

THE BELHAM BUZZ

ISSUE 268 | 10 MARCH 2023

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HEADTEACHER'S NOTE

In Celebration Assembly this morning, the children sang a song about a perfect spring day which did not seem to fit the weather at all! Weather aside, there is much to feel cheerful about at school at the moment, with lots of exciting events and activities happening. STEAM Week was a huge success with the children learning about innovative ways to use technology; our Belham sports teams are playing in matches and competitions, expertly led and coached by Coach Lewis; and we have our spring showcases coming up, which is always a wonderful opportunity for parents to come and see what their children are learning in music. We look forward to seeing you there.

INTEREST IN CHESS CLUBS

There has been a lot of interest in starting an after school chess club. However, having looked into various providers the cost is a lot higher than other clubs at £8 a session so it would be £80 for the term, which is a huge difference in price. We wondered in the first instance if we have any Belham parents who would be interested in running this club? If you would, please contact Catherine in the office ASAP.

MORNING & AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS

Summer term morning and after school clubs will open for selection on SchoolsBuddy on **Tuesday 14th March at 10am** and close on **Monday 20th March at 10am**. Please make sure to log in to SchoolsBuddy to make your selections; your selections are only confirmed once you have saved them and received a confirmation email from SchoolsBuddy. Clubs will be allocated by the end of the day on Monday 20th March. The new timetable will be available to view on Monday and a link will be sent via text.

Bookings for early birds and owls will open at **7:30pm on Sunday 26th March**. Please make sure that you log in at 8pm to secure bookings as places are given on a first come first serve basis. Text reminders will be sent on Friday 24th and Saturday 25th.

KEY DATES

Tuesday 14th March

Summer term club selections open on SchoolsBuddy at 10am

Wednesday 15th & Thursday 16th March

School closed – NEU Strike Action

Friday 17th March

RED NOSE DAY (wear something red and/or silly)

22nd & 23rd March 2023

Parents Consultations

Sunday 26th March

Booking for Earlybirds and Owls open at 8pm on SchoolsBuddy

Monday 12th – Friday 16th June

Y6 Residential

Monday 19th June – Friday 23rd June

Y5 Residential

Monday 26th June

INSET DAY

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

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

PARENT CONSULTATIONS

Parent consultations are now available to **book on SchoolsBuddy**. All meetings will be in person at the school. Please make sure to log in to your SchoolsBuddy account to book your slot.

SPRING SHOWCASE

An opportunity for parents to come and see what their child has been learning in music. All welcome!

MARCH 2023	9.15	10.30	1.30
Tues 28 th	Yr 1	Yr 3	-
Weds 29 th	Yr 4	-	Yr 6
Thurs 30 th	Yr 5	Recep	Yr 2

STEAM WEEK – A BRAVE NEW WORLD

The Belham embraced 'A Brave New World' in their STEAM Week this Spring Term. Across the school, every class was involved in activities encompassing the arts, maths, science and technology, exploring modern technologies and asking questions about possible developments in the future.

Year 4 and Year 3 collaborated in designing the classroom chair of the future, using Midjourney software under the guidance of furniture designer Bea Nuno, who increasingly uses AI software in her work. Year 6 and Year 1 paired up to co create children's books. They came up with their own stories and then challenged AI -Chat GPT to write the story. Which version did they prefer? Who owned the story and what does this mean for the creative process? Year 2 joined Year 5 on a coding project, using Astro Pi. They had to design an image that would be converted into a code for astronauts to see in space! The coding was a real challenge and our Year 2 children did an amazing job of persevering to ensure their image reached the astronauts to remind them of home.

Amongst all this technological collaboration, classes also worked on their own digital art projects. Year 2 used Kleki to develop their work on pointillism. Year 4 created a virtual art gallery - recreating famous artworks inside minecraft. Year 5 used Paint 3D to produce 3D versions of their Greek ceramics and we are looking forward to seeing Year 6's immersive Islamic Art installation in our Summer annual Art Exhibition.

The children loved working with other year groups and were keen to work with our STEAM visitors. Eammon Wilmott – pioneer of the brand new world wide web – blew Year 6's minds with mind boggling questions. Would any of them live to be 200? (recent research tells us that the first people to reach this age have already been born!) Would any of them need to learn to drive? Is it highly probable that some of them will travel in space? He was hugely impressed with their knowledge, critical thinking and questioning. He definitely left feeling that the future is in safe hands!

A big thank you to all our visitors and staff for planning such an impressive week. There was definitely a STEAM buzz in the air and in conversations around the school. Thank you to Kate Gorely, Chris Wright and James Hartley for researching and coordinating the whole week. They even launched the week to staff using AI software to write and produce their presentation!



THE FRIENDS' FRIENDLY

Friends of
Belham



10th March 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

14 th March	FoB Meeting with reps, 6.30pm @ The Belham
23 rd March	Quiz Night
1 st April (2-4pm)	Egg Hunt, Lettsom Gardens
14 th /15 th July	Camping Weekend

QUIZ NIGHT & RAFFLE, 23rd MARCH



TICKETS ARE SELLING FAST, so if you still have yet to buy, make your purchase ASAP to avoid disappointment. On the night of the quiz, we'll be serving food from Ganapati: chicken curry (£25) or vegan curry (£23). Or just come along for the quiz if you prefer (£10). Book tickets here:

<https://www.tickettailor.com/events/friendsofbelham/868037>

IMPORTANT NEXT STEP...

Everyone will be in a team of 6. For those already in a team, please could one of you email FoB your team name, listing team members. If you are in a smaller group, no problem – just email friendsofbelham@gmail.com, letting us know how many of you there are/your names and we will link

VOLUNTEERS: If you aren't doing the quiz but still want to enjoy the fun and support FoB's efforts, please volunteer to help serve Ganapati's yummy food. We need up to 5 volunteers to do this – and as a big thank you, you will receive a complimentary Ganapati meal on the night. Email FoB at friendsofbelham@gmail.com to put your name down to help – and order your free meal via the booking link with the discount code "thankyou":

<https://www.tickettailor.com/events/friendsofbelham/868037>

RAFFLE: Thanks to the generous parent donations and support from local businesses, there are some amazing prizes to be won. They include:

- 2 x VIP tickets to experience "Phantom Peak", inclusive of afternoon tea
<https://www.phantompeak.com>
- 2 adult + 2 child tickets to any Hundred cricket league fixture at the Oval
<https://www.thehundred.com/rising>
- Bespoke Jewellery designed by Jacqui Quinn
<https://www.jacquiquinn.com>
- Voucher for a 1hr sports massage at FitFor Gym
<https://www.fitforgym.co.uk/massage>
- Voucher for a treatment at Dr Boo beauty salon
<https://www.drboo.co.uk>
- 2hr Personal Colour Analysis curtesy of Essie Walker Studio, a bespoke image consultancy
- Meal for 2 and bottle of wine at The Montpelier
- Fish & Chips and a bottle of wine at Codfellars
- 1 year Pilates membership from Gemma at Shape
- Gift voucher for Gather from Tash
- 2 x adult cinema tickets for a Picturehouse screening
- Barrel of cider from Rob

More prizes will be announced soon – and do get in touch if you are in a position to pledge a prize. The more the merrier! Email friendsofbelham@gmail.com for further donations

Thank you.

EASTER EGG HUNT

Saturday 1st April



Friends of Belham's Easter Egg Hunt is returning to Lettsom Gardens! The Hunt will be on Saturday 1 April from 2pm-4pm.

Children who prefer a quieter environment are encouraged to come for early opening from 1.30pm. Last entry is at 3.30pm. Non-Belham siblings and friends are welcome.

Please bring your own pencils to fill out the egg hunt forms. The prizes will be a bag of delicious Fairtrade chocolate eggs from Gather. There will also be hot beverages and cakes on sale for the adults. If your child has an allergy, please email friendsofbelham@gmail.com and we will source another tasty treat for them! Unlike in previous years, there will be free admission for this event but spaces should be reserved in advance here <https://www.tickettailor.com/events/friendsofbelham/867584> . Happy hunting!

BIG THANKS TO ALL RECEPTION PARENTS!

Reception year raised a whopping £680 at their bake sale on Friday 🙌 Thank you to all the wonderful volunteers, bakers and spenders 🍰

CALLING YR 1 and YR6 DADS!

Your year group needs you...

Due to parents moving and other commitments, we have 2 openings for reps. One for Year 6 and one for Year 1. Tasks include sharing information through whatsapp channels, contributing ideas at FOB meetings 3 x per year and helping out where you can at FOB fundraising and community events.

UNIFORM SALE

Our second-hand uniform sale is back 24th March in the main playground. Come along and have a look! We really need volunteers to help with uniform sales, so please email friendsofbelham@gmail.com if you are free and willing that afternoon.

YR 6 LEAVERS BOOK AND HOODIES

Don't forget to order yours at:

<https://www.tickettailor.com/events/friendsofbelham/840184> Deadline is 31st March 2023. If you need financial assistance, please contact Belham Office with your order.

CALL FOR YR 6 PHOTOS & ART DOODLES

We are gathering group and mostly school event photos of Year 6 pupils from reception to final year for a commemorative yearbook. Think School shows, sports days, trips, assemblies, egg hunts, fun runs, fairs, any FOB events, all welcome. Plus your pics of their artwork and all those funny doodles your son and daughter bring back from school, to help illustrate the book. Please drop any images you have into Google drive link here:

https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1497M_yo3U8WgkdHpEIWqg4clOoB6t5r4

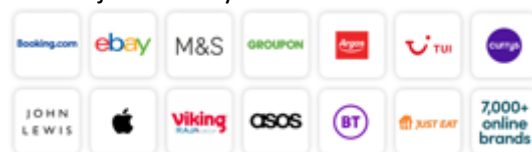
Do you have design/layout skills?

Finally, we need parents with any design/layout skills to help layout the pics, art and text for the yearbook to create something truly memorable.

Please contact lianne@fashion-conscience.com

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/friendsofbelham/>