

# THE BELHAM BUZZ



ISSUE 63 | 18 OCTOBER

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## HEAD OF SCHOOL'S NOTE

### PEER REVIEW

The Belham is lucky enough to be part of a group of schools in our community that take part in collaborative peer reviews. The school being reviewed chooses an area for other school leaders to focus on and discuss. This week, it was our turn to be visited and our chosen focus was to look at how feedback is given to the children to help their learning. The team had an extremely busy morning visiting all classes across our three sites, chatting with children about their work, looking at their books, and talking with staff about how we give effective feedback to the children. The team reported their findings back to us and the comments we received were incredibly positive: it is clear that the staff work hard to ensure that our pupils know what to do to make their work better. Of course there is always room for improvement and this is an area that the Belham team will be exploring further in the coming term.

### BHM HOMEWORK

October is Black History Month in the UK, and I would like to set our Belhamites some special holiday homework. Your task is to choose and research the life of a significant black Londoner. It is up to you how you present your findings – for example you could make a leaflet, a collage, or even a video. This can be brought into school after half term to show the rest of the class. We appreciate that parents like to get involved with their children's homework – that's great! As long as your child is getting something out of it, it doesn't matter how much input parents have had.

## FoB QUIZ NIGHT

The ever popular quiz night and raffle will be taking place on Wednesday 6th December at the Peckham Liberal Club. More details will be provided soon, but the last quiz sold out quickly so if you would like to come please email Louise Murray at [louiseisolbelhine@gmail.com](mailto:louiseisolbelhine@gmail.com) with details of your team. We have space for 20 teams of six, but if you don't have a team in mind, please email anyway and we will match you up. Tickets are £6 per person with a bar and hot food available on the night, along with prizes!

## KEY DATES

### Monday 30 October

Inset Day – children are not required at school!

### Wednesday 1 November

Year 3 trip to Dulwich Hamlet to take part in a range of sporting activities

### Wednesday 1 and Thursday 2 November

Parents Evenings – you will receive a slip in your child's bookbag tomorrow to confirm your time slot

### Friday 3 November

Year 3 trip to Unicorn Theatre

## MATCH REPORT

Last week Year 3 took part in two Southwark football competitions.

### Tuesday's tournament

*The thing I loved about the tournament was seeing how well my team worked together when we passed the ball between us. During the match we all showed how much we had improved with our football skills – we kept it simple. We all played really well and I was even awarded 'man of the match'. Dexter (Calico)*

### Friday's tournament

*When we arrived I was surprised at how many schools were there, and how many teams we would have to play against. When we went onto the pitch I was feeling prepared and excited and a little bit nervous; however once I got to touch the ball my nerves vanished. I loved it when people were cheering me on and telling me how well I was playing. Jahmai (Denim)*

## CAKE AND NEARLY NEW UNIFORM SALE

Just a reminder that the sale will be taking place this Friday 20, from 3.15 at the main site. Please bring any (nut free) donations to either of the school offices on the morning itself. And drop your donations of nearly new uniform at any time.

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## MATHLETICS TRAINING FOR PARENTS

Year 2 and Year 3 parents are invited to a short (20 minute) information session on Mathletics at the main site on Wednesday 8th November, starting at 3.30 pm. Mathletics is an online learning tool which children can access at home and at school and will be used at The Belham from this year. If you are interested but are unable to attend, notes will be available from your teachers.

## BELHAM COMMUNICATIONS

As we approach the end of the first half term, which has been packed with lots of events and things to remember, we thought it might be worth summarising the way that we communicate with parents, and the various communication channels available to you.

**Belham Buzz** : as well as a note from the Head of School this contains news from the school, news from the FoB and all essential dates for the week ahead. It is emailed to parents on Wednesdays and is then available on the 'News' page of the website. We strongly recommend reading this to keep up to date with school news and events.

**Belham website** : this is a great source for general information such as term dates, menus, curriculum details as well as historic Buzzes. There is also a Friends of Belham page which lists class reps and upcoming FoB events.

**Year Facebook groups** : these groups are an interactive forum for staff, parents and carers. They are often used for more informal communications, information just for one year group, updates from Friends of Belham or for teachers to post pictures of the children's activities. We understand that some people do not use Facebook, but for those who do, it is a useful source of information. However it is important to note that we never use it as the sole means of communication for essential news or information.

**Email and text** : this is used solely by the school for information and updates. Please note that when the school sends out group emails, you cannot press 'reply' as they are generated by an automated system. All emails should be sent separately to [info@thebelhamprimaryschool.org.uk](mailto:info@thebelhamprimaryschool.org.uk)

**STEAM googlegroup** : this is a voluntary email group (sign up coming soon) that allows you to be kept up to date with the parent/carer run STEAM initiatives

[friendsofbelham@gmail.com](mailto:friendsofbelham@gmail.com) : this is the email address for the Friends of Belham chairman and can be used for your FoB questions.