



23rd January 2026



# BADDOW NEWS

## Baddow Hall Infant School Newsletter

Dear Families,

This half term in our assemblies we are listening to music from around the world and finding out about some of the traditional instruments. This week we have listened to music from Africa and learnt about the Djembe drum and cabassa, which are both percussion instruments.



In reception this week, the children have been consolidating their understanding of the composition of 5. Children have been exploring ways to make 5 and adults have been modelling the following sentence, which parents can adopt at home to embed the children's learning. '**5 is made from 3 and 2.**' The children have also been singing [Five Little Speckled Frogs](#).



As part of the history curriculum for KS1, children learn about the lives of significant individuals in the past. Year 1 are currently learning about the life of Mary Anning, a 19th-century paleontologist who changed scientific understanding of prehistoric life and the age of the Earth. During a time when there were very few women scientists, Mary Anning demonstrated resilience and persevered with her studies.

Year 2 have been learning new science vocabulary this week; herbivore, omnivore and carnivore. They have been classifying animals into these categories.

As part of our commitment to teacher training, we are currently hosting Miss Sayer-Jones, a trainee teacher, on placement in year 2. Both the trainee and the school benefit from this partnership and we look forward to working with her.

Parent consultations will take place on **Tuesday 10th and Thursday 12th February 2026**. Booking for appointments will close next Thursday, please visit the Edulink app to book your appointment.

Have a good weekend.  
Best wishes,  
Lesley Schlanker  
Headteacher

### Reminder of Upcoming Dates

Please check the school [calendar](#) which is updated regularly.

Dates for the **summer term** have recently been added.

## School Attendance

**Our school attendance target is 97%.**

This week, I have been monitoring punctuality. Across the school **443** minutes, **over 7** hours of learning has been missed by children arriving late to school. Well done to everyone who has been in school on time. We will continue to monitor punctuality throughout the term.

## Reporting absence

If your child will be absent from school you must call or email by **9.30am**. When calling or emailing, please include the following information:

- **Child's first and last name**
- **Class number (or name of teacher)**
- **Reason for absence**

Please note that if your child has been sick or has diarrhea, they must remain off school for **48 hours** from the last instance. This is to help prevent the spread of potential bugs.

Please ensure that your child does not bring any products into school containing nuts, including cereal bars, cakes and sandwich fillings.

**This includes chocolate spread as we cannot be sure that it is not Nutella.** We have staff and children with severe nut allergies.

## Order your child's school dinners

Please book your child's meals in advance.

Meals for the **week beginning 2nd February 2026 must be booked by midnight on Tuesday 27th January 2026.**

If a meal is not booked, reminders are not sent out so parents will be phoned and asked to provide their child with a packed lunch.



### Year 1 Forest Schools

Just a reminder to ensure that year 1 children have their forest school clothes and footwear with them on their allotted day. The children will still do forest schools if it is wet so please bear this in mind. **Please ensure that everything is clearly named.**

### Parent Consultations—booking appointments reminder

Bookings opened on Edulink at 6pm on Thursday 22nd January and will close at 8pm on Thursday 29th January. Please book your 10 minute appointment with your child's class teacher.

Parent consultations take place on **Tuesday 10th and Thursday 12th February.**

If an appointment has not been made, one will be made for you from the remaining available appointment slots.



### PSA Disco

Year 1 & 2 disco tickets are available for purchase now on Parent Pay. The deadline to purchase tickets is 12noon Thursday 5th February. We are unable to take purchases after this time. Reception children will attend a taster of the disco during school hours so no ticket purchase is necessary.

Year 1 & 2 children attending the disco may bring in a change of clothes. Please ensure that everything is **clearly named** and is in a **clearly named** carrier bag to go onto their peg on the Friday morning.



### PSA Lunar New Year Competition

The PSA are running a creative competition where pupils can draw, colour or create something inspired by the Lunar New Year for a chance to win one of 15 LEGO packs. If your child wishes to enter a creation, please ensure to pay for your participation on Parent Pay (£1.00) and hand in your competition entry to the school office by 9am Wednesday 11th February.

**Please ensure that your entry is clearly named.**

### School Trips 2025-26—please see dates below

**Thursday 19th March—Year 2 Music Festival at Christchurch**

**Friday 24th April—Reception Thorndon Park—Gruffalo Trail**

**Tuesday 12th May—Year 1 Danbury Park—Pond Dipping & Wildlife**

**Thursday 14th May—Year 2 Thriftwood Scout Campsite—Outdoor activities**

**Tuesday 16th June—Year 1 Seaside Day—with History Off The Page**

**Tuesday 30th June—Year 2 Mini Games—competing with other schools at CSAC**

Letters for all the trips will be sent out in January, Thorndon Park letter has already been emailed to reception parents. Payments will also open on ParentPay when the letters are sent, giving parents plenty of notice of costs involved for each event.

### Other important dates for this half term

Friday 6th February—PSA Disco

Tuesday 10th & Thursday 12th February—Parent Consultations (bookings opened on the Edulink app at 6pm Thursday 22nd January)

### Uniform and Water Bottles

Please could parents ensure that all uniform items including shoes, coats, hats and water bottles are all clearly named so that staff and children can easily identify belongings. This will hopefully cut down on the amount of lost property and the time taken to identify whose belongings are who. Thank you.



### Coats and hats/gloves

Please ensure that with the current cold and wet weather that your child comes to school everyday with a clearly named warm coat.

If your child brings with them a hat and gloves too, please ensure that they are **clearly named** so they are easily identifiable if lost.



### **Breakfast Club**

You must prebook and pay for sessions in advance of attending. Breakfast club can be booked online via Parent Pay at any time, but no later than 7.15am on the day. Childcare vouchers can be used as payment for all breakfast club sessions, please see <https://www.childcarechoices.gov.uk/> for additional information on how to apply. Please ensure not to overpay us in vouchers or build up a large credit. Please be reminded that breakfast club sessions are non-refundable.



### **Amazon Wishlist**

We have an Amazon wish list in school. If you would like to contribute something, please click **Here** for our wish list.



### **Easyfundraising**

Money raised can really help our school to buy additional equipment or resources to benefit the children and it doesn't cost you anything.

**To register is simple (and FREE), please click the link [HERE](#)**

### **Keep your postage stamps for us—Stamp Collecting for RNIB**

We are collecting postage stamps on behalf of the Royal Institute for the Blind and have a collection box in the lobby. Please cut around the stamps and place them in the donation box. (Please do not give them to us on envelopes with personal details on).

**RNIB**

See differently

### **Useful information—including local events and holiday clubs information**

Please click **HERE** for the useful information tab on our website for parents such as ordering name labels, advice on health for families and courses for parents.

If you use **Stikins** to order name labels please ensure to use our unique code so that we get a small commission on the orders placed. **Our code is 1081.**

This page is also updated regularly with events taking place in the local area so please ensure to check them out.

### **Textiles Recycling**

We have a textiles recycling box beside the bike shelter. If you are having a sort out of clothes, shoes, bedding, curtains etc, please use this bin to recycle them. This helps to raise funds for the school. A poster of which items can and can't be recycled can be found on the window of our main entrance and also on the side of the recycling box. **(They do not accept school uniform items with logo's on it).** If you have any school logo uniform that you no longer need, please give to the PSA rather than place in the recycle box.

### **Pre-loved uniform**

The PSA regularly hold pre-loved uniform sales. You can also contact the PSA at anytime if you are in need of uniform and they can check what they have. Please contact the PSA directly at **[psa@baddowhall-inf.essex.sch.uk](mailto:psa@baddowhall-inf.essex.sch.uk)** (you can hand pre-loved uniform into the office and we will pass this onto the PSA).

### **Lost Property**

If your child has lost something please check in our lost property boxes which are in the lobby of the main entrance. We please urge parents to name everything, including lunch boxes and water bottles so that they can be easily reunited with your child.

**Any unclaimed items remaining in lost property on the last day of each term will be recycled or disposed of.**



***Our vision is for every child to make the best possible progress.***