

Balfour Primary News Respectful · Courageous · Friendly · Ambitious Caring · Enthusiastic 25th March 2022

NOTES FROM THE HEADTEACHER

Brighton and Hove Sustainability, Climate Change and Environmental Education Project – A whole school, whole city approach.

"We are at a unique stage in our history. Never before have we had such an awareness of what we are doing to the planet, and never before have we had the power to do something about that." - David Attenborough



Simon Davies, Head teacher

School and college leaders from across the city came together for the 'A whole school, whole city, approach to climate education and action' event.

As part of Brighton & Hove's Environmental Education Programme, the aim is to provide support and resources to schools and colleges to help them embed climate change into their curriculums.

Climate change is only included briefly in the national curriculum, as it currently stands. At Balfour, we have already made significant progress in this area since the introduction of our social responsibility curriculum, that is intertwined within our curriculum. We are currently one of eleven schools within Brighton and Hove that are a part of this project and next year, we will be supporting other schools to help develop their climate change curriculum.

Benefits of environmental and climate change education:

- Greater well-being
- Increased social engagement and positive environmental behaviours
- Higher levels of concentration and resilience
- Enhancing critical thinking skills and problem solving skills
- Effective teamwork skills
- Personal growth and life skills including confidence, autonomy, and leadership
- More effective acquisition of STEM skills due to purposeful/meaningful context

• Development of Green Career skills

The aims of the project:

Initially working with eleven schools over one year to:

- Develop an <u>integrated</u> environmental education curriculum which enables children and young people to develop a deep understanding of climate change and sustainability, and empowers them to become change-makers both personally and in society
- Develop school organisational systems and practices which support sustainability and the B&H Carbon Neutral 2030 targets
- Enable children and young people to develop a close connection with nature and in particular our local biosphere

We aim for it to be embedded in the Brighton & Hove education and school system over a 2-year time-frame.

This work will build on some important sustainability and climate change work that has been developed in Brighton & Hove settings and schools but recognises the need to increase and deepen this work.

The principles/beliefs behind this project:

- Whilst the curriculum is at the heart of the project it sits within whole school commitment to and development of sustainable practice
- Pre-school/school education is the key way to equip all children and young people with the skills and knowledge to live in a sustainable way in harmony with the planet as part of an inclusive, equitable and diverse society. <u>Strong moral purpose</u>.
- Young people must be involved deeply in planning, decision making, regular delivery of Climate Change work and in its evolution
- A recognition of how geography, race, economic status and national origin affect the impact of climate change on individuals and societies
- School staff/pupils/governors/parents/carers must be fully engaged with and included in the strategy
- Engagement with environmental groups and professionals working in B&H and appropriate Council departments
- Issues-led but solution-focused

next

- Emphasis on sustainable whole school/community change as opposed to one-off projects
- Emergent best practice for Climate Change indicates the need for an enquiry-based approach, collective problem solving, with all parties working in partnership
- Measurable outcomes and appropriate structures must be established for auditing and monitoring purposes (e.g. Stakeholder representation, curricula changes, well-being indicators, organisational changes, learning outcomes, resource savings)
- Commitment to address inequalities in access to opportunities to participate in climate and environmental education of those with protected characteristics.
- A focus on the Green Skills agenda



As a part of the project, we are establishing some working groups for whole school action. If you would like to be part of the parent/carer working party, please email me:

head@balfour.brighton-hove.sch.uk



www.balfourprimary.co.uk

nexi

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY



Can be found on our website.

TERM DATES FOR 2021/2022

Spring Term 2: 21/2/22 – 8/4/22 Easter Holidays: 11 Apr – 22 Apr

Summer Term 1: 25/4/22 – 27/5/22 Summer Term 2: 7/6/22 – 21/7/22 ► Half term: 30 May – 03 Jun

Summer Holidays: 22 Jul – TBC

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Bank Holiday: 2 May INSET days 22: 6 June

GOVERNORS

As I'm sure you can imagine, governors have had a very busy half term! In addition to managing the recruitment process for a new head teacher, work has been ongoing to ensure monitoring and progress within the school development plan.

On Thursday 10th March, governors came into school and met with subject leaders and discussed curriculum development. This was a valuable session, and enabled both staff and governors to share progress and understanding of how the curriculum has been developed throughout the school based on building knowledge and skills as children progress.

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

Governors can also be contacted 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

Best Wishes, Katie Wood & Kirstin Baker

review

EQUALITYS

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



Reception - In Reception, we have been learning about 'A Long Time Ago'. We read Coming to England by Floella Benjamin and compared life in the past to the present. We also talked about how we would welcome new children into our school and that we should treat everyone with respect and kindness.

Year 1 - In year one in history, one of our learning objectives is to understand the term 'significant' person. We have looked at Mary Seacole and Nelson Mandela. We are specifically learning about inventors and we have planned in discussion time to ask why not many women or people of colour have been inventors, so far. We discussed how opportunities for all are improving.

Year 2 - This term, Year 2 have been learning about historically significant explorers. As well more wellknown explorers like Robert Falcon Scott, we have learned about the African American explorer Matthew Henson, who is believed to have been the





first human to reach the North Pole.

We have also learned about women explorers and adventurers, including the astronaut Christa Macauliffe and sailors Ellen MacArthur and Jessica Watson.

review

Year 3 – In Year Three, we have learnt about Italy. The children have spent some time looking at the different cultures and religions across Italy.

Year 4 - As part of our PSHE topic 'Good to be me', we have been discussing differences and individuality, including our identity and what makes us unique. We have also been reading an adventure story called 'Marcy and the Riddle of the Sphinx' which has a female lead character. We have done comparison work between the characters in this book and those in a previous one by the same author ' Arthur and the Golden Rope'.



Year 5 - In history this half term, the children in Year 5 have been outraged at the disparities between men and women in Ancient Greek times. Women were not allowed to be involved in training or fighting for wars. They also couldn't vote (which led to an interesting conversation about how women couldn't vote in England until 1918 and just how recent that seems). Women were also not allowed to watch the Olympics in Ancient Greece and certainly couldn't take part! Studying the Olympics, was also an interesting opportunity to explore famous athletes from all around the world.



This week, we looked at the marathon race and the very first female to run the race: Katharine Switzer, the first woman to run the Boston marathon. She paved the way for women runners by entering the 1967 race using just her initials, five years before women were actually allowed to compete. After

evading attempts to have her removed from the course, Switzer went on to run 35 marathons and win the 1974 New York City marathon. During Science week, we also looked at Dorothy Vaughan and Margaret Hamilton: two trailblazing women in a previously white male dominated field. When recent NASA Center Directors come from a variety of backgrounds, it's important to champion the people who paved the way for the agency's current robust and diverse workforce and leadership. **Year 6** – In Year 6, we have been learning about different religious and nonreligious beliefs regarding life after death. We have been comparing what happens in Christian funerals to Jewish, Buddhist, Muslim, Sikh and Hindu

funerals. We have also continued our studies of World War Two with a focus on women's roles during the war as well as looking at the how the diversity of the British Army changed as the war went on. This includes comparing the roles and treatment of people from a variety of heritages and places around the world.

PUPIL PREMIUM UPDATE

We are now heading in to Spring and the beautiful weather is helping to put a smile on our faces.

With the headlines full of stories about fuel and food increases and petrol price hikes, we need to find the positives in what can sometimes feel like continual doom and gloom.

I paid a visit to **Brightstore** last week – it's an organisation that provides cheap food to families who are in need. When signing up, you do not need to declare any claims of benefits and it is open to anyone who is in need. There are two options - £4 for a normal sized bag of shopping or £6 for a large family bag.

office@balfour.brighton-hove.sch.uk

This photo shows what I picked up for £4. The eggs are an extra £1.

There is a huge selection of food and I could have added more to my bag.

Please check out the website to find out more about the four locations and opening times. <u>www.brightstore.org</u>







review

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. <u>https://www.brighton-hove.gov.uk/content/children-and-education/schools/free-school-meals</u>

BRIGHTON & HOVE CITY COUNCIL FEEDBACK

Brighton & Hove City Council are asking for customer feedback. Please see the message below for parents, carers and families. This is open to anyone who has accessed council services

If you have contacted the council within the past 12 months we would really value your feedback about your personal experiences of using Brighton & Hove City Council services.

Rate your experience 2021/22 - Brighton & Hove City Council - Citizen Space (brighton-hove.gov.uk)

Thank you for your time – your feedback is very important to us.



INCLUSION

review

Celebrating different minds

We will be celebrating two initiatives that help to raise everybody's awareness and understanding of 'difference' in ourselves and others.

March 21st to March 28th is Neurodiversity Celebration Week.

Neurodiversity Celebration Week is a worldwide initiative that challenges stereotypes and misconceptions about neurological differences. It aims to transform how <u>neurodivergent</u> individuals are perceived and supported by providing schools, universities, and organisations with the opportunity to recognise the many talents and advantages of being <u>neurodivergent</u>, while creating more inclusive and equitable cultures that celebrate differences and empower every individual.

Please have a look at their website <u>Parent Resources | Neurodiversity Celebration Week</u> (neurodiversityweek.com)

March 28th to April | 1st is Autism Acceptance week

Autism is a lifelong developmental disability which affects how people communicate and interact with the world. One in 100 people are on the autism spectrum and there are around 700,000 autistic adults and children in the UK. Autism is a spectrum condition and affects people in different ways. Like all people, autistic people have their own strengths and weaknesses. Please have a look at this film narrated by Alan Gardner <u>What is Autism? -YouTube</u>

Please also watch the video 'Amazing things happen' which is the video that we are sharing with the children as part of our assembly <u>Amazing Things Happen - by Alexander Amelines -</u> <u>YouTube</u>

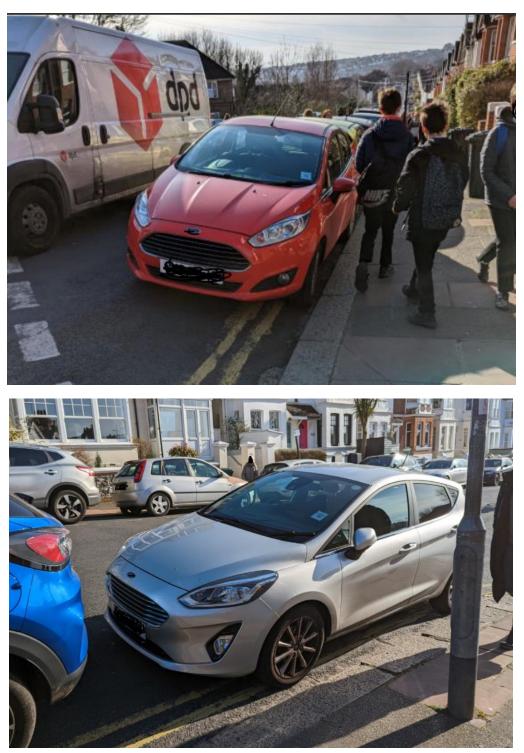


review

PARKING REMINDER

This is a reminder to please be mindful when parking your car during drop off and pick up times.

With the volume of families walking and cycling to and from school, it is becoming very dangerous on the pavements when cars are not parked in the allocated spaces. Thank you in advance for being safety conscious.



FAB UPDATE

MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR

As I write this I look out of my window to see the canopy of a bright blue sky and tree blossom budding in the glorious sunshine. Yes it's Spring!

With the pandemic in the not-so-distant past we can safely say we are back in full event mode and nothing screams 'normal'

more than the chocolate-fuelled frenzy of the Easter Egg Hunt. For new parents and carers, and indeed for all KS1, I strongly recommend you sign up, strap in and release the hounds...

Also for April we have a Spring Scavenger Hunt, which is new for 2022 and is timed to coincide with the Easter break. Proceeds from this event will go towards the school library refurbishment project as part of a fundraising drive first mentioned in the last newsletter.

As with all our events, we are heavily reliant on volunteers to make these things work and upcoming events are no exception. If I can therefore ask if anyone can spare an hour or two of their time it would be brilliant, starting with the Egg Hunt.

And so all that remains is for me to say have a Happy Easter and if you can make it you will see me on 1st April handing out chocolate.





UPCOMING EVENTS AND FUNDRAISERS

THE GREAT BALFOUR EASTER EGG HUNT – APRIL 1ST!

Yes, it really is happening. No, we can't go back to nice calm socially-distanced activities. This is full throttle and what kids do best.

You can get the forms at the registration desks situated between KS1 & KS2. Get there with plenty of time because when the bell rings it all kicks off.

If you haven't already got a ticket (what are you waiting for?!) then there is still time. We cater for all dietary requirements too. Just state what they are at time of order.

Tickets available at <u>www.ticketor.com/friendsatbalfour</u>

Able to volunteer? Go to: <u>www.volunteersignup.org/4AKYW</u>



NEW FOR 2022 – SPRING SCAVENGER HUNT

We are running a sponsorship fundraiser during April. It is an activity to occupy your children during their down time during this month, an opportunity for them to get out and about searching for items on the challenge.



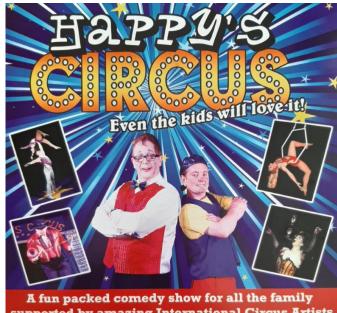
The children can learn about the concept

of sponsorship for a challenge and raise funds for the current library refurbishment project - benefitting the whole school.

The Scavenger Hunt challenge and sponsorship sheets will be handed out in class by Friday 1st April and need to be returned with their sponsorship money by Friday 29th April to the collection boxes at KS1 or KS2 offices. Each child who returns a challenge sheet will be entered into a draw for a super prize and will also receive a certificate.

HAPPY'S CIRCUS – THE BIG TOP IS COMING BACK TO BALFOUR!

The circus is back and putting on its fantastic show once again. Gates open at 4pm so get the party started early with food from the legendary Olly's Fish Shack and drinks from the FAB Bar.



supported by amazing International Circus Artists www.happyscircus.co.uk Alternatively you are welcome to bring a picnic and enjoy the afternoon on the school fields.

Wednesday 25th May

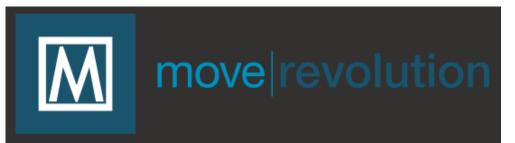
Gates 4pm

Show starts 6pm

Ends 8pm

Ticketsavailableatwww.ticketor.com/friendsatbalfour

Many thanks to Move Revolution for their generous donation to help us bring the circus to Balfour.



SUMMER FAIR – SAVE THE DATE – SATURDAY JULY 16^{TH}

The summer fair also returns this year so get that date in your calendar. If you haven't been before, think of the Community Fair we had in September - only bigger.



Fun, games, food, FAB bar, talent show, bouncy castles, FAB Bar (so good I said it twice), stalls and of course – lovely hot weather!

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

All our events are dependent on one thing – volunteers. We do rely heavily on help from parents and carers to make our events happen. You can do as much or as little as you like!

The first event coming up we need more volunteers for is the Easter Egg Hunt:-

www.volunteersignup.org/4AKYW

A big thank you to everyone who has signed up already. We really couldn't do it without you.

Other events coming up (more to follow):

Circus www.volunteersignup.org/JA4M3



BALFOUR SWIM SCHOOL RETURNS

Balfour Swim School is back and running.

Lessons for swimmers of all levels will be run by qualified swimming instructors, and cost £5.50 per session (sibling discount available).



There are some spaces available.

Please email: <u>balfourswimmingschool@yahoo.co.uk</u> if you're interested, or would like more information.

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.og.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.

Join anytime to help the school raise much-needed funds. To sign up, or for more information, please email <u>fab100club@gmail.com</u>.

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

f Facebook: <u>Friends at Balfour</u>

Twitter: <u>@FABatBalfour</u>

We also have private Facebook Group pages for each year group.





For children aged from 4 to 16 years All abilities welcome! Join us at Preston Park Public Courts



Easter Holiday Tennis Clubs

Week 1: Tuesday 5th & Wednesday 6th April *Early holidays*

Week 2: Tuesday 12th , Wednesday 13th and Thursday 14th April. Week 3: Tuesday 19th , Wednesday 20th and Thursday 21st April

10am to 12pm £20.00 10am to 1pm £30.00 10am to 2pm £40.00 *price per day *sibling discount Choose any combination of days Book as little as 2 hours or as much as a full week! Advanced Bookings * Tennis Rackets Provided *Small Groups

For more information please call Jeff Taylor on 07472 362 605 email: vanessa@tennistigers.co.uk Text / Whatsapp 07531 879 404

External Providers

Stomp – The Old Market, Brighton & Hove



STOMP — The Old Market, Brighton and Hove

The internationally-acclaimed, multi-award-winning phenomenon STOMP is coming home - returning to Brighton & Hove, the city where it all began, for a limited run of shows to raise funds for The Old Market!. Using instruments that are anything but conventional, STOMP is an explosive and heart-racing show like no other. Language is no barrier, as the troupe will use matchboxes, wooden

External Providers

www.theoldmarket.com

What is The Old Market currently preparing for the Easter holidays?

Notably our upcoming run of performances from the internationally successful show, *STOMP*, between 29 March - 1 May. This show is for the whole family, highly interactive and engaging for children of all ages. Lots of banging and crashing to make new music! Kids will absolutely love it and it would be a treat for the Easter holidays. A group of 10+ get a 10% ticket discount when booking - definitely worth noting.

This run is extremely exciting for us as *STOMP* and TOM have a lovely historical link - the show was created here! Our directors, Luke Cresswell and Steve McNicholas, devised the original *STOMP* show here at TOM in 1991, so the whole team is very excited to bring the show back for its 30th anniversary (Covid-19 interrupted our plans for last year's celebration, as we're all sadly familiar with nowadays). Because of our ties to the show, they are all being performed through our *Gig for a Gig* season - meaning that all profits will go towards upcoming artists that need a stepping stone into the industry. It's art supporting art, and local people supporting their community.

You can book tickets for the shows on our website at <u>https://www.theoldmarket.com/shows/stomp</u>



Monday Breakfast Club Gymnastics start time 07.45 to 08.45 am

10 week terms, in school term time. Starting after the Easter break. Payment can be made in full per term or by standing order throughout the whole year pro rata. On top, you will need insurance with BG and club affiliation fee. This club is open to year 2 and upwards. Fee info on website.

Fully qualified and insured and enhanced DBS checked staff. This is open to year 2 and up.

Uniform is available to purchase and a progressive competitive squad path is on offer for talented gymnasts. Please see our website on how to order and term dates.

Trials: To book on to a trail please log on to www.starsgymclub.co.uk and click 'contact us'.

External Providers BRAND NEW! STARTING 23 MARCH



DANCE YOURSELF HAP

SILENT DISCO SOS (STRUT OUR STUFF) WEDNESDAYS 6.30 PM

ZUMBA PARTY (SILENT DISCO) THURSDAYS 6.30 PM

SILENT DISCO STREET PARTY (PRE-WEEKEND FUN) FRIDAYS 12.30 PM



First Class FREE Come and try!

WEBSITE : charlie-oh-la-la.com

Linktr.ee/charlottechazel EMAIL: charlie.chazel@gmail.com BALFOUR PRIMARY SCHOOL
THE BRUNSWICK, HOVE

External Providers



B.A. ACADEMY CLUBS 2022

Friday - Musical Theatre - All Years

SUMMER TERM: FROM WEEK COMMENCING 25TH APRIL 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

External Providers

B.A. Academ



OUR CLUBS

Here's a little bit about them... JUST A REMINDER.. OUR EASTER HOLIDAY CAMP FOR SPORTS AND PERFORMING ARTS IS AVAILABLE TO BOOK NOW VIA THE QR!!

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/STANFORD

OR

SCAN THE QR CODE

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





office@balfour.brighton-hove.sch.uk

www.balfourprimary.co.uk



office@balfour.brighton-hove.sch.uk





Balfour Primary School Club

Wednesdays from 27 April - 20 July (excluding 25 May & 1 June) 3.15pm - 4.30pm, £57.75 for 11 weeks.



External Providers

BOOK ONLINE NOW albioninthecommunity.org.uk

Email: soccerschools@albioninthecommunity.org.uk for more information.

Brighton & How Albion Alter School Clubs delivered by Albion in the Community. American Express Community Stadium, Wilage Way, Brighton Bhr 1981. Life (1923) 878243 Company Umined by guaranties in England and Wales [No. 512243]. Rigshemed Charty in England and Wales [No. 1110978]



Reception Booking Link:

https://bookings.albioninthecommunity.org.uk/soccerschools/courses/courses.htm?coursesSearch=search&clie ntCode=ASC-BPS-16

Y1-Y2 Booking Link:

https://bookings.albioninthecommunity.org.uk/soccerschools/courses/courses.htm?coursesSearch=search&clie ntCode=ASC-BPS-17

office@balfour.brighton-hove.sch.uk



THE SPACE RACE

Creative space-themed workshop aimed at KEY STAGE 1 & 2 All children welcome!

TECHNOLOGY | ROBOT CODING | ART & MORE

-

4

WORKSHOPS

EVERY

SATURDAY

9:45-11:15AM

2ND APRIL - 7TH MAY

JOIN US!

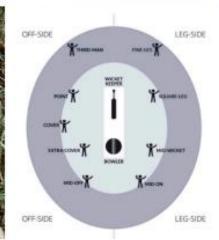
2nd <u>April</u>: Why humans broke Sound 9th: How did humans reach the Moon 16th: Was Apollo 13 a success or failure? 23rd: What happened to Space Shuttles? 30th: Mission to Mars 7th May: An Alien comes to Brighton



JUBILEE LIBRARY BRIGHTON VISIT I-BOGEY.COM OR LIBRARY STAFF TO SECURE YOUR CHILD'S PLACE







External Providers

Balfour Primary After-School Cricket



Balfour After-School Cricket - YRS 3-6. Summer Term, Tuesdays from April 26th (to July 19th). 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