

THE BELHAM BUZZ



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HEAD OF SCHOOL'S NOTE

Reading is one of my favourite pastimes and I've had many interesting conversations with our pupils this week about what they like to read. Not surprisingly, quite a few of Roald Dahl's well-known stories were mentioned following the recent 'Roald Dahl Day'! If you're ever at a loss for what to read, there are many websites that review and recommend a range of children's books, including www.lovereading4kids.co.uk, which gives up-to-date recommendations based broadly on age. There are also several ways in which you can support reading at home. Listening to your child read and asking questions about the text is just one way. By the time children reach Year 3, they should be reading for around 20 minutes daily, either independently or with an adult. This should be recorded in your child's reading record, which will be checked by the teacher weekly. I encourage you to talk to your teacher about other ways in which to support your child with their reading.

Soon I will host the first of my regular coffee mornings. Reception and Year 1 parents are invited to attend the coffee morning on Monday 9 October, and Year 2 and 3 parents on Wednesday 11 October, both from 9 - 10am. These sessions will be an opportunity for parents to have an informal chat with me, other members of staff, and with each other, and of course enjoy the refreshments provided! In order to plan for future parent workshops, which will be delivered as part of the coffee mornings, I would like to invite parents and carers to let us know what topics you would find particularly useful. Because of space constraints, there will only be a certain number of places. Please confirm your attendance by emailing the office and providing your name, your child's name and their year group.

Yesterday, I had the pleasure of seeing some of the fantastic European landmark posters that the children made for their homework this week.

I was impressed with how confidently they spoke about their creations and the information they had found out. I will be holding a special assembly on Monday where I will have the difficult task of choosing competition winners. Well done everyone!

KEY DATES

Monday 2 October

Flu Immunisation for all years (please note that if you have not returned your form your child will not be able to receive the immunisation).

Wednesday 4 October

Phonics Workshops (please see note below)

Monday 9 October

Year 2 Chocolate Museum workshop (at school)

Tuesday 10 October

Year 3 football tournament (away) 9-3pm. If any parents are able to volunteer to accompany Year 3 please email the office

PHONICS WORKSHOPS

We are holding Phonics Workshops for all Reception parents next Wednesday 4th October. These are a great opportunity to find out more about the way Phonics is taught at the Belham, and therefore how you can support your child at home. There are 3 sessions at 3.30, 4.30 and 5.30pm. They should last for approximately 30 minutes. Please email the office to book into a session.

CHRISTMAS – ADVANCE WARNING!

This term there will not be a Christmas performance or Nativity. Instead, we will be holding 'Christmas fun afternoons' for each class. All parents will be invited into the classrooms to join their children in festive craft activities and a Christmas singalong to get into the festive mood!

Reception and Year 1 will hold their Christmas afternoon on Tuesday 12th December. Year 2 and 3 children will invite parents to join them on Monday 11th December. (In the Summer Term we will be back to staging shows to take advantage of our new facilities).