

THE BELHAM BUZZ

ISSUE 97 | 21 SEPTEMBER

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HEAD OF SCHOOL'S NOTE

As you all know, our Ofsted inspection took place in the last week of the summer term – what a long time ago that now seems! After three years of being open, the Belham is firmly established within the local community and the school provides an exciting and well-rounded education for our Belhamites. We are very pleased with our Ofsted grading of 'Good' and feel that this overall judgement accurately reflects where we currently are according to the Ofsted criteria. During the inspection, our curriculum was hailed as a strength of the school, and described as 'rich and inspiring'. Our 2018 Early Years, Phonics and Key Stage 1 attainment outcomes are outstanding and well above the national expectations ([visit our website for results table](#)). Of course, the report highlights many other positive features of the school, not least the pastoral side: we received an 'Outstanding' judgement for 'Personal development, behaviour and welfare'. Schools are tasked with an incredible amount of responsibility and you, as parents, trust us to look after your children and provide the best care that we can. My favourite quote from the Ofsted report, which includes feedback from a parent, is '*The Belham Primary School is a close, nurturing community. Relationships are strong and supportive. As one parent stated, 'the school is built on kindness'*'. What a lovely way to describe our community!

As a new school, we are still on a journey and school leaders had already outlined key areas for development in line with those identified by Ofsted, such as implementing a handwriting scheme across the school. This year we will continue to deliver our vision in the best possible way, providing 'Outstanding learning within a glittering curriculum, where everyone matters, at the heart of the community'.

Again I would like to thank the leadership team, the teaching team and support staff for their commitment and hard work, our Belhamites, for being '*delightful, respectful, interesting young people*' (another favourite quote!) and you, our parents, for your unwavering support on a day to day basis and also during our [Ofsted inspection](#).

SCHOOL PHOTOGRAPHS

If your child has siblings who are not at the Belham and you would like them to be photographed with your Belhamite on Monday 24 September, this will take place in the Silk classroom (Year 1 classroom off the main playground) from 3.40pm onwards. Photographs will be taken on a first come first served basis. We would ask that parents queue in the playground just outside the classroom.

READING VOLUNTEERS

We are looking for parents or carers who would be willing to give an hour of their time to assist with one to one reading. We will provide training. If you are able to commit to an hour a week on either Mondays 09:15-10:15 or Fridays 14:00-15:00 then please contact the office to let us know.

KEY DATES

Monday 24 September

Individual photographs for all children (see additional information below)

9.00am – 9.15am : Information session from Southwark Immunisation Team (see details below)

Tuesday 25 September

Year 4 trip to Lulling Stone Villa – packed lunch required

Wednesday 26 September

9.00am - Coffee morning followed by a phonics workshop; 'How to Support your child in learning to read'. This is primarily for parents of children in Reception and Y1, please email the office to book into this session.

6.00pm – Phonics workshop; 'How to Support your child in learning to read'. This is primarily for parents of children in Reception and Year 1, please email to book into this session.

TRIP VOLUNTEERS

We are still looking for volunteers to accompany us on this term's trips. Full details of the trips and dates can be found by clicking on the [KEY DATES FOR PARENTS](#) on the home page of our website. If you are able to help please email msonne.210@lgflmail.org

TATE BRITAIN PORTRAIT PROJECT

As you may have seen in the press, Turner Prize winner, Steve McQueen, is working on a project for Tate Britain, photographing the Year 3 pupils across London. We are a launch school in this project and were lucky enough to welcome Tate photographers to the school on Thursday to get started on this historical snapshot of London. We look forward to seeing the results exhibited at the Tate next year.

FLU IMMUNISATIONS

The Southwark Immunisation Team will be coming to the Belham on Tuesday 6 November to give the Flu Immunisation to all children whose parents would like them to have it (consent forms will be going out in October). As we are aware that some parents may have some questions about the immunisation, a member of the Southwark team will be available for a question and answer session on Monday 24 September at 9.00am in the main hall. There is no need to book; please just turn up if you would like to attend.

BEFORE AND AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS

If you are a whizz with meccano, a chess fanatic or a keen cook, we are looking for parents who might be interested in running a chess, cookery or meccano engineering club after school club next term. We are open to any other suggestions too – please email the office if you might be able to help. Equally if you would be able to help or run a sports practice before school we would love to hear from you.

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

Welcome Drinks!

Firstly, and most importantly, FoB is planning a social evening for all parents/carers to welcome those new to the school and, for the old hands, to welcome in the start of a new academic year! FoB have reserved an area at The Victoria Inn, Bellenden Road on 26 September from 7:30/8pm. Book that babysitter and please do come along! Any parents/carers interested in becoming class representatives are very welcome to chat this through with attending FoB members during the evening!

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.

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.

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-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.

FoB NEWS

Velodrome

A reminder for our forthcoming inner track velodrome session, being our first of the season! The session will take place at the Herne Hill Velodrome on Sunday 23 September, 4pm to 5pm. This is for children from reception onwards who can ride without stabilizers, and who can start and stop on their own. Siblings up to the age of 10 are welcome to ride. The velodrome has Frog bikes available for hire if required. Tickets are priced at £3.60 per child, available to buy from:

<http://buytickets.at/friendsofbelham/195168>

If you haven't been to the Velodrome, it's an extraordinary venue, with adults usually whizzing round the banked outer track at high speed while the children play cycling games with the coaches on the inner track.

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 of the school 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.

Quiz Night

The quiz night, one of the biggest FoB events of the year, is set for 15 November at The Peckham Liberal Club, Elm Grove, SE15 5DE. This is strictly for adults only! Tickets are £8 each and watch this space for more info. The Liberal Club has a cash only bar and FoB will be organising food for the evening.

Christmas Fair

It's NEVER too early to start talking about Christmas! FoB have pencilled in the Christmas Fair for 1 December at the school. FoB are busy beavering away with planning this event and if you'd like to help, please contact the above email address.