

THE BELHAM BUZZ

ISSUE 100 | 12 OCTOBER

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HEAD OF SCHOOL'S NOTE

Science at the Belham has caught my attention this week for a number of reasons. Children across the school are investigating different scientific concepts in a practical way, as demonstrated by Casey and Leo from Taffeta class who spoke about their soil investigation in Celebration Assembly this week. Emma Chan, our new Science subject leader, has been doing a fabulous job of raising the profile of Science and has developed our STEAM (science, technology, engineering, arts and mathematics) lab which this term is displaying interactive activities and class work all around the topic of 'Food'. The focus in the STEAM lab will change every term and be relevant to all pupils' learning. Miss Chan has also introduced a STEAM question of the week (see below) which has caused quite a buzz amongst the children!

There are some wonderful educational websites out there for children to explore and this week I'm going to recommend three with a science theme:

[National Geographic Kids](#)

[NASA Kids' Club](#)

[BrainPOP Science](#)

MATHLETICS

A Mathletics Guide is attached for parents and carers of children in Years 1 - 4. These year groups will soon be receiving homework in Mathletics on a weekly basis. Homework will follow what has been taught in class during the week. Once homework tasks are completed, children can access other parts of the Mathletics website, as detailed in the Mathletics Guide.

CLUBS REMINDER

After this week, there will be no clubs or before school practices until w/c 5th November. The exception to this are the following clubs which have make-up sessions the week after half term:

Tuesday 30 October : Minecraft (Y1/2)

Tuesday 30 October : Cooking (Y3/4)

Tuesday 30 October : Illustration

Wednesday 31 October: Young Engineers

HARVEST FESTIVAL

Between 15 - 18 October we will be collecting donations for the Southwark Foodbank. Donation boxes will be placed in the playground and office.

KEY DATES

Monday 15 October

Year 1 Trip to 'Centre of the Cell' – packed lunch required

Wednesday 17 October

Felt Class to Chocolate Museum – packed lunch required

Thursday 18 October

Year 2 Trip to 'Love Thy 'Fro' at Theatre Peckham – no packed lunch required

Friday 19 October

Wool class to Chocolate Museum – packed lunch required

A NEW GARDEN FOR THE BELHAM

Over the next few weeks you will see extensive work going on in the Belham Lane (the corridor of the school grounds adjacent to Bellenden Road). During half term, the tarmac will be removed allowing us to then prepare the ground for a delivery of trees (from the Tree Trust). Later in the academic year, decking will be laid along with more plants and features turning the space into a practical and exciting extension of our learning environment.

This is an initiative of the Air Quality Group (a group of parents working to improve air quality around the school site), working in very close collaboration with the School and FoB. A huge thank you to FoB for providing the initial grant of £4000 to get this stage of the project completed - a very concrete contribution to improving the school environment! As you can imagine this is no cheap project and we will be calling on our community to help raise some funds over the coming months. In the short term, please contact the school office if you know of someone who can provide topsoil, gravel or recycled plastic decking.

IF 5 PEOPLE CAN DIG A HOLE IN 3 DAYS.....

...how many days will it take 10 people to dig a hole? Not keen on maths—no problem! We just need your muscles. On the 3rd of November we will be having an 'I dig Saturday' day. We need willing volunteers armed with shovels, forks and a sense of humour to come to the Belham laneway to prepare the soil for the arrival of our new trees. If you are able to come along please contact harriet_bailey@yahoo.co.uk to confirm your attendance. Remember, many hands make light work.

Creative reflection time next week will be about

BLACK BRITISH HISTORICAL FIGURES

BELLENDEN ROAD SAFETY PETITION

The Air Quality Group is also currently preparing a submission to Southwark Council Cleaner Greener Safer Fund to improve Road Safety on the Bellenden Road side of the school. Proposals include widening the pavement, raising the zebra crossing and moving the bus stop further away from the school gate.

You can help us in this by signing an online petition that we can use to illustrate the numbers affected and concerned about this stretch of road. Go to <https://www.thepetitionsite.com/en-gb/499/759/650/improvements-for-pedestrians-bellenden-road-belham-school/>

and sign today - leaving a message to explain your concerns if at all possible! We'll be submitting the bid at the beginning of half term.

MATCH REPORT: DULWICH HAMLET v THE BELHAM

It all started when Tian got a great goal and got the game underway. A couple of minutes later, he got another goal (2-0). Everyone was jumping in happiness. Until, out of nowhere, Dulwich Hamlet smashed two goals into the net without Will expecting it (2-2). Despite great defending from Ralph, Grace, Daniella and Evie, they unfortunately snuck behind us and got two more goals into the net (4-2). Thankfully, Tian snatched one more goal to get a hat trick (4-3). There was some great attacking by Wren and Albie. Fortunately, Dexter ran down the line and crossed it to Albie who smacked it into the post and it rebounded it into the goal (4-4)!

The final whistle blew and we thought it was all over but they just had to play their second team. People on the touch line were cheering like mad which definitely helped. First Mathew scored (5-4), then Domar scored (6-4) but they were creeping up and before we knew it, it was a draw (6-6). The team also included Francesco, Woody, Nancy, Domar, Grace and Ralph who all played brilliantly.

Well done Belham!

Written By Albie (Denim Class)

NEW: STEAM QUESTION OF THE WEEK



Your children will have heard about the launch of 'STEAM* Question of the Week' in today's assembly.

Every Friday in Assembly, the new question will be announced. Answers are to be submitted on a piece of paper into either of the STEAM 'Question of the Week' boxes, which are located in the office and in the STEAM Lab. Please ensure that the children's name and class are clearly written on their slip of paper. The deadline for entries is on a Thursday at 3.25pm, where three winners will be selected. The winners will be awarded certificates and prizes in the Friday assembly and the new question will be announced.

*STEAM: Science, Technology, Engineering, Art and Maths.

STEAM

question
of the week?

In 1948 Swiss engineer and mountaineer George de Mestral went hiking in the woods with his dog. When he arrived back home he noticed the burrs that clung to his clothes and he wondered if such an idea could be useful in everyday life. He studied a burr under a microscope, only to discover that they were covered in tiny hooks which allowed them to grab onto clothes and fur that brushed past. After more than eight years of research and work he created what is known today as Velcro, a combination of the words 'velvet' and 'crochet'. Made up of two strips of fabric, one covered in thousands of tiny hooks and the other with thousands of tiny loops, the materials grip together firmly while still allowing easy release.



This week's question: What do you think is the greatest invention inspired by nature?

THE FRIENDS' FRIENDLY

Friends of
Belham



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Main Committee Members: Patrick Murray, Michelle Hardy, Richard Knowles, Chloe Cubitt

Contact Email: friendsofbelham@gmail.com

FoB NEWS

Parents' Evening

At this term's parents' evening (17 and 18 October), representatives from FoB will also be in attendance so if you'd like to informally chat through FoB activities before/after your teacher appointment, you are most welcome to do so.

Cake Sale

That termly ritual of the cake sale is back, this time after-school on 19 October! We would be grateful for nut-free donations from parents/carers, to be brought into the office area and main playground on the morning of the cake sale. Please name any Tupperware boxes so we can return these to you. The cake sale itself will be held from 3.25pm in the main playground. Please bring your loose change and those children attending Owls will also be brought out by Owls staff to join in the cake-scoffing fun – so please do give your children change for that day. Cake sale profits this time will be going towards maintenance and upkeep costs of the garden on Copleston Road used by the children during school. FoB will also be selling our popular reusable metal water bottles for £6 each.

And....Year 4 Cake Sale Helpers Needed!

We still need some children from Year 4 to help out at the cake sale on 19 October. Volunteer Year 4-ers have permission from the school to come out to the main playground at 3pm and they'll need to stay until around 4pm - with their parent/carer throughout. If your Year 4-er is interested, please email Ginnie on ginb27@hotmail.com

Christmas Cards

Following the success of last year's Christmas cards, all children will soon start work in class to produce their own designs for this Christmas. If your child would prefer to do this at home, please let their teacher know by 15 October and return their finished design to their teacher again by 29 October. You should find a sample printed card in your child's book bag by 7 November along with online ordering details. For home-produced designs, artwork must be on white or coloured A4 card/paper which cannot be thicker than 5mm. A 2-3mm margin around the edge of the paper may be lost, so please keep your design within this. Also, please avoid glitter and other reflective materials.

FoB NEWS

Quiz Night

Tickets are now available for the FoB quiz night on 15 November at the Peckham Liberal Club, Elm Grove! Doors open at 7:30pm, with the quiz starting at 8pm. Tickets are £8 for entrance only or £20 for entrance with food options and are available from:

<https://www.tickettailor.com/events/friendsofbelham/198816>

The Liberal Club operates a cash-only bar. Teams may have up to 6 people and once tickets have been purchased, please email:

rich_knowles@hotmail.co.uk

with your team name and members. Those without pre-allocated teams on the night can find space amongst the other contestants!

Annual General Meeting

Our AGM will be held on 7 November from 8pm at the school building (enter via office-side gate) The FoB committee will present our activities and monies raised over the previous year and what purchases or contributions we have made on behalf of the school. Committee members and class representatives are formally appointed at the AGM so if you're interested in this, or would just like to learn more about FoB and what we have done over the past year, please come along.

School Disco

Get those glad rags on, because it's..... school disco time! This term's disco-fest will be held on 9 November at The Peckham Liberal Club, Elm Grove, SE15 5DE, about a 5-minute walk from the school. Sessions are as follows:

Reception: 3:45pm – 4:30pm

Years 1 and 2: 4:45pm – 5:30pm

Years 3 and 4: 5:45pm – 6:30pm

Non-school siblings are welcome, school siblings can strut their stuff alongside their older/younger brothers/sisters, all can come. Entry is £3 on the door per cha-cha-ing child and there are refreshments to buy during the session. Parents can use the Liberal Club cash only bar but must remain within their children throughout.