

# THE BELHAM BUZZ

The Belham  
Primary School



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## HEAD TEACHER'S NOTE

As you will be aware, in 2017 a second class will be joining our current Year 2 pupils as they move up to Year 3. The transition to Key Stage 2 is a very good time to mix classes – as children do in the move from infant to junior school - and this is something we're considering as these new children join us. All schools mix classes at different times and in my experience the benefits of doing so always outweigh any negative concerns. It's a great way to encourage new social networks, build new friendships and shake up class chemistry.

Children will be asked to name 3 children they'd like in their class, and we guarantee at least one of their choices. Children will still see all their old classmates at playtimes and on trips, and in some learning groups as we will almost certainly begin setting in Maths at KS2.

We cannot guarantee that a full roll of 30 children will join the second class next year, so one of the benefits of mixing children could be smaller class sizes. We also believe it would help our new joiners, many of whom will be coming from The Villa, to have the support of some 'old' Belhamites in their class groups.

I'd like to seek the views of parents about how we approach this potential mixing of classes. Please email me via the school office with your views - if you feel strongly against it, please let me know your reasons.

## SIBLING RECEPTION PLACES

All Belham parents with siblings due to start Reception in September 2017 must apply for a place through Southwark Council via the [eAdmissions website](#). If you are applying for a sibling place, please also notify Kate by emailing the school office with 'Sibling place' in the subject field so that we have an idea of numbers.

## KEY DATES

### Wednesday 30 November

Building programme meeting at Harris Academy Peckham, Peckham Road SE15 5DZ, 6.30pm

### Monday 5 December

Whole school trip to *The Snail and the Whale*, Albany Theatre, Deptford. Leaving from Danby St at 8.55am.

### Friday 9 December

Final deadline for Christmas production costumes

### Tuesday 13 December

Year 1 and 2 Christmas performance, Faith Chapel, 2pm

### Thursday 15 December

Reception Christmas performance, Faith Chapel, 2pm

### Friday 16 December

Christmas Jumper Day in aid of Save the Children  
Children's Christmas lunch

## BUILDING PROGRAMME MEETING

Please arrive from 6.15pm for a 6.30 start. There will be a register at the door, please tick against your name so that we can ensure anybody who doesn't attend receives information electronically.

## THE SNAIL AND THE WHALE

On **Monday 5 December** the whole school is travelling by coach to the Albany Theatre. **All children in all year groups should arrive at Faith Chapel's Danby Street pupil entrance at 8.55am.** Please do not arrive before this time unless your child is attending Earlybirds. Registers will be taken on the coaches. Please ensure children have visited the toilet before they arrive. Children do not need a packed lunch but should bring a bottle of water with them.