



## NOTES FROM THE HEADTEACHER

What a year it has been! As we draw to a close for Christmas, I wanted to thank you all for your support and vigilance this term during a very challenging time for us all. The children have been fantastic and the school has remained calm and purposeful. I hope you enjoy the recordings of our Christmas carols/productions on our private YouTube channel. It has been lovely to see the festive spirit ignite. FAB has very kindly organised an online Christmas pantomime that has been shown in classrooms this week.



Simon Davies,  
Head teacher

We have continued to make huge strides in our development journey, working closely with our Governing Body.

Teachers have ensured that the learning is being planned in accordance to the 'gap finding' that has taken place this term in both English and Maths. Year teams have been working closely with their children to ensure that no-one has been left behind following the first lockdown in March. Our catch-up funding has been utilised to support those in most need through employment of additional staff to allow for targeted interventions, primarily focusing on our most disadvantaged.

We have launched our new sequenced, inspirational and knowledge-rich curriculums for the foundation subjects and English, all of which can be viewed on our website. Social responsibility and sustainability is threaded throughout our curriculum. We have also embraced our cultural capital (the essential knowledge that children need to prepare them for their future success) and diversity through new and exciting texts.

We have been developing our school culture through coaching and collaboration amongst our teaching staff, aimed at further improving our teaching and learning through effective lessons formulated around the Rosenshine's principles of instruction.

Our Pupil Parliament has played an important and influential role following

the anti-bullying week and we are hoping to hold new elections in the Spring term. In January we will be commencing work with OPAL (<https://outdoorplayandlearning.org.uk/>) to enhance our play provision. We are looking for parent representatives to be a part of this development team. Please email me if you are interested in being involved.

With reference to the last newsletter, if you have any ideas for our new houses and school values, please send these to [haveyoursay@balfour.brighton-hove.sch.uk](mailto:haveyoursay@balfour.brighton-hove.sch.uk) by 9th January 2021.

I would like to take this opportunity to send you all good wishes for the festive season and a happy New Year.

We are very much looking forward to seeing the children back in school on 5th January 2021.

## CHRISTMAS SHOWS

All the year groups performed their wonderful Christmas Shows last week which can be viewed via the private YouTube links sent home via Ping earlier today. Here are some snaps from Reception's Nativity Play.



## TERM DATES FOR 2020/21

**Autumn Term 1:** 2/11/20 – 18/12/20

➤ Winter Holidays: 21 Dec – 1 Jan

**Spring Term 1:** 2/11/20 – 18/12/20

➤ Half term: 15 Feb – 19 Feb

**INSET days 20/21:** ~~3 Sep, 4 Sep, 2 Nov~~, 4 Jan, 7 June

## JOIN THE WINTER MINI READING CHALLENGE!

Brighton and Hove libraries wanted to share an exciting challenge your children can take part in over the Christmas holidays.

The Winter Mini Challenge encourages children to keep up their reading habits over the winter holidays, with a free-to-access website featuring rewards and incentives for reading and reviewing books.

To take part, children simply read three or more books - these can be any books of their choice. Every time they finish a book, they add it to their Challenge website [profile](#) and leave a short book review.

Reaching their online reading goal will unlock a virtual badge and a special *Everyone Is A Hero* certificate to print off and keep!

There are a whole host of fun activities, videos and reading recommendations, plus an exciting competition. Children can visit the Winter Mini Challenge website at [www.wintermini.org.uk](http://www.wintermini.org.uk) to start rating and reviewing their books and enjoying the online activities. It runs until Friday 15<sup>th</sup> January 2021.

Also anyone who completes the challenge can pick up a medal from Brighton and Hove libraries! Just let a member of staff know.

Any questions please email - [libraries@brighton-hove.gov.uk](mailto:libraries@brighton-hove.gov.uk)



## ACT EARLY NATIONAL SAFEGUARDING WEBSITE

A new national safeguarding website [www.actearly.uk](http://www.actearly.uk) has been launched to help the public share concerns about a friend or a loved one who might be vulnerable to radicalisation.

It can be hard to know what to do if someone close to you is expressing extreme views or hatred, which could cause harm to themselves and others.

Research shows that family and friends are well placed to help spot the signs that someone might be vulnerable to radicalisation. Please do share this new safeguarding resource widely amongst your staff and school community.

Families and friends are encouraged to 'ACT Early' so their vulnerable friend or loved one can be safeguarded and get the support they need.

*The ACT Early campaign aims to:*

- 1) Increase awareness of the signs of radicalisation.
- 2) Increase understanding of, and confidence in, the referral process.
- 3) Increase awareness of further information and support.
- 4) Encourage referrals from concerned family and friends at an early stage.
- 5) Safeguard vulnerable individuals and others.

The site also details real life stories from individuals who have gone through similar experiences and have been supported and safeguarded away from radicalisation.

For any further localised support or information please contact Will Robey Prevent Education Officer: [will.robey@brighton-hove.gov.uk](mailto:will.robey@brighton-hove.gov.uk)

## GOVERNORS

If you wish to contact the school governors for any reason, their email address is: [balfour.governor@balfour.brighton-hove.sch.uk](mailto:balfour.governor@balfour.brighton-hove.sch.uk)



# FAB UPDATE

## FAB NEWS

This is the final newsletter of 2020, a year we all want to put behind us. Although it has been a challenge, FAB continues to run events as we can to raise money for the school.

Next year is likely to continue in the same fashion for a little while but hopefully we will start to see some of our usual outdoor events. Until then there are still some events you can sign up to such as the Balloon Race and the Scavenger Hunt.

Until then have a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

## UPCOMING EVENTS AND FUNDRAISERS

### VIRTUAL BALLOON RACES

The first balloon race was run successfully and FAB members entered 98 balloons in total. The next race is Christmas Day (see below) and there is still time to enter for the chance to win prizes including £500 cash or an iPad.

Balloons cost £3.00, 78% of which goes to FAB (that's around £2.34).

We will be offering a £10 Wigwam voucher to the Balfour balloon that travels the furthest!

### *Christmas Day Race*

Launches from Santa's Village in Lapland on Christmas Day, and lasts 7 days.

To enter, please go to: <https://ecoracing.co/user/page/1014>



## 12 DAYS OF CHRISTMAS SCAVENGER HUNT

Following the success of our Halloween Adventure Trail, we're offering indoor and outdoor Christmas Scavenger Hunts.

Find the items on the Scavenger Hunt lists, tick them off your clue sheet, and take a photo of each one – make the photos as funny / original as you can. Then send them to FAB via our dedicated Facebook page or by email (details are on the clue sheets). There will be a prize for the best pic!

Clue sheets can be bought separately for £3.50 each, or as a bundle for £5.50. Please go to: [www.ticketor.com/friendsatbalfour/](http://www.ticketor.com/friendsatbalfour/)

Please make sure you follow the latest government guidelines concerning Covid-19 while taking part in Scavenger Hunts.

## RAISE MONEY WHILE YOU SHOP

There are two REALLY easy ways to raise money for the school while doing your Christmas shopping:

### **1. Easyfundraising**

Join for free at: [www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/friendsatbalfour/](http://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/friendsatbalfour/)

Then when you shop online, go to [easyfundraising.org.uk](http://easyfundraising.org.uk), find the retailer you want, click through and shop in the normal way. The retailer will automatically make a donation to your cause when you check out.

There's a Donation Reminder you can download so you don't forget. That's all there is to it. There are no catches or hidden charges to you or the school. Just more money to help enhance the children's education.

### **2. AmazonSmile**

AmazonSmile is the same Amazon you know. Same products, same prices, same service. But Amazon donates 0.5% of the net purchase price (excluding VAT, returns and shipping fees) of all eligible purchases to the charitable organisation of your choice.

Just make AmazonSmile your default for your Amazon purchases – go to: <https://smile.amazon.co.uk>

## CHRISTMAS RAFFLE

The draw took place Monday 14<sup>th</sup> evening. Congratulations to the winners.

We'd like to say a massive 'thank you' again to the parents and local businesses that have donated prizes to our Christmas Raffle.

## VIRTUAL CHRISTMAS PANTOMIME

To inject some added Christmas spirit into a difficult year FAB organised a virtual showing of Cinderella for the kids. This is a first for FAB and the school so we would love to hear back from the kiddies to see what they thought.

## DONATIONS

In the absence of the usual fundraising events, you can still donate money to help us enhance the educational experience of every child at the school. Please go to <https://chuffed.org/project/fab-fundraiser>.

We are still looking to raise funds to help replace some of the much loved playground equipment that has been lost to wear and tear over time. For more information, or to make a donation please go to;

<https://chuffed.org/project/outdoor-playgroup-equipment-for-balfour-primary-school>.

And lastly, if you'd like to contribute towards the school's Black Lives Matter resources, you can do so at <https://chuffed.org/project/black-lives-matter-resources>.

## 100 CLUB

November's 100 Club winners were:

- 1<sup>st</sup> place: K Collis
- 2<sup>nd</sup> place: C Herbert
- 3<sup>rd</sup> place: Brydon



The Balfour 100 Club is open to all Balfour parents, carers and staff and costs just £5 per number per month. You need to sign up for at least a year.

Half the monthly takings are given out in prize money; the other half is used for the benefit of the children at school.

Join anytime to help the school raise much-needed funds. To sign up, or for more information, please email [fab100club@gmail.com](mailto:fab100club@gmail.com).

## GET INVOLVED

If you'd like to be added to our committee email list, drop us a line at [info@friendsatbalfour.org](mailto:info@friendsatbalfour.org). You'll be kept informed of committee meetings, and contacted if we need a little help from time to time.

## STAY IN TOUCH

Follow us for the latest information on our events and meetings:

 Website: <http://friendsatbalfour.org/>

 Facebook: [Friends at Balfour](#)

 Twitter: [@FABatBwalfour](#)

We also have private Facebook Group pages for each year group




**Albion in the Community**



**BRIGHTON & HOVE ALBION**

# AFTER SCHOOL CLUB

**Balfour Primary School - Football**

Wednesdays from 13 January - 31 March (excluding 17 February).

Year 1: 3.15 - 4.15pm, £57.75 for 11 weeks.

Year 2: 3.25 - 4.25pm, £57.75 for 11 weeks.



**BOOK ONLINE NOW**

**[albioninthecommunity.org.uk](https://albioninthecommunity.org.uk)**

Email: [soccerschools@albioninthecommunity.org.uk](mailto:soccerschools@albioninthecommunity.org.uk) for more information.

Brighton & Hove Albion After School Clubs delivered by Albion in the Community

American Express Community Stadium, Village Way, Brighton BN1 19B. Tel: 01273 878245

Company limited by guarantee in England and Wales (No. 5122343). Registered charity in England and Wales (No. 11109796).

Year 1 Bookings:

<https://bookings.albioninthecommunity.org.uk/soccerschools/courses/courses.htm?coursesSearch=search&clientCode=ASC-BPS-9>

Year 2 Bookings:

<https://bookings.albioninthecommunity.org.uk/soccerschools/courses/courses.htm?coursesSearch=search&clientCode=ASC-BPS-10>

# Join Our After-School Musical Theatre Club

Only  
**£67.50**  
for 9 weeks



## WE ARE BACK!

Our Musical Theatre after-school club for Year 3 - Year 6 will be back from **Friday 22nd Jan 2021 for 9 weeks!**

This session is perfect for children of all abilities that enjoy performing. Children will have the chance to develop their acting, singing and dancing skills in a safe and supportive environment.

We aim to build our students' confidence, develop their communication skills and improve their co-ordination and fitness levels.

You can find more information at:  
[www.ba-academy.co.uk/balfour](http://www.ba-academy.co.uk/balfour)

## BOOK HERE



## COVID-19 SAFETY

We have taken every step to make our sessions a safe place for all.

### Our measures include:

- Increased hand sanitising
- Socially distanced year groups
- Regular cleaning
- Temperature checks
- Face masks worn by the team

## WHAT TO BRING?

- ✓ P.E Kit
- ✓ Water
- ✓ Trainers

## OUR TEACHERS

Our teachers are professional Musical Theatre performers who use their vocal and dance expertise to create classes that are relevant and exciting.



**B.A. Academy**

[www.ba-academy.co.uk/balfour](http://www.ba-academy.co.uk/balfour)

## Any questions?

07557 262695

[ba.academy@outlook.com](mailto:ba.academy@outlook.com)

**:Phone**

**:Email**