

THE BELHAM BUZZ



ISSUE 75 | 7 FEBRUARY

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HEAD OF SCHOOL'S NOTE

This year, The Belham will follow the footsteps of institutions like Hogwarts Academy and set up a house system. Benefits of a house system are numerous, but in particular we would like to see children work together, boosting their social and leadership skills.

We will have four houses, and all children will be allocated a house at the beginning of next term. Pupils will have the opportunity to earn house points if they work hard, show kindness, behave brilliantly, and consistently demonstrate our core Belhamite values. House points can be awarded by any member of staff in the school at any time. The children will receive a house point token which they can then deposit in one of the collection points around the school.

At the end of each term, the winning house will collect the trophy and be invited to take part in a special activity! One of the first things we need to do is to choose names for our four houses, which will then be linked to the four colours green, red, blue and yellow. For this, we will be asking the children for their suggestions. Please bring in your ideas for house names on the attached sheet by Wednesday 21 February. If your name is chosen, there might just be a prize in it for you!

LGBT HISTORY MONTH

February marks [LGBT History Month](#) in the UK and after half term, classes will be exploring and discussing different family structures and creating their own family portrait. There are some great diversity books available which represent different types of families. See the attachment for book recommendations.

A BIG THANK YOU!

A huge thank you from the Friends of Belham for all your fantastic baking efforts and a brilliant turnout. We raised an impressive £432.69, one old £1 coin and a £3 IOU! This will be doubled so Sierra Leone will receive £870 (one third of a new school) from this sale alone.

Creative reflection time after half term will be about:

DAVID BOWIE

KEY DATES

Thursday 8 February

Year 3 trip to Museum of London, 9.15 – 3.00pm
Packed lunch needed.

Friday 9 February

Own clothes day, all donations will be in support of Street Child (please see below)

WORLD BOOK DAY

World Book Day is Thursday 1 March. Each year group has chosen a theme for fancy dress that is linked to their topic:

Reception - Fairy tale characters

Year 1 - Kings, Queens and Royalty

Year 2 – The Circus

Year 3 – Children in Literature e.g. Pippi Longstocking, Horrid Henry

Please note that none of the above include superheroes!

SAFER INTERNET USE – DO YOU KNOW ABOUT PARENTAL CONTROLS?

We would like to involve parents more actively in our activities to promote safer internet use. In our ongoing discussion with children we are aware of some children using devices without parental controls or even knowing parents' passwords! We thought it may be useful to run a drop in session on Wednesday 21 February at 9am, to share some of the apps and resources that we use in school. Ruslan from our ICT support team will be on hand to answer any queries and support you in keeping your child safe online. So come along, bring your tablet and we'll explain how to ensure your child is not accessing anything they shouldn't!

STREET CHILD AND BELHAM BUZZ HOMEWORK

Thank you to all who have shown an interest in our fundraising efforts so far! For this half term's optional Belham Buzz homework, we would like to invite the children to either write a letter or draw a picture that Ally will then take on her trip in April. Please could this be returned by Friday 9 February. As a final fundraising event, we will be having an own clothes day this Friday 9 February and sharing the children's work.

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FRIENDS OF BELHAM : BAGS2SCHOOL

This is a great way to teach your children how to recycle clothes so that they can go to people that are in need of them. In addition, **for every kilo weighed, FoB will receive 40p**. The office will distribute the bags into each child's school bag tomorrow, **Thursday 8 February**. This gives everyone a chance to have a clear out over the half term holiday! Please bring your bags to school on Thursday 22 February (exact location to be confirmed).

Bags2school list of accepted items:

We **accept** the following 'good quality' items for RE-USE:

- Men's, ladies' and children's clothing
- Paired shoes (tied together or held together with elastic)
- Handbags
- Hats
- Bags
- Scarves and ties
- Jewellery
- Lingerie
- Socks
- Belts
- Soft toys
- Household linen
- Curtains
- Towels
- Bedding (bed sheets, pillow cases and duvet covers)

We **do not** accept:

- Duvets and blankets
- Pillows and cushions
- Carpets, rugs and mats
- Soiled, painted, ripped or wet clothing
- School uniforms, with or without logo
- Corporate clothing and workwear
- Textile off cuts, yarns or threaded material

FRIENDS OF BELHAM : SAVE THE DATE

Friends of Belham have some more exciting dates for your diaries:

Friday 16 March : FoB School Disco

Saturday 24 March: FoB Easter Egg Hunt

PARENTS IN SCHOOL

A gentle reminder to parents/carers: we have been noticing a few parents coming into the building at the end of the school day, often to accompany their child in the search for missing items of clothing or forgotten book bags. Our school has a duty to safeguard our pupils and at that time, there are still children occupying the building, either in Owls or after school clubs. If your child has forgotten anything, please talk to their teacher or go to the office, where a member of staff will be happy to help you.

RECEPTION : FAIRY TALE BALL

All reception parents are invited to the Fairy Tale Ball, which will be taking place from 2-3pm on Friday 2 March. More details to come after half term!

COFFEE MORNING

The next scheduled coffee morning will be taking place on Tuesday 27 February from 9am. Joining us from 9:30 will be Lorraine Thomas, parent coach and children's learning coach at The Belham, who will be facilitating conversation around the topic of parenting. Lorraine's particular area of interest and expertise is centred around the topic of raising resilient children and she has written a number of books on the topic. You can find out more about Lorraine [here](#). Parents/carers do not have to book in advance for the coffee morning; however, please email the office at info@thebelhamprimaryschool.org.uk if you are interested in joining the informal chat hosted by Lorraine Thomas which will take place from approximately 9:30 – 10:30.