

HEADTEACHER'S NOTE

It was lovely to see so many parents, pupils and staff come to our first 'meet, mingle and munch' event last Friday. Hopefully this will be the first of many similar Belham community events! We would very much like parental feedback so that we know what you feel went well and what could be even better. A huge thank you to all those who contributed food, the FoB for helping and to Kirsty Doig who organised the entire event.

This week we marked Children's Mental Health Week at school with assemblies for the children based on [Place2Be](#)'s theme for 2023, 'Let's Connect'. We talked about the importance of making connections with others and that these connections are vital for our mental health and wellbeing. If you would like to explore this subject with your children, there is a section on the [website](#) that gives tips and advice to parents and carers all around the theme of 'Let's Connect'.

Finally, from me, have a very restful half term break, whatever you are doing. I look forward to seeing everyone back in school on **Monday 20th February**.

MEET, MINGLE AND MUNCH

We really hope you all enjoyed the Meet, Mingle and Munch that happened last Friday. It was so great to see the Belham Community together and eating some amazing food!

Thank you to all the parents and staff that contributed food for the event and as always FOB who helped with the organisation. A special mention to Miss Doig, who put in extra hours to make it all happen and was the mastermind of the fun.

We are eager to gain your feedback, so if you are able to please take 5 minutes to fill in our Google Form, so we can work out how best to do it again!

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdgcwYaNruD3dYop5qMyxRaM4mz9-VcWIZzJiEyVnrmjxzw/viewform?usp=sf_link

KEY DATES

Monday 13th February-Friday 17th February

*****HALF TERM*****

Please find a link [here](#) to our full school events calendar.

Please find a link [here](#) to our PE & SWIM timetable.

Monday 20th February

All children return to school

TRIP Y5 Royal Observatory Greenwich (packed lunch required)

Friday 24th February

TRIP Y6 Southwark Junior Citizenship Scheme at Old Kent Road Fire Station (packed lunch required)

Monday 27th February

Morning and after school clubs resume

Tartan Level 1 Bikeability – Sign up [Schools Level 1 Cycle Training \(cycleconfident.com\)](#)

Phonics Workshop

Tuesday 28th February

Tartan Level 1 Bikeability

Wednesday 1st March

Cashmere Level 1 Bikeability – Sign up [Schools Level 1 Cycle Training \(cycleconfident.com\)](#)

Phonics Workshop

Thursday 2nd March

Cashmere Level 1 Bikeability

22nd & 23rd March 2023

Advance Notice - Parent Consultations
LATENESS

We have noticed more and more children coming through the office, late, each morning.

A reminder that the gates open at **8.45am** and close at **8.55am**.

An arrival between **8.55 – 9.05am** will result in a late mark. After this time is an unauthorised late mark which counts towards absence percentages. All lateness must be accompanied by a reason.

We will be particularly focussing on lateness in our next attendance review after half term and contacting parents where there are concerns.

SPORTS NEWS

Over this half term, our sports teams have kept very busy with lots of matches and tournaments played at other local schools. Here is a recap of all the action:

5th January

Girls Football Yr 4-6 won against Goose Green 11-0.

6th January

Boys Football Yr 4-6 won against Goose Green 3-1.

27th January

Friday Football Training went to St Johns for a mini tournament (Boys played, girls there for support) A Team beat St Johns 5-2 and Goose Green 5-2. B Team beat St Johns 7-0 and Goose Green 5-2.

2nd February – Alleyn’s Tournament

Girls Netball Team (under 10’s) came 3rd overall
Boys Football Team (under 10’s) won the tournament with 3 wins and 1 draw.

3rd February

Friday Football Training went to St Johns (Girls played, boys there for support). Girls beat St Johns 6-0.

7th February- Alleyn’s Tournament

Mixed Under 9’s Football Tournament at Alleyn’s (first time probably playing together), beat Lyndhurst and put up a great fight against the 3 private schools, but lost.

8th February - Alleyn’s Tournament

Girls Football Team Yr 4-6 tournament at Alleyn’s, came 2nd overall. Won 3 and drew 2.

9th February

Netball Club went to Goose Green (first tournament!) Yr 4/5 won 8-6, Year 6 lost (very close game).

Well done to all the children, we are so proud of all their hard work and spirit and as always to the parents that come and help (we can’t do any of this without you!).

Finally, a special thanks to Coach Lewis, who liaises with all the schools to get these matches sorted and is completely dedicated to getting the children to be confident and competitive in sport!

There will be more opportunity next half term for children to get involved – we will keep you posted!

FREE GIRLS FOOTBALL

The girls U9’s team at Athenlay, are offering wildcat sessions, aimed at 5–9-year-olds, these are free for girls to attend going forward. The sessions runs every Monday, 4.30-5.30pm and Saturday, 10.00 - 11.00am. For more information, please find this here - [Athenlay football club, Athenlay Wildcats](#) and if you are interested please contact Info@athenlay.com

PHONICS WORKSHOP

Miss Hogg will be running 2 workshops focusing on the teaching of phonics. Come and along and find out how you can best support your children in learning to read and write. Monday the 27th of February @ 5:45 and Wednesday the 1st of March @ 9:15
Sign up here: <https://forms.gle/4ve5dptvZAELbwcP9>



MINI MATHATHON



We have 50 fantastic children signed up for the London Mini Marathon!
Thank you to all those who have registered. See you on the start line!
(Information to follow)

BIKEABILITY YEAR 3

Both of our Year 3 classes will have the opportunity to do their Level 1 Bikeability training after half term with Cycle Confident. You can find more information about the course here: [Parent Information \(cycleconfident.com\)](#)

Tartan – 27th and 28th February

Please sign up for the course here: [Schools Level 1 Cycle Training \(cycleconfident.com\)](#)

Cashmere – 1st and 2nd March

Please sign up or the course here: [Schools Level 1 Cycle Training \(cycleconfident.com\)](#)

Any questions please contact the office.

THE FRIENDS' FRIENDLY



10th February 2023

Meet the Friends of Belham (FoB) Committee & Class Reps

<http://www.thebelhamprimaryschool.org.uk/friends-of-belham.html>

Contact us

friendsofbelham@gmail.com

SAVE THE DATE

| | |
|-------------------------------|---------------------------|
| 10 th March | School Disco |
| 23 rd March | Quiz Night |
| 24 th March | Uniform sale |
| 1 st April (2-4pm) | Egg Hunt, Lettsom Gardens |

BELHAM'S FIRST EVER READATHON

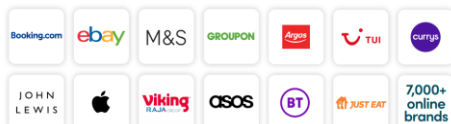
To coincide with World Book Day, we're launching the FOB Readathon: an event that intentions to to promote reading and encourage book sharing amongst us.

Over a period of 2 weeks (1st March – 15th March), children will be encouraged to log the number of minutes that they spend reading outside of school (via a link we'll circulate). Prior to this, and to get our book sharing mission underway, we'll organise a book collection at drop-off on 23rd/24th Feb. So, please donate any books you no longer need then. We'll set up a stall of these books on 28th Feb/1st March for children to select the books they want to enjoy at home. There'll be a final book collection at the end of the readathon (date TBC) for spare books to be donated to the Belham and local community projects.

SIGN UP FOR EASYFUNDRAISING!

Another shout out for EasyFundraising because – well it's just so easy...

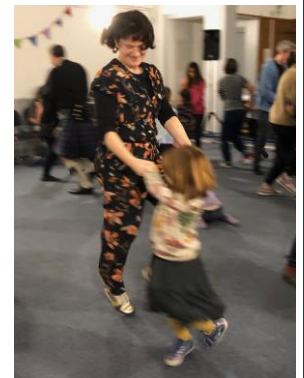
Raise money for the school while you shop online in over 7000 retailers. You don't have to have to shop differently. The fundraising automatically happens as you click and buy. All you have to do is sign up here – it takes just 2 minutes, and it will make a BIG BIG difference to our fundraising efforts for the school:



<https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/friends-of-belham/>

BURNS' NIGHT CEILIDH

Our first Belham Ceilidh was a success! We raised over £600 for the school – and had a lot of fun whilst doing it. It was amazing to see so many radiant faces gallivanting around the hall. In some cases, we had 3 generations dancing together: our wee Belhamites arm-in-arm with their grownups.



We had positive feedback about our homemade Flock and Herd haggis rolls as well as the Cool Caribbean vegan patties and Rob's now famous cider.

Many a child also tried to buy our very own fondant Loch Ness Monster.

We'd like to thank the fantastic band (Cut a Shine) for the tunes, and all the volunteers who made the evening possible.

Special thanks go to Elsa, Emily, Rob and Vivienne for organising it all. A great first Ceilidh – thank you! If you have any ideas on how to make next year's Ceilidh even better, send them to [Elsa Elswitch@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:Elsaswitch@yahoo.co.uk).

We've already heard the calls for a bigger venue if we do it again.

