

HEAD OF SCHOOL'S NOTE

This week saw our Reception and Year 1 pupils returning to school after nearly three months, and I think any nerves disappeared as soon as the children stepped into their classrooms! We have had to make some adjustments to home learning provision as teaching staff are in school more, but we are constantly reviewing what we can realistically provide at this time. You, the parents, have done a fabulous job in supporting your children's education. I will again repeat what I have said before – do what you can with the children and don't worry if you have wobbly days!

We're in the process of creating a 'Covid-19' (we'll come up with a better name!) section on the school website. You will be able to find useful links here relating to different areas, including wellbeing, learning and support. You will also be able to see how the school space has been arranged to accommodate our returning pupils. Here's a sneak peak of the Reception and Year 1 classrooms...



BLACK LIVES MATTER

At the Belham, we offer a diverse curriculum and have worked with local organisations on projects that explore different cultures and backgrounds. Over the last academic year, we have been reviewing our history curriculum to ensure that different viewpoints and cultures are represented. There is still more work to be done in developing our whole curriculum but please do take a look at the attachment to see what we are currently doing.

Thank you those parents who responded to my invitation to share ideas and resources linked to the Black Lives Matter movement. One of our parents, who is a former social anthropologist, wrote that she was struck by the construction of the Eurocentric nature of our world map: Europe is placed at the centre and dominates over Africa. This can affect our perspective on our position in the world. World maps do not need to be portrayed as such and if you flip the world map upside down, you then see Africa as dominant and dwarfing Europe. These interesting articles explore this idea further.

<https://www.google.co.uk/amp/s/www.one.org/us/blog/map-africa-game/amp/>

<https://www.bbc.com/future/article/20160614-maps-have-north-at-the-top-but-it-couldve-been-different>

<https://www.theguardian.com/world/2014/apr/02/google-maps-gets-africa-wrong>

Ms Pummer and her daughter have made a poster to show solidarity in anti-racism which they then placed in their window. Children around the world have been creating posters to show their support for the Black Lives Matter movement.



We challenge you to create your own poster to place in your window to show what we can do as a community to end racism, inequality and injustice across the world.

Please email us your posters and we will share them in future editions of the Buzz.

TEACHERS IN ISOLATION

Hi. Ms Baxendale here.

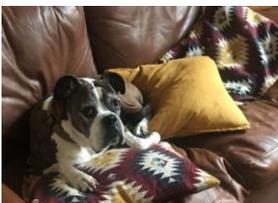
My life in lockdown really hasn't been much different to normal. I am really lucky to have a garden and have been spending more time there – mainly feeding and watching the birds. It's been lovely watching the starlings fledge; the baby robin and blackbird are a little bit too tame. I have planted peas and beans (inspired to do so by Rose and Fergus) which the slugs and snails are feasting on!



Apart from the family members I haven't been able to see and all the children at school, the main thing I miss is swimming. I was overly excited at being able to swim in the sea the other weekend. I love carpentry and furniture restoration and there isn't a lot now in the house that I haven't fixed, sanded, stained and varnished! I bought a bike to cycle to school, I can cycle pretty well as long as it is in a straight line. My take-off and landing need some work!



My big realisation, thanks to lockdown, is quite how much time our dog spends sitting on the furniture because she thinks she has the house to herself!



TEACHERS IN ISOLATION

I am vegan and this week I made a lovely moist vegan apple cake with my daughter. It was delicious!



We have recently introduced a beautiful grey fluffy kitten into our family. She is very playful and has brought much happiness during this time.



I have helped my daughter to improve her art skills by working together to create a picture using pointillism. Can you create a picture using this technique?

Ms Plummer



SCIENCE @ HOME – ACTIVITY OF THE WEEK

Each week, Ms Chan will be setting an exciting activity that you can do at home. Please see attached flyer for this week's activity!

LOCKDOWN FILM

When lockdown began in March, many people were struck with how quiet the streets were and how nature was beginning to reclaim urban areas. One of our Belham parents, Simon (Ben from Linen's dad), made a short film which captures some lovely scenes during the early days of lockdown. I found the film both beautiful and hopeful. Simon has kindly given me permission to share it with the Belham community:

<https://vimeo.com/411103765>