 Phonics Screening Check                                 |
| <b>Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> June 2025</b>                                 | Open Box Year R – Dinosaurs                                    |
| <b>Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> June 2025</b>                                 | Year 3 Butser Farm Visit                                       |
| <b>Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> June 2025</b>                                  | New Year R Children - Butterflies Session 1<br>2:00pm – 3:00pm |

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|   |  |
|---|--|
| <b>Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> June 2025</b>                                | Open Box Year 1 – Moon Landing                                 |
| <b>Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> June 2025</b>                                 | Fraser Portraits Class Photos                                  |
| <b>Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> June 2025</b>                                 | Year 2 to Year 3 Parents Transition Meeting<br>3:30pm – 4:30pm |
| <b>Friday 20<sup>th</sup> June 2025</b>                                   | Sports Day with Family Picnic 9:00am – 3:00pm                  |
| <b>Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> June 2025</b>                                  | New Year R Children - Butterflies Session 2<br>2:00pm – 3:00pm |
| <b>Monday 30<sup>th</sup> June 2025 – Friday 4<sup>th</sup> July 2025</b> | Swim Gala Week   |

## July 2025

|   |   |
|---|---|
| <b>Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> July 2025</b>                                   | Change Up Morning 9:30am – 12:00pm<br>New Year R Children – Butterflies Session 3 |
| <b>Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> July 2025</b>                                 | Year 2 Production 1:30pm – 2:30pm   |
| <b>Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> July 2025</b>                                  | Year 2 Production 1:30pm – 2:30pm   |
| <b>Friday 4<sup>th</sup> July 2025</b>                                    | Year 2 Country Dancing Festival   |
| <b>Friday 4<sup>th</sup> July 2025</b>                                    | Block 2 After School Clubs – Finish   |
| <b>Monday 7<sup>th</sup> July 2025 – Friday 11<sup>th</sup> July 2025</b> | Arts Week (Arts' Festival on Friday 11 <sup>th</sup> )                            |
| <b>Monday 14<sup>th</sup> July 2025</b>                                   | Balksbury's Got Talent  |
| <b>Monday 14<sup>th</sup> July 2025</b>                                   | Year 6 Production 6:30pm – 7:30pm   |
| <b>Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> July 2025</b>                                  | Year 6 Production 6:30pm – 7:30pm   |
| <b>Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> July 2025</b>                                  | Year 2 Fun Day 9:00am – 3:00pm  |
| <b>Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> July 2025</b>                                | Year 2 Graduation 2:00pm – 3:00pm (School Based)                                  |
| <b>Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> July 2025</b>                                | Year 6 Fun Day 9:00am – 3:00pm  |
| <b>Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> July 2025</b>                                 | Disco Day 9:00am – 2:30pm   |
| <b>Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> July 2025</b>                                 | Year 6 Graduation at The Lights<br>10:00am – 11:00am                              |
| <b>Friday 18<sup>th</sup> July 2025</b>                                   | Year 6 Graduation 9:15am – 10:15am (School Based)                                 |
| <b>Friday 18<sup>th</sup> July 2025</b>                                   | Children's Last Day of Summer Term  |
| <b>Monday 21<sup>st</sup> July 2025</b>                                   | INSET Day   |
| <b>Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> July 2025</b>                                  | INSET Day   |
| <b>Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> July 2025</b>                                | Summer Holidays   |

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