# THE BELHAM BUZZ



# ISSUE 20 | 13 JULY 2016

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#### **HEAD TEACHER'S NOTE**

I cannot believe that this is the final full week for our first ever Belhamites - it is quite amazing.

I don't know how many of you have been with this project from the very start - certainly I recall as if it was yesterday, the emails flying back and forth from France to Peckham in the summer of 2013 (on my hols), between myself and Bella Hingamp, Mum of Felicien in Linen class, and I was delighted when James McLeod (Dexter in Cotton), Carolyn Barraclough (Malo in Linen), Anna Herzberg (May in Cotton) and Lee Attreed (Sam in Linen) all joined the Core Applicant Group to get the project from just a good idea to an amazing application, to where we are now.

Although it's been hard work - often well into evenings and over many weekends - I think we have set out our stall and lived up to our original ambitions. Our staff, from teaching to support to catering to premises, have pulled together as a team and we end the year knowing so much better what works and works less well!

I must extend a huge thank you to all of you who have sent me kind words, supportive emails and conversations; when things have been tough those words of appreciation are incredibly sustaining. Thanks must also go to those who question and challenge - as I said to one parent recently, it will always provide me with additional food for thought and get me thinking about new ideas.

Your children are stunning, each and every one of them, and it has been a real pleasure to watch them grow from little things taking their first steps into proper education to confident, assured, happy, enthusiastic Belhamites. Thank you for entrusting them to us in the last twelve months. We must also say goodbye to three of our pupils who are relocating - please remember us with fondness as we will you.

#### **KEY DATES**

### Wednesday 13 July

Friends of Belham quiz night at Peckham Liberal Club, 7pm

#### Friday 15 July

Year 1 to see Dulwich Hamlet Year 6 production \*packed lunch needed\*

#### Wednesday 20 July

Last day of term

End of term picnic at Warwick Gardens, 11.30am

\*packed lunch needed\*

Children to be collected from school at 1.15pm

#### Wednesday 7 September

Back to school

#### STAFF NFWS

We always say our goodbyes in our final newsletters and we have a big goodbye and good luck to say to Siggy Odell, who will be leaving us at the end of the academic year. Ms Odell has played a vital role in the Belham, firstly as Linen's class teacher, and secondly in contributing massively to the creative life of the school, making costumes, scenery and props on top of the beautiful class based resources.

Siggy has decided to opt for an improved work/life balance, and next year will be working part time in a school with smaller class sizes. We wish her the very best in her new setting.

## **FINAL REMINDERS**

Library books should be returned on Friday 15 July.

All reading books must be returned on Monday 18 July. No books will be sent home over the summer.

PE bags will be sent home on Friday 15 July.