

THE BELHAM BUZZ



ISSUE 69 | 6 DECEMBER

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HEAD OF SCHOOL'S NOTE

The end of the Autumn term has proven to be a busy one at the Belham! In addition to the general end of term/Christmas build-up, the children have been on several trips over the last couple of weeks: Year 1 visited the Horniman Museum, Year 2 took part in the Festival of Sport, and this week, some of our Year 3 Belhamites are taking part in a cross country competition. Reception and Year 1 saw a fantastic performance of 'The Ugly Duckling' at the Albany Theatre (the general consensus from the children was that it was 'brilliant') and carried the school's reputation well: they were beautifully behaved throughout! None of these trips would be possible without the careful planning of the teachers, and we have to also say a big Thank You to our dedicated parent/carer volunteers who have accompanied us this term.

As well as being an exciting day out, educational visits are also a great stimulus for talking and writing. Next time your child goes on a trip, encourage them to write about their experience – they can present it however they like and even share it with their class. So that the children don't just talk about the exciting packed lunch they ate, try asking the following questions:

Where did you go and how did you get there?

What did you learn about?

What was your favourite part of the trip and why?

Finally, thank you for sending back your club choices; we are grateful for your patience while we sort through these. The office staff are currently wading through quite a large number of forms and hope to tell you what clubs your children will be attending before the end of term.

READING BOOKS

In preparation for the 'Big Move' we are asking for all reading and library books to be returned no later than Monday 11 December. This is so that all the books can be brought together, ready for the new site.

2018/19 TERM DATES

The dates for the next academic year are now available on our website.

KEY DATES

Friday 8 December

Children's Christmas lunch!

Monday 11 December

Year 2 and 3 Christmas fun afternoon (see below)

Tuesday 12 December

Reception and Year 1 Christmas fun afternoon (see below)

Wednesday 13 December

Year 2 trip to the Crystal (see below, packed lunch needed)

Friday 15 December

Christmas jumper day (all donations will be shared between Save the Children and Crisis at Christmas)

CHRISTMAS FUN AFTERNOONS

If you haven't booked a slot at your child's 'Christmas fun afternoon' please email the office. Places are limited to one adult per child and no other adults will be admitted. We appreciate that this is not ideal, however once established on the main site we will have lots of opportunities for more than one parent/carer to attend. Dates are as follows:

Monday 11 December : Year 2 and 3

Tuesday 12 December : Reception and Year 1

YEAR 2 TRIP TO THE CRYSTAL

Year 2 are going on an exciting trip to The Crystal on Wednesday 13 December. It will be an all day trip and the children will be returning at 3.45pm (we will keep you updated of any changes). Children that normally go to Owls will be taken by staff. We still need 4 parent volunteers – please email the office if you can help.

PRIMARY ENGINEERING PROJECT

Thank you to everyone who has volunteered their time (or that of a family member). We will be in touch shortly around the specifics of the project.

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UNICEF

We are in the process of becoming a UNICEF Rights Respecting School:

<https://www.unicef.org.uk/rights-respecting-schools/>

An important part of this is establishing a steering committee of pupils, parents and staff. If you would be interested in joining this committee from January 2018 please email the office.

FoB CHRISTMAS GROTTTO

Come along to the Friends of Belham Christmas Grotto on Saturday 9 December, 10 – 1pm at the Copleston Gardens, across the road from the Copleston Centre. Keep warm with some delicious mulled wine and enjoy the beautiful sounds of the carol singers while your children negotiate with Santa in the Grotto. Don't forget to collect your pre-ordered Christmas tree on the way out while the children puzzle out the treasure hunt.