



Confidential

Parent copy



Balfour Junior Academy

Proud to be a part of the Fort Pitt Thomas Aveling Academy Trust

Friday, 13th July 2018

Dear Parents and Friends,

We are delighted to announce that, this year, we have achieved our highest SATs scores ever with 71% of children obtaining a combined score of 100 or above in maths, reading and writing. 77% achieved in reading, 82% in maths, 81% in SPAG and 81% in writing. All of these figures are higher than the national average. Congratulations go to both the staff and the children for all the hard work they have put in over their four years with us. We also need to thank all of you for your amazing support. We are all thrilled with these results!



Our teams in their new strip kindly sponsored by the Shozna restaurant in Rochester.

Another 2 for the Cabinet

Written by Farron Chime, Toby Aitken and Ashvin Khatkar (Year 6 pupils)

It has been a fantastic year for the Balfour football team. After winning the Medway

District Cup at Chatham Town FC, the team went on to secure the Medway Primary Premiership League Title on the last game of the season.

Things could have been a lot different though, as the team disappointingly lost 2-1 to Hilltop, due to a lack of experience of playing together. However, in the second game, the team pulled themselves together and bounced back with the help of two new players. As the

season went on the team only lost one more league game and found themselves in the final of the Medway District Cup, facing Featherby, who they narrowly beat 1-0 in the league.

Before the final, everyone was nervous, including Mr Wood and Mr Hart. The boys knew that Miss Payne and Mrs Parnell were there to watch the special event. As the team walked out to the Champions League theme, they lined up in front of their families, before having their names read out. Within five minutes of the game kicking off, Balfour took the lead after a goalmouth scramble fell to Jack Taylor. Featherby soon equalised with a well-worked goal and the boys went in at halftime 1-1. After a passionate speech from Mr Wood, the boys walked on to the pitch, excited for the second half. Balfour started the second half well when Logan Thomson found himself in a pocket of space and buried his shot into the bottom corner. Logan then went on to score a second, before Elliot... finished it off with a wonderful volley, securing the cup for Balfour.

Tom Colyer, Team Captain, stated, "I'm very proud of the squad and I couldn't have asked for a better result."

After the triumph in the cup, the team went into the last game of the season facing Maundene. Maundene were first and Balfour were second. A win for Balfour would see them go top. The team played brilliantly and beat them 6-1, with goals from Logan, Elliot and Harley Diaper. Maundene still had a game to play, and if they drew, the league title would be Balfour's. The whole team waited hesitantly, until the result came in, Balfour had done it!

Aside from the league and cup, Balfour competed in the MYG. Out of 56 schools, the school came in the fantastic position of 8th, only losing on penalties in the quarter final. This was a great effort by all those involved with the team this year (Tom Colyer, Farron Chime, Toby Aitken, Ashvin Khatkar, Aaran Attra, Louie Tierney, Logan Thomson, Jack Taylor, Isla Chisholm, Rosie Sanders, Harley Diaper, Elliot Komorowski, Sam Hartnup, Sofia Basso and Janis Chime).

On Friday 6th July, 10 children from across the school got to visit the 'Alice and the Hatter' café in Canterbury as a reward for their positive attitude and excellent effort in taking Accelerated Reader quizzes. They enjoyed finger sandwiches, scones as well as an Alice in Wonderland-themed 'drink me' potion and more around the Queen's table! Once again, we'd like to thank you for your continued support with Accelerated Reader and look forward to more rewards taking place next year.





A huge thank you goes to Manvir Dhillon and Sara Christian, two of our lovely Mums, who have worked so hard this week, with teams of willing children to transform one of our quads. The difference is amazing! We can now use this space as a learning environment for science and outdoor work.

Please don't forget that it is sports day on Monday. Children may come to school in their PE kits and wear T shirts in their house colours if they so wish. Don't forget hats and sunscreen as the forecast suggests the day will be hot. The opening ceremony will be at 9.40 and all are welcome. Please bring your own rugs, chairs and gazebos if you want them and also a picnic. Hot dogs and drinks will also be on sale. There will also be an ice cream van on site .

The end of term discos are on Wednesday evening with term finishing on Friday, 20th July for the summer. School begins again on Tuesday, 4th September 2018.

With very best wishes

Kim Parnell

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Dear Parents

This year seems to be rushing past and the end of our academic year is fast approaching. However, we are still looking for a number of people to join the Governing body. Our role is key to the effectiveness of the school and we work with the school to ensure that it delivers a good quality education to all the children and eventually to leave us resilient learners who are ready for the next stage in their school lives. So, if, you or someone you know would to join us and make a difference and give something back to the community in this way, please speak to Mrs Parnell.

The Fort Pitt Thomas Aveling Academies Trust, our Trust, is moving towards a more business oriented model of management, in line with other charitable Trusts. This makes our role as the local governing body even more important. We are also grateful to the Trust for funding our much needed building works. Over the summer we hope to complete the refurbishment and resizing of classrooms.

I never cease to be inspired by the dedication and commitment of our staff. Coping with finding room and resources for SATs, working to minimise the problems caused by the failure of the electricity supply, or driving mini-buses to sports fixtures, but never losing sight of the children and their learning; it's a privilege to join with them in making Balfour Junior a great school.

Mrs Patricia Daniels Chair of Governors