

## HEADTEACHER'S NOTE

We are all familiar with that excited, slightly nervous feeling before the beginning of a new academic year from our own experiences of school. Even as adults, parents and teaching staff have exactly the same feelings of excitement and nervous anticipation for the year ahead! This year, it was particularly lovely to stand at the gates and welcome our Belhamites back after the long summer break, knowing that we would be operating a 'fully open' school again. Children have adjusted brilliantly to the changes and have settled well into what we would consider to be our usual school routines.

During this week's assemblies – the first held in-person for 18 months – we talked about everyday school routines and explored the Belhamite Values, which we encourage children to think about and apply to all aspects of their life. It might be handy for you as a parent to reacquaint yourselves with our [Belhamite Values](#) and have a chat with your children about what they mean. There is also other information on the website that might be useful for the start of the school year, like our [uniform policy](#) and [curriculum page](#). Again, a warm welcome back to all of our school community – it really is great to see everyone.

## VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS 2021/22

At the start of each year, the Belham asks you for your generous contributions to the school fund. The voluntary contribution scheme is vital for the school to be able to provide many extra-curricular activities for our children, as well as enriching our in-school provision. Please see the attached letter with more information and details of how you can contribute.

## START AND FINISH TIMES AUTUMN TERM 2021

Please find our drop off and pick up times from September below -

8.45am gates open/arrival at school

Reception - Maxted Road

All other years - Bellenden Road

**8.55am registers taken**

3.15pm Reception – Maxted Road

3:15pm - Year 1 – Bellenden Road

3.25pm - Y2-6 Bellenden Road

Creative Reflection Time next Week will be about:  
**Human vs Nature**

## KEY DATES

### Monday 13th September

- After school clubs begin
- Y2 swimming

### Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> September

- Y2 trip to Bussey Building (please bring a packed lunch)
- Y4 swimming lesson

### Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> September

- Secondary transition meeting 6pm-7pm

### Friday 17<sup>th</sup> September

- Y6 swimming lessons

### Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> September

- Belham Autumn Fair 12pm-3pm

### Monday 25th October - Friday 29th October

- Half term

### Friday 17th December

- Last day of term (finish at 1:15pm)

## PE AUTUMN TERM 2021

### Monday

Y1 - PE

Y2 - SWIMMING

Y3 - YOGA

### Tuesday

RECEPTION - PE

Y5 - PE

### Wednesday

Y2 - DANCE

Y3 - PE

Y4 - PE

### Thursday

Y1 - PE

Y1 - YOGA

Y3 - PE

Y5 - PE

Y6 - PE

### Friday

Y4 - SWIMMING

Y6 - PE

## CARETAKER'S HOUSE - UPDATE

Concerns were raised last year by the proposed sale by Southwark Council of the former caretaker's house in the grounds of the school. We are pleased to advise that the Council has acknowledged the sensitivity of the site and no longer plans to sell the building. The Trust will now work with the Council to find a solution that is acceptable to all stakeholders.

## DRAINPIPES - UPDATE

We understand and share the frustration of the school community at the time it has taken to resolve the issue of repairs to our listed drainpipes. The Department for Education is currently reviewing costs submitted by Southwark Council over the summer, and once approved, will progress the works as a matter of priority.

## EARLY BIRDS BREAKFAST

If you would like your child to have breakfast in Early Birds, we ask that you please make sure they have arrived by **8:20am** so they have enough time to eat before the start of school. Many thanks!

## COVID-19 RISK ASSESSMENT

Before pupils and staff returned to school, our COVID-19 health and safety risk assessment was updated to take into account the operational changes now in place. You can find a copy of the [risk assessment on the website](#).

## SCHOOL UNIFORM/WATCHES

Please could you ensure that your child is following our uniform guidance which can be found on our website <http://www.thebelhamprimaryschool.org.uk/our-uniform.html> We do ask that if your child has long hair (shoulder length or longer) that it is tied back – this is to reduce the spread of head lice and to protect against hair being caught in equipment and furniture. Watches must have no other functionality other than telling the time or acting as a pedometer. Watches that receive or send messages, have cameras or access the internet are not allowed in class and must be handed into the office at the start of the day and collected at the end of the day (they are treated as a mobile communication device and should only be brought in by Year 5 or 6 children who walk home alone).

## RECEPTION PICK UP

When dropping your children off in the morning, please do feel free to come through the gate into the courtyard space in front of Reception. However, after school, we would ask that you wait outside the gate so that Reception staff can clearly see who is picking up each child. Thank you!

# THE FRIENDS' FRIENDLY



ISSUE 116: 10 SEPTEMBER 2021

Meet the FOB Committee and Class Reps on the Belham website  
<http://www.thebelhamprimaryschool.org.uk/friends-of-belham.html>

Contact us  
[friendsofbelham@gmail.com](mailto:friendsofbelham@gmail.com)

## Save the date

25th Sept, 12-3pm	School Fair, at the school
17th Oct, 10am	Fun Run, Peckham Rye Park

## Welcome back!

Welcome everyone to a new year at the Belham! We hope you all had a lovely summer and we want to say a specially big and warm welcome to all our new parents, whether in Reception or elsewhere in the school.

If you are a new parent or carer, please do join the WhatsApp group for parents and carers for your year group to chat and socialise. If you would like to be put in contact with the WhatsApp group for a particular year please email [friendsofbelham@gmail.com](mailto:friendsofbelham@gmail.com) and we can link you up.

Please note that these groups are not managed by the school or FoB, it's an information initiative by parents. The Belham has a warm and supportive community around it and we greatly look forward to welcoming all the new families.

## Roll up, roll up for the Belham School Fair!

Saturday 25 September, 12-3pm, at the school

We can't wait to see lots of you at the fair. Entry is £1 for adults on the gate, free for children. It is open to everyone if you have local friends who would like to come along.

We're going to have stalls, craft tables, games, food & drink, face painting, musical performances and a bouncy castle!

**We need your help** to make the fair happen, and there's 4 easy things you can do:

1. We need lots of **VOLUNTEERS** to help on the day! Please sign up using this form: <https://forms.gle/whLzVsZ5ksHvw8Nz5>

2. Collect unwanted, good condition **TOYS AND BOOKS** and drop them off at the Bellenden Road gate on Friday 17 September.

3. Donate **PRIZES** for the tombola - from your house or your business - these can be good-quality items for adults or children, or vouchers. You can drop these off on Friday 17th or email us to discuss.

4. This is the same as number 1 - we really do - we really do need **A LOT OF VOLUNTEERS** so please sign up now: <https://forms.gle/whLzVsZ5ksHvw8Nz5>  
We need volunteers as follows:

We are looking for volunteers for shifts for set up, clear away and run all the stalls.

Shift times are:

Set up 1: 9 – 10.30am	10 people needed
Set up 2: 10.30 – 12pm	10 people needed
Shift 1: 11.45am-1pm	20 people & 3 face painters
Shift 2: 1pm-2pm	20 people & 3 face painters
Shift 3: 2pm-3pm	20 people & 3 face painters
Clear up: 3pm-4pm	15 people needed

## Ignite Hubs free coding classes

The Fair will be raising money for the school and also raising money for a local educational charity, as part of the school's mission to be at the heart of our community. The charity is Ignite Hubs, which started out as a free coding club at Peckham Library

founded by a local mum, and has big ambitions to offer high quality STEM education to everyone.

If your child would be interested in taking one of Ignite Hubs' courses, booking is open for their Autumn term of online coding classes (ages 7+) which start soon. Please see the attached poster and visit <https://www.ignitehubs.org.uk/code-hub>

## School Fun Run

The Belham Fun Run will be on **Sunday 17th October at 10am in Peckham Rye** park. Please save the date, and start your training for the 1 mile kids run or 5km adults run. Fancy dress is also warmly welcomed and there will be a prize for the best dressed runner this year!

We are currently looking for possible corporate sponsors for the event, so if you know of a business who might be interested in sponsorship please contact [kathrynchurch@gmail.com](mailto:kathrynchurch@gmail.com). Also please reach out if you would be keen to join our small organising committee!

## Plastic Free Peckham

We're delighted to announce that Laura from Plastic Free Peckham has agreed to work even more closely with FOB as our sustainability advisor.

Plastic Free Peckham have recently been nominated for a Green Investment Award in the Southwark Business Resilience Awards 2021 and you can [vote](#) for them here!

Plastic Free Peckham is running a Community Clean Up on **26th September from 2pm until 4pm**. They are meeting in Holly Grove Shrubbery behind McDonald's on Rye Lane and will fan out into the surrounding streets and green spaces of Peckham.

Everyone is welcome, please bring friends and family. All equipment is provided including sanitised gloves and litter pickers.

## Other useful links

**EasyFundraising** – Sign up here for a percentage of your online shopping to go to FOB:

[https://bit.ly/FoB\\_EasyFundraising](https://bit.ly/FoB_EasyFundraising)

**AmazonSmile** – choose FOB as your charity on Amazon and we will receive a tiny percentage of your spending – it all adds up.

## School uniform

Please note that the school uniform spreadsheet is currently out of action but we will be having a secondhand uniform stand at the fair.

## Call for class reps

We are always on the look out for new class reps and are delighted to say that we have some more men joining the ranks of the class reps for this term. It isn't a massive time commitment and the more people we have the more manageable it is.

Whichever school year your kids are in, if you would be interested in becoming a class rep and/or getting more involved in the lovely community that is the FOB, or just want to find out a little bit more about it, do email us at [friendsofbelham@gmail.com](mailto:friendsofbelham@gmail.com)

## FoB Facebook group is no more

The FoB Facebook group has become less active and we have decided to delete it. Please check the Friends Friendly every week for updates and we use the WhatsApp groups too to send out reminders.

Whatsapp for new Reception parents If you have a child joining in Reception next year or know anyone else who does, please join the WhatsApp group for parents and carers to chat and socialise. This has been set up by Jane Kinninmont and if you get in touch with her on [jane.kinninmont@gmail.com](mailto:jane.kinninmont@gmail.com) or 07967325993 she will add you to the group. Please note that this group is not managed by the school or FoB, it's an information initiative by parents and similar groups exist for each year group. The Belham has a warm and supportive community around it and we greatly look forward to welcoming all the new families.