



Friday 31st January 2025

A **Beyond** ACADEMY
SCHOOLS TRUST

Important Dates:



School Parliament and ELSA trip to the Corn Exchange
Wednesday 5th
February

Football match after school
Thursday 6th February

Parent consultations 3:40pm—6:00pm
Tuesday 11th February
Thursday 13th
February
(4 Tanner only: Friday 7th February and Tuesday 11th February)

Last day of term 3 and TAG day: Friday 14th
February

First day of term 4:
Monday 24th February



Instagram

[balfour_junior_school](https://www.instagram.com/balfour_junior_school)



SENco

We are delighted that Miss Reed will be joining us next week, as a temporary SENco while Miss Kember is on maternity leave. Miss Reed will work at Balfour for 3 days per week and can be contacted via sen@balfourjuniors.org.uk. If you have any queries or need support with matters relating to SEN you can speak to your child's teacher in the first instance, or contact Miss Reed.

Congratulations!

A very big well done to Dorcas in Year 6 for a wonderful sporting achievement. Dorcas is the captain for the Medway Girls U11 football district team, representing Medway all over the UK.

On the 18th January, they played against Hackney Girls Primary District in the Public Digital Shield at the Douglas Eyre Sports Ground. The match finished a 1-1 draw so the shield was shared. Dorcas was awarded the player of the match for her skilful display and brilliant teamwork. Well done Dorcas, we're so proud of you!



WhatsApp



WhatsApp is one of the most popular instant messaging apps, used by many pupils to keep in contact with their friends and family. While it has many benefits, there can be challenges and risks from using the app. Most of our issues around online safety in school come from the use of WhatsApp, and we regularly receive reports of inappropriate and unkind content or messages and other kinds of online bullying.

This article covers the risks of using WhatsApp and how safety features can be used to protect children while they're online. If you have any worries about WhatsApp, social media or other online issues, please contact the school and a member of the safeguarding team will be happy to help.

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/online-safety-blog/2023-01-12-is-whatsapp-safe-for-my-child/>

Using school toilets

Please ensure you do not use school toilets at the start or end of the day. Due to security reasons, we cannot permit parents/carers or siblings to use the Year 5 toilets, or toilets in other year groups. We do not have toilet facilities readily available for the start and end of the day and can only permit use of the disabled toilet inside school in case of emergencies. Thank you for your understanding with this, as our safeguarding procedures do not permit parents and carers to enter the school without being accompanied by a member of school staff.

Items brought into school

We have noticed an increasing number of items being brought into school from home and would like to clarify what can, and cannot be brought into school. Stationery items such as pencil cases, pens, notebooks are permitted; please be mindful of the size as it should be able to fit in your child's tray. Toys and games should not be brought into school, unless they are being donated to our OPAL play provision. Please ensure small toys and figures are kept at home as they can cause distractions and arguments in school.

Achievement Award



Well done to the following pupils for receiving this week's Achievement Award!



3H: PP	3L: Roman	3M: Evie	3P: Arlo
4H: Lexi	4B: Hanna	4T: Alina	4O'K: Oliver
5H: Stanley	5K: Charlotte	5C: Dolly	5R: Chizi
6K: Elsie-May	6L: Evelyn	6Ma: Mimi	6Mo: Berry