

Balfour Primary News

Respectful • Courageous • Friendly • Ambitious • Caring • Enthusiastic

1st December 2021



NOTES FROM THE HEADTEACHER

Celebrating our young poets and budding writers!

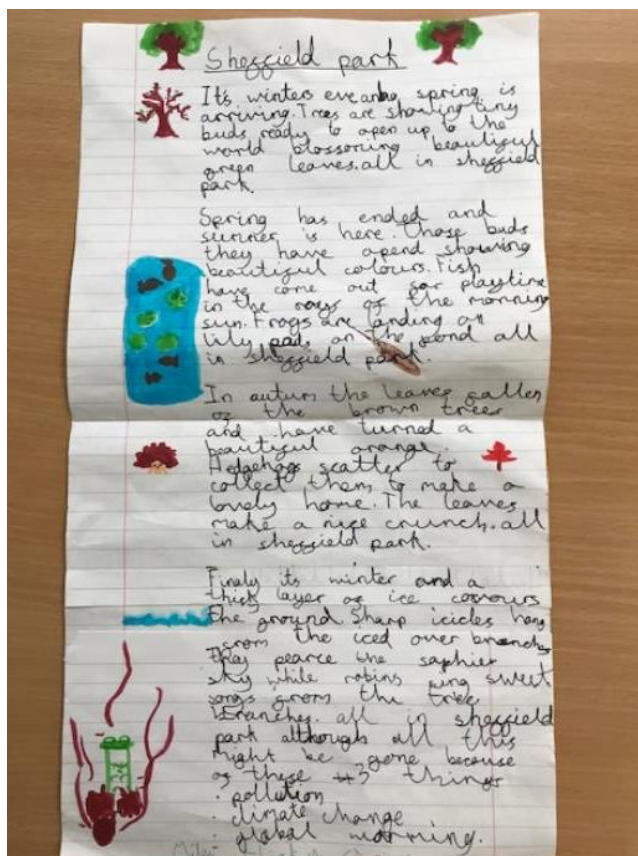
There has been a phenomenal amount of entries to the poem competition, highlighting the climate crisis and raising awareness.

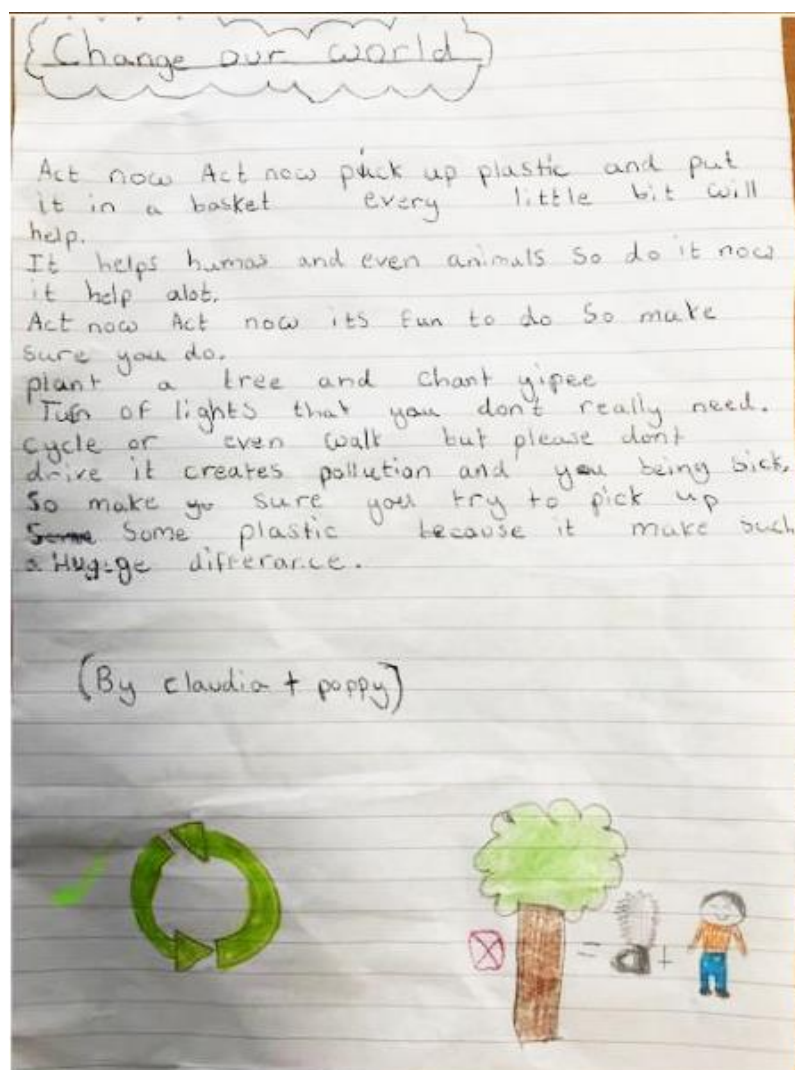
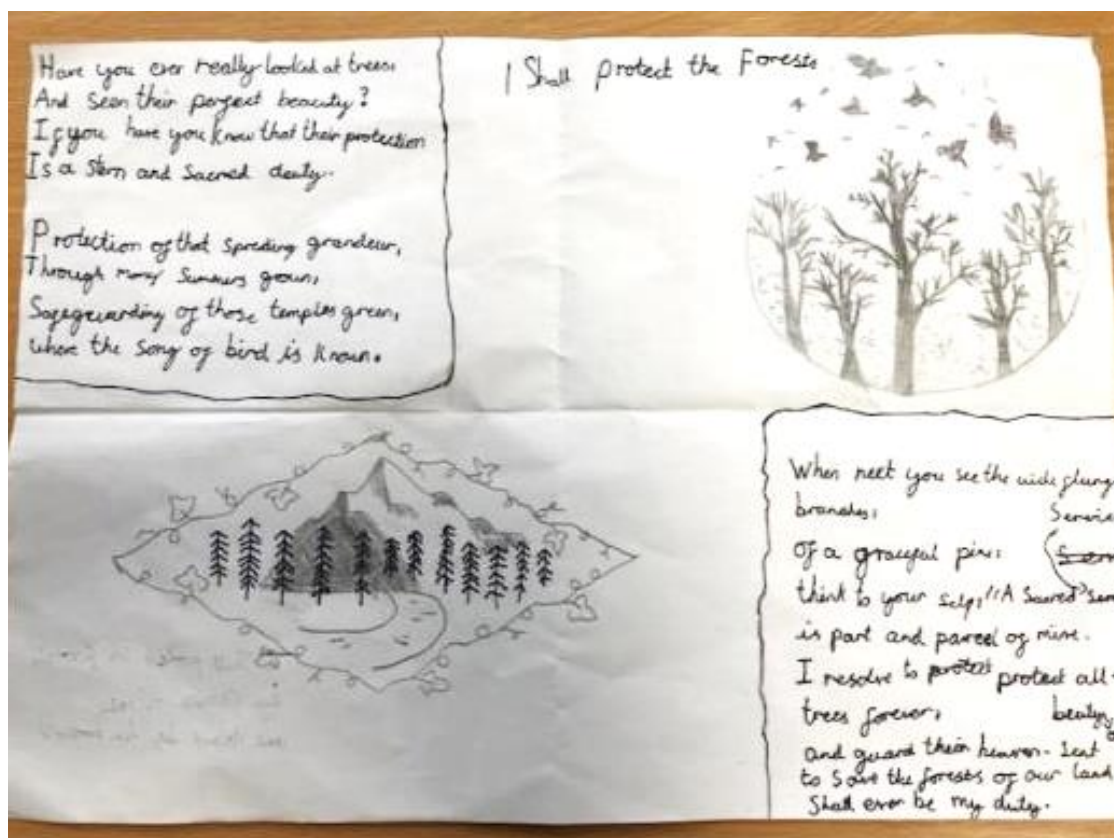


Simon Davies,
Head teacher



I thought it would be nice to share and celebrate some of the fantastic poems that our children have produced. There is still time to enter!





The earth needs us

Ralewa

the earth has plastic bags and plastic
drags and lots of plastic
bottles is we do not help the earth the earth
will die we will be without home and alone



Act NOW By: River T

Act now:

Act not:

If we don't act now our earth get a huge impact.

If we gave up plastic.

If we gave up fossil fuels and started
to cycle.

our planet would get more of a life cycle.

Our planet is dying although we are
thriving.

We need to act now otherwise our planet
will stop surviving.

Our animals are dying because our greed.

if we don't stop now there will be no animal
left to see and feed.

Fossil fuels are heating up the planet.

So we need to ~~that~~ ban it.

Also a huge impact has a small source which
is plastic wipes.

Which are polluting at huge heights.

Act now with me and we can save
the planet finally.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

➔ [Can be found on our website.](#)

TERM DATES FOR 2021/2022

Autumn Term 2: 2/11/21 – 17/12/21

➤ Winter Holidays: 20 Dec – 3 Jan

Spring Term 1: 5/1/22 – 11/2/22

➤ Half term: 14 Feb – 18 Feb

Spring Term 2: 21/2/22 – 8/4/22

➤ Easter Holidays: 11 Apr – 22 Apr

Summer Term 1: 25/4/22 – 27/5/22

➤ Half term: 30 May – 03 Jun

Summer Term 2: 7/6/22 – 22/7/22

➤ Summer Holidays: 25 Jul – TBC

Bank Holiday: 2 May

INSET days 21/22: 1 Nov, 4 Jan, 6 June

GOVERNORS

Dear Balfour Families,

Governors have really enjoyed coming into school over the past few weeks and meeting with staff and students. We have seen some fantastic learning and have been so impressed with the level of energy and effort that all staff put into every day. The children that we have spoken to love their learning and were very keen to enthusiastically share their work with us!

The governing body have all been involved in training in the past month, including a very engaging session with our school improvement partner.

Finally, we are very pleased to welcome a new governor to the Balfour team- Alun Price joins us as a co-opted governor. Alun works at a local school and his two children happily attended Balfour. Welcome Alun!

As always, please do not hesitate to contact governors via the school office who will be happy to forward any correspondence, or to the clerk of governors, Kristina McCulloch:

kristinamcculloch@balfour.brighton-hove.sch.uk

Very Best Wishes

Katie Wood and Kirstin Baker

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

EQUALITY, DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION

What have we been up to in school this month to diversify and decolonise our curriculum?



Reception - This month, we have been learning about family diversity. We have been reading a range of texts about different types of families, celebrating the similarities and differences. We have also been learning a Christmas song in another language to perform as part of our Christmas show.

Year 1 - In year one we are learning the Christmas story. We have selected accurate depictions of Mary showing her ethnicity and her dressed in traditional garments from Nazareth. We will show the children a video made by an artist who has reimagined Mary based on what tribal people of the time wore.

Year 2 - In year 2 we have been learning about Christian beliefs and stories about Jesus in RE. We have chosen videos and images that show Jesus was a person of colour. In PSHE, we have been reflecting on friendships as part of our work towards anti-bullying week.

Year 3 - In Art, we have been studying the sculptor, Roberto Lugo. He is a social activist, he uses his art work to raise awareness of racism and poverty. The children will be showing their awareness of their own green pledge for the environment on the pots they are creating in his style.



Year 4 -As part of our history topic on Anglo Saxon faiths we will be learning about a bishop from Africa who worked on developing an early church structure and created an internationally renowned school in Canterbury which was used for other education settings.



Year 5 - We do not specifically look at the crusades during our Norman topic, when many Normans travelled across Europe to the Middle East. However, the children used lots of nonfiction texts to research and learn more about castles. During this research, we were

able to discuss castles from all around the world which withstood many sieges, such as Krak des Chevaliers in Syria which had walls up to 80 feet thick and was considered impregnable, and the Castle at Qatrania, Jordan. We discussed the similarities in their designs - particularly their defensive features such as the narrow arrow slits.

Year 6 – In RE we have been looking at different images of the nativity from different cultures and continents from around the world. Also, in dance the children have learnt the Haka which is a ceremonial Māori dance. In PSHE we have focused on equality education looking at the history of the LGBT+ community in both our local area and around the world.



PUPIL PREMIUM UPDATE

December is suddenly upon us! We have provided additional extra-curricular activities for several children in receipt of Pupil Premium.

I have also met with more teachers to discuss the needs of individual children. It has been wonderful to hear so many success stories about those children who have received targeted provision in class and the benefits of this provision.



Our Pupil Premium Governor has visited to see first-hand what difference is being made to those children.

If you have any questions regarding Pupil Premium, please do not hesitate to contact me at sandramulholland@balfour.brighton-hove.sch.uk

Sandra Mulholland, Deputy Headteacher.

If you think you could be eligible for Free School Meals, please use this link to fill in your details. <https://www.brighton-hove.gov.uk/content/children-and-education/schools/free-school-meals>



PARKING PERMIT PLEA

As you have no doubt noticed, they are putting in further parking restrictions on Ditchling and Surrenden Roads. This has caused a bit of difficulty with our school staff. As you can imagine, it has always been most important to us to hire the best person for the job - not necessarily the one who lives the closest. As a result, we have a number of staff who are soon to have big problems commuting.

If you happen to have a residential permit allocation that you don't need that the school could purchase, or if you have a drive that sits empty during the school day (195 days/year) that we could rent, we would be incredibly grateful!

Please contact lisacollington@balfour.brighton-hove.sch.uk



HOUSEHOLD SUPPORT FUND

Notes from The Family Information Service at Brighton & Hove City Council

Extra help is available this winter for households in Brighton & Hove struggling to pay for food, fuel and other essential costs.

The funding is part of the government's Household Support Fund. The extra support is available until 31 March 2022.

Help this winter for
anyone struggling to
pay for food, fuel and
other essentials



- For people receiving benefits who need help to pay for essentials, [apply for help from our Local Discretionary Social Fund](#)
- For people who don't receive benefits who need help to pay for essentials, [request support from our Community Hub](#)
- For people already claiming Housing Benefit or Universal Credit who need extra help to pay their council tax [can apply for discretionary council tax support](#)

The funding does not provide cash. We'll offer vouchers or find another way to help people access essential goods and services.

There is also [help to pay for fuel bills](#) this winter.

The funding is also being used to extend the provision of food support in the city, including vouchers for families in receipt of free school meals during the holidays, the 'Holiday Activities and Food' programme and the support available through Children's Centres and community organisations."

To find out more and apply, visit www.brighton-hove.gov.uk/household-support-fund or call the council's Community Hub helpline on 01273 293117 and select option 2.

Help is also available through local advice agencies and community groups – visit the website for more information.

INCLUSION

Ten ideas to help if you have a struggling reader



1. Notice your child's strengths
2. Celebrate every success
3. Be honest with yourself: set realistic goals
4. Don't let poor spelling stop your child
5. Read aloud to your child. It's fun and helpful
6. Share your own difficulties with your child
7. Children feel supported when they see parents and teachers working together to help them
8. Small steps can bring big improvements
9. It's ok to read slowly
10. Teach them to help themselves

Here is a link to the full article

[Ten Things to Help Your Struggling Reader - Yale Dyslexia](#)

And another couple of links that also may be useful!

[Struggling readers | Oxford Owl](#)

[How to Help Struggling Readers - Reading Strategies - Reading Horizons At-Home](#)

FAB UPDATE

MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR

As the winter nights drew in it heralded the return of the FAB Quiz. It was great to see a large crowd of you there enjoying an evening of competitive fun, great food from Olly's Fish Shack and, of course, lots of prosecco!

It had been 2 years since we last were able to host the quiz and in that time we lost one quizmaster and gained another - welcome Kelly to the team!

The last big hurrah of the term is in the shape of the Christmas Fair (**this Saturday!**) which this year has been designed for less crowding and is more COVID aware. This is a big fun event for all the family and promises lots of food, drink and activities and of course Santa and The Grinch. I look forward to seeing you all there.



UPCOMING EVENTS AND FUNDRAISERS

CHRISTMAS FAIR

Saturday 4th December

1pm to 5pm



FAB are very excited to be able to say that the Christmas Fair is back! It promises to be the usual festive feast of fun which includes;

Santa's Grotto, The Grinch's Cave, Tombola, Christmas Food, Bar, Cake Stalls, Craft Stalls, Games and Selfie Shack!

In line with school and government advice we would like to highlight the following regarding COVID-19:

- We are lucky to have three halls and some shelter outside, so there won't be the usual Christmas fair crowding, it has previously all been inside KS2.
- There will be hand sanitiser for you to use at each entrance and at various points around the school
- Any inside area will be ventilated with open windows as much as possible Face coverings for adults are requested please inside, unless you are exempt.
- We ask that you take a lateral flow test before attending the event and do not attend if you are experiencing any Covid symptoms

We look forward to seeing you all there for a fun and safe day of seasonal cheer!

HALLOWEEN HUNT

The winners of the Halloween Hunt were:

KS1 Prize:

- Elsie from Beetles
- Joe from Forest

KS2 Prize:

- Albie from Uganda



Congratulations!

RAISE MONEY WHILE YOU SHOP

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

1. Easyfundraising

Join for free at: www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/friendsatbalfour/

Then when you shop online, go to 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>

100 CLUB

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.



The September winners were:

- 1st £67.50 Pearson
- 2nd £40.50 Curtis
- 3rd £27 Sharp

The October winners were:

- 1st £67.50 Travers
- 2nd £40.50 Stockton
- 3rd £27 Woollard

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

We also have private Facebook Group pages for each year group

MOVE FOR CHANGE! CHRISTMAS WALKING AND WHEELING CHALLENGE. WIN SOME GREAT PRIZES!

With Christmas being a few weeks away, I would like to share a special Christmas walking and wheeling challenge which is part of our “Move for Change” initiative. Move for Change, powered by the BetterPoints app, rewards everyone in the city when they chose active and sustainable travel. Each time you walk, cycle or use the bus, you will earn points which are redeemable for great local discounts and high street shopping vouchers. [Move for Change – powered by Betterpoints \(brighton-hove.gov.uk\)](https://brighton-hove.gov.uk/move-for-change)

What is the Christmas challenge?

From 29th November - 12th December, we will be giving away **15,000 Betterpoints** to one lucky winner each day! Plus, we will match-fund the prize amount with a donation to a local charity of their choice on the app.

If you complete 14 walking or wheeling activities during the two weeks you will earn 1 BetterTicket into our **grand prize draw**. We'll be giving away:

A Canham & Sons Hamper worth £100*.

A Barnes & Binns Refill Starter Set worth £40.

A Brighton Dome & Festival Print worth £100.

Here is the link to the Christmas challenge: [Move for Change - Brighton and Hove : Countdown to Christmas Challenge \(betterpoints.uk\)](https://betterpoints.uk/move-for-change-brighton-and-hove-countdown-to-christmas-challenge)



29 November - 12 December

1. Download the app
2. Join Move for Change
3. Walk or wheel
4. Earn big rewards
5. Spend or donate

Brighton & Hove City Council BetterPoints

The poster features a red background with white text. At the top right, there are two crossed candy canes and a holly leaf with berries. At the bottom, there are illustrations of a man walking, a person in a wheelchair, and a woman walking with a child. The Brighton & Hove City Council and BetterPoints logos are at the bottom left.

Find your **FREE** copy
ONLINE

family grapevine

Brighton & Hove



The **MUST HAVE** Family Directory
from bump to teens!

www.thefamilygrapevine.co.uk/
brighton-hove



Brighton Hove Family Grapevine



*BALFOUR PRIMARY
SPRING TERM*

***B.A. ACADEMY
CLUBS***
2022

**Friday - Musical Theatre
- All Years**

*FROM THE WEEK
COMMENCING 10TH JANUARY
MONDAY - FRIDAY
15:20-16:20*

**BOOK NOW TO AVOID
DISAPPOINTMENT!**

Our teachers
provide high
energy, fun classes
and are all DBS
checked,
Safeguarding
trained and First
aid trained

OUR CLUBS

Here's a little bit about them...

Musical Theatre

In our musical theatre club, children spend time learning skills such as acting, singing, and dancing. This club is packed full of activities which will help enhance creativity, confidence and improve pupils language abilities.

DON'T MISS OUT! BOOK ONLINE AT OUR
WEBSITE TO SECURE YOUR CHILD'S PLACE:
[HTTPS://WWW.BA-
ACADEMY.CO.UK/BALFOUR](https://www.ba-academy.co.uk/balfour) OR

SCAN THE QR CODE

QUESTIONS?
DON'T HESITATE TO GET IN TOUCH AT
ENQUIRIES@BA-ACADEMY.CO.UK.



Musical Theatre - Friday

<https://bookings.ba-academy.co.uk/events/balfour-musical-theatre-friday-all-years/>

INSET Day Camp at Stanford Junior School

Tuesday 4th January 2022

Dear Parents and Carers,

We are aware that your child's school has an INSET day on Tuesday 4th January, and we are delighted to support you with a one-day INSET Camp running at [Stanford Junior School](#) from 7.30am - 6.30pm.

Spaces are strictly limited, and we are anticipating high demand with a large number of schools being on INSET for this day, so please do [book now if you think you may need us](#).

What is an INSET Camp, and what is available?

Our INSET Camps are one-day versions of our normal Holiday Camps, and all children in attendance can look forward to a wide variety of staff-led sports activities, games and arts & crafts.

The 'standard day' runs from 8.15am to 5.00pm, at a cost of £31 (with sibling discount available). There are also 3 additional 'extended options' available to supplement parents that require this:

Name	Times	Cost	Food included
Morning extended session	7.30am-8.15am	£4.00	Cereals and toast
Grab Bag Lunch	N/A	£3.50	A 'Grab Bag' packed lunch (sandwich, fruit, vegetable crudites and a 'goodie' item)
Evening extended session	5.00pm-6.30pm	£6.50	A freshly prepared high tea

How do I book INSET Camp?

Simply [log in to your online account](#) and complete a booking for the Event named "Stanford INSET Camp – Tuesday 4th January (Brighton)".

Any extended sessions you require will be available to book at the same time as the standard day.

If you have any questions, or would like any support with booking INSET Camp, please do get in touch on enquiries@pioneerchildcare.co.uk or 01444 411388 and one of our team will be delighted to help.

Kind regards,

The Pioneer Childcare Team

Pioneer Childcare

www.pioneerchildcare.co.uk | 01444 411388 | enquiries@pioneerchildcare.co.uk

Pioneer Childcare Limited
Registered Business Address: 68, Wickham Hill, Hurstpierpoint, West Sussex BN6 9NP
Registered in England & Wales, Company Number: 8139506

Family cycling

Cycling is a sociable and brilliant experience to enjoy as a family. We offer training to families to help boost their experience and to support families with cycling safely.

How does the training work?

All sessions will be delivered by qualified National Standards Instructors who ensure that the training will meet the needs of each family.

The training is delivered in 2 x 1.5 hour sessions on a Saturday morning.

The training starts off in a non-traffic area and progresses to local roads and routes you would like to ride.

What is required?

All sessions are available for up to 6 people from the same household and **MUST** include one adult.

Riders must:

- Be able to ride independently.
- Provide their own roadworthy bike
- Helmet (optional)

How to book?

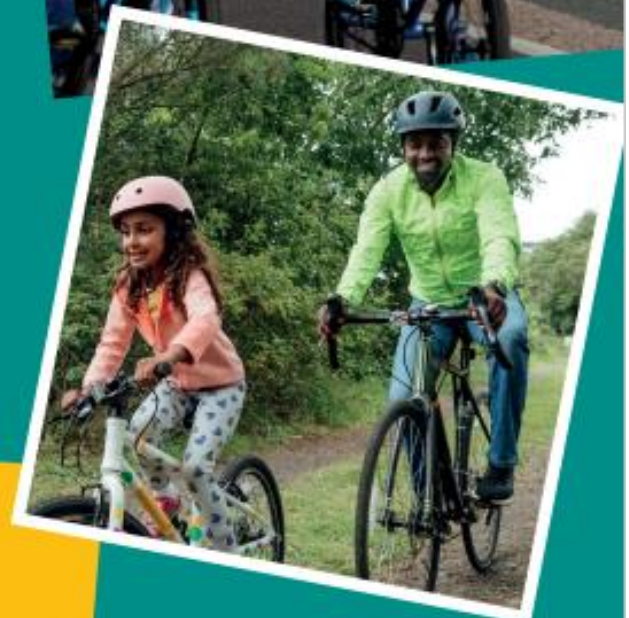
The training cost is **£40 per family**.

Follow the link below:

<https://sports.brighton-hove.gov.uk/events>

Any queries please email

east.central@brighton-hove.gov.uk





Balfour Primary After-School Cricket



Balfour After-School Cricket - YRS 3-6.
Spring Term, Tuesdays from Feb 1st (to April 5th). End of school- 4.45pm

A cricket club centred around games-based learning with the emphasis on FUN! We take an ecological approach to coaching that encourages children to be creative, expressive and to problem-solve. ECB qualified Level2 coach and All-Stars Activator with vast experience of coaching at Primary level. Enhanced DBS. First-Aid Qualified.

Please text message Dom Ashton for info
07894 332 867