

THE BELHAM BUZZ



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HEAD OF SCHOOL'S NOTE

World Book Day took place last Thursday and luckily the Belham was able to celebrate it – despite the snow! A range of activities took place, kicking off with a very well attended reading breakfast and culminating in a whole school assembly, where the children had the chance to show off a wonderful array of costumes! Other highlights included a Year 2 Book Quiz, organised by one of our parents who works as an editor at Penguin Random House, and an in-class book swap. Our English subject leader, Charlotte Carter, put in a lot of time and effort to ensure that the day was a success – thank you!

After what might seem like a long wait, house names will be announced during next Monday's assembly. It was incredibly difficult to choose because there were so many fantastic suggestions, but again, thank you for all of your (children's) contributions.

Finally, some great news from the parent led Air Quality group. After many months of putting pressure on the council, it has been confirmed that there will be a zebra crossing on Maxted Road, between the school entrance and the Bellenden Road junction. We all know how dangerous that junction is so this is very welcome news. Work will start on 3 April and will hopefully be completed within two weeks. As well as the zebra crossing, the pavement will be widened on either side of Maxted Road up to the Sandison Road junction. A massive thank you must go to Jasmine Ali and the Air Quality group. Without their dedication – and persistence – this may not have happened at all.

FOB BAGS2SCHOOL

A huge thank you to everyone who donated items for the Friends of Belham Bags2School. As well as providing clothes for those who need them, and teaching the children about reusing and recycling, we have raised a total of £168.00 for FOB.

Creative reflection time next week will be about:

DANCE

KEY DATES

Thursday 8 March

Parents' Evening

Friday 9 March

Reception Fairy tale Ball

Friday 16 March

Year 1 trip to Tower of London (packed lunch required)

Sports Relief begins (please see below)

SPORTS RELIEF

Sports Relief is a fantastic charity that aims to help people both in the UK and across the world. Since the last event it has treated 90,000 people with anti-malaria drugs, helped over **3.4 million** people in Africa through maternal, neonatal and child health funding and helped more than 50,000 people in the UK, living with a mental health problem.

This year's Sports Relief week will start on Friday 16 March with our ever popular try-athon day, which will give children a chance to try out a range of sports. During the following week children will be taking part in daily workouts, a whole school dance session and a range of lunchtime inter-house tournaments. In addition to all of that on Wednesday 21 March we will have a famous Olympic athlete visiting the school to talk with all of the children and then to run some workshops with Years 1-3. There will also be some spaces for a parent workshop with our famous Olympic athlete so watch out for the invite via Evolve as spaces will be limited.

So how are we going to raise money for Sports Relief you may be thinking? On Wednesday 21 March children can come to school in either a sports kit or something red in exchange for a suggested £1 donation. We are also giving children a Sports Relief money box to collect loose change in. Lastly, we are asking children to take on some physical challenges as a way of raising some cash. This could be running laps of the park, doing press-ups or simply walking the dog.

The sports Relief website has loads of great ideas of things you could do to raise money. Please bring any money you raise into school so that we can add it to our school total – we would love to beat our sister school (Dulwich Hamlet) but don't tell them that!

BELHAM AIR QUALITY GROUP

The Parents' Air Quality Group welcomes all parents concerned about air quality around the school area and associated issues, like road safety and active routes to school.

We have been working closely with the school and we'll be posting weekly information and links here in the Buzz, and working with the children in school to develop awareness and encourage and reward things like walking and cycling to school. We aim to provide information about how you can help improve Air Quality and get active, and raise awareness among those who haven't yet given the issue much thought!

We're also working to bring together representatives of other local schools around the 'Bellenden Block' to see how we can work together to reduce car use, improve road safety and encourage active routes to school in the area. We have secured funding for indoor, air-filtering plants for ours and a number of schools in the local area and will be raising awareness as we arrange for these to be delivered and introduced to the children, explaining the important work they can do to improve the air we breathe!

If you have information, ideas and skills or are just willing to help, do contact the group via harriet_bailey@yahoo.co.uk

SPRING RISING – SATURDAY 24 MARCH

The Belham are delighted to be involved in Spring Rising this year. Building on the success of Spring Waking last year there will be a gathering of hundreds of local people, creating a beautiful light procession around the streets, ending in a spectacular finale and illuminated garden in East Dulwich. The event will be inspired by stories of local people from all ages and walks of life across the borough, and images of Spring Growth.

On Saturday 24 March the procession will gather at 5.45pm at Albrighton Community Centre, setting off at 6.15pm. The carnival will wind its way to Goose Green, arriving at 7.00pm for a finale in the illuminated gardens. The gardens will stay open for the public to enjoy until 9.00pm.

The children from STEAM club will be assembling lantern kits. These will then be collected and rigged up for the event. If you are around on the evening of 24 March it would be great to see Belhamites there for the procession!

UPCOMING FOB EVENTS!

FOB School Disco – Friday 16 March

It's Disco Time!!

Place : Peckham Liberal Club, Elm Grove (there's a cash bar for grown ups)

When : Friday 16 March

Reception: 3.45pm – 4.15pm

Year 1: 4.30pm – 5.00pm

Years 2 & 3: 5.15pm – 6.00pm

Price : £3 on the door per child (which includes drinks and a packet of crisps). Non-school siblings are welcome; Belhamites can strut their stuff across their sibling's sessions as needed. All are welcome!

The FOB Easter egg hunt - Saturday 24 March

This will take place on Saturday 24 March, from 10.30am, at Lettsom Gardens (arrive Grove Park side SE5). The cost is £3.50 per child. As part of FOB's wider commitment to more ethical resources, fair trade chocolate eggs will be used in the hunt!

FOB Brick Brewery Tour – Wednesday 28 March

The second tour at 8.00pm is now sold out and tickets will no longer appear on the website. 11 tickets are still available for the first tour at 7.00pm:

<http://buytickets.at/friendsofbelham/150295>

STEAM CLUB PARENTS' MEETING

It was great to have so many people attend the December STEAM meeting, resulting in a fantastic first term of activities.

We'd like to get all existing STEAM volunteers (and as many others as possible) back together on Monday 12 March to:

- Plan summer term activities
- Talk through potential bigger expenditure items
- Feed-back our experiences (all good!)
- Rotate volunteers – we've had a great term, but I'm assuming not everyone will be able to commit to back to back terms of volunteering, so we'd love to see if any other parents can rotate in for a term.

Please do come along to the back room of the Victoria Inn on 12 March at 8.00pm. Many thanks, Chris Newman.