

HEAD OF SCHOOL'S NOTE

The first half term of 2021 is nearly over and I would just like to say a big well done to all of the Belham community for getting through what has undoubtedly been a tough few weeks. Children have had to learn in very different circumstances without the physical presence of their teachers and peers, parents have had to juggle work and home-schooling, and school staff have shown how adaptable they are by changing the ways in which they plan lessons and support pupils. We don't know exactly when all children will return to school and what that will look like, but we will know more on the 22nd February after the Prime Minister's roadmap is shared with the country. Hopefully we will see our Belhamites back in their (physical) classrooms soon! Have a restful and safe half term. We look forward to seeing you after the holidays.

SAFER INTERNET DAY

On Tuesday, it was Safer Internet Day, a day celebrated globally in February each year to promote the safe and positive use of digital technology for children and young people. Over the past year, lockdown has meant that most of us are spending even more time on our devices so conversations around Internet safety are more important than ever. There are two really great websites I would like to share where parents can download useful 'E-Safety' resources – saferinternet.org.uk and the [National Online Safety](https://www.nationalonline-safety.org/) website, which has published lots of handy 'top tips' guides.

THEATRE PECKHAM

We are really excited to begin collaborating with [Theatre Peckham](https://www.theatrepeckham.co.uk/) Here are some links to their online classes to brighten your day! They also have several free places to offer if you are in receipt of benefits.

3 – 16 TP

Academy: <https://www.theatrepeckham.co.uk/tp-academy/>

16+

Young Peckham Academy: <https://www.theatrepeckham.co.uk/yp-academy/>

Creative Reflection Time after half term will be about:

International Mother Language Day

KEY DATES

Half Term

Monday 15th February – Friday 19th February

Term dates

Monday 22 February – Thursday 1 April

Easter holidays

Friday 2nd April – Friday 16th April

JUNIOR WONDERS HOME SCHOOL DRAWING CHALLENGE

Huge congratulations to Hanna in Year 3 who came second in the [Junior Wonders Home School Drawing Challenge](#)! Well done Hanna!



Hanna Gruszczynska, age 8. Playhouse: This is an imaginary house I called Playhouse. I called it playhouse because it has really fun things. I also think all houses should be fun. I added slide because I thought that the children could play on it. It includes balloon landing, roof garden and birdhouses. It's like a hotel and anyone can live in it.

DRAW YOUR FAVOURITE LONDON SCENE



London Estate Agents Marsh & Parsons ask - If they could show us around London for the day, where would your kids take us first?

To celebrate our city over lockdown, we're asking little Londoners (age 12 and under) to draw their favourite London scene. This could be the grand gates outside Buckingham Palace, Big Ben towering over the Houses of Parliament, or their favourite museum or gallery. The creator of the winning entry will receive a family National Art Pass.

All details can be found here: <https://www.marshandparsons.co.uk/blog/mp-kids-guide-london-competition/> The closing date is 22 February 2021. It would be great to have some entries from The Belham over half term.

Thanks!
Kate Gorely

POEM OF THE WEEK

This week's poem of the week reflects the theme of the natural world. Read it aloud with the children and encourage them to perform some of it. Why not try turning the poem on its head and writing one about summer trees?

Winter trees

Aren't you cold and won't you freeze,
With branches bare, you winter trees?
You've thrown away your summer shift,
Your autumn gold has come adrift,
Dearie me, you winter trees,
What strange behaviour, if you please!
In summer you could wear much less,
But come the winter - you undress!

By George Szirtes. From *In the Land of Giants*.

THE FRIENDS' FRIENDLY

Friends of
Belham



ISSUE 97 | 12 FEBRUARY 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

Phew! Half term...

As we celebrate having got through half a term of home schooling, after giving quiet thanks for the wonderful teachers and staff at the Belham, and giving ourselves a pat on the back for our brilliantly successful roles as teaching assistants (ahem) we *might* be wondering WHAT AN EARTH ARE WE GOING TO DO IN HALF TERM? Well one thing we suggest is grabbing at any opportunity to celebrate a festival. There are plenty, with Valentine's Day and Pancake Day coming up, and not least....

Chinese New Year... TODAY!!

Today is Chinese New Year, as we move into the Year of the Ox. The Reception classes have been learning about it all week, and the fantastic Reception teachers Ms Chan and Miss Hogg have prepared a Chinese New Year experience that we can all take part in at home.

Hopefully you've lined up the ingredients to prepare 'Long Life Noodles' and 'Gold Bar Spring Rolls' with your children this afternoon, but if not the ingredients could easily be purchased on Bellenden Road. The recipes are included alongside this newsletter as an attachment. They are also available on the Friends of Belham

website: <http://friendsofbelham.squarespace.com>

Ms Chan and Ms Hogg have also prepared videos showing how to prepare the dishes, and some more background on the significance of the dishes and other elements of a Chinese New Year banquet. And Cathy Fang, owner of Lovely House Dim Sum on Bellenden Road and until recently a Belham parent, has also prepared a video about Chinese New Year. These are being sent out through Class Dojo today.

We hope you have fun, a delicious meal, and that parents, carers, teachers and staff all enjoy a well-earned break from remote and in-school learning next week.

Challenge 28 – it's not too late!



Another thing to do in half term is LOTS OF WALKING AND RUNNING. We've been thrilled by the number of people who have been engaging with Challenge 28. It's not too late to get involved: if you didn't get round to it last week or were put off by the snow, you can still start now and aim for 28 miles by the middle of March. Your FOB secretary gave her phone to her extremely active Y2 child at break time and it tracked him as doing 7000 steps and covering three miles, so at that rate anyone who has sponsored us per mile had better watch out... While there's no obligation to raise funds for FOB (we're really happy if people are just getting out and about), at the time of going to press we are delighted to have raised a whopping £1,678!!!
Woohoo!!!

The Friends of Belham [website contains the guidance and materials needed](#), but it's pretty straightforward – run, walk or wheelchair a mile a day (or whatever distance challenge works for your children) for 28 days, log your runs, and see how much sponsorship you can raise to do it! Here's the link to the [JustGiving campaign page](#) for sponsorship donations. You can also create your own personalised fundraising page here if you like. The children can also just complete the challenge without seeking sponsorship.

Useful links:

Koru Kids – for £50 to FOB and £50 to the family, use the code SC1BELHAM in the "how did you hear about us?" section.

<https://www.korukids.co.uk>

EasyFundraising – sign up here:

https://bit.ly/FoB_EasyFundraising

AmazonSmile – choose FOB as your charity here:
smile.amazon.co.uk

FOB Uniform Exchange

List your items, search for items, donate to FOB!

http://bit.ly/FoB_2ndHandUniform_SubmitForm

http://bit.ly/FoB_2ndHandUniform_Stock

<https://www.justgiving.com/friendsofbelham>

Send us your Recipes

Are you bored with cooking the same old thing? Do you have a much loved family recipe you would like to share? Please **SEND US YOUR RECIPES!!!** We would love to feature a recipe of the week in the Friends' Friendly. If you have a "go to" family recipe that your children love, please email it to friendsofbelham@gmail.com

Here's a template in case it's useful.

http://bit.ly/FoB_Recipe_template

FRIENDS OF BELHAM RECIPES

#5: LONG LIFE NOODLES / GOLD BAR SPRING ROLLS

Introduction

Check out the attachments and the videos
<http://friendsofbelham.squarespace.com>
for the full recipe!

Good for:

Children to cook, ✓ Children to eat, ✓

Ingredients:

A selection of vegetables from your fridge / freezer such as: beansprouts, cabbage leaves, red pepper, broccoli florets, green beans, peas, mangetout, carrot, mushrooms or 2x stir fry pack of vegetables from your local supermarket

2 spring onions

3 garlic cloves

Ginger - small amount

Half a lemon, juice only or a tbsp of bottled lemon juice

8-10 sheets of filo pastry or brik pastry

240g of cooked chicken or cooked prawns or shredded duck or vegan shredded duck or tofu or other meat substitute

300g dried rice noodles (for the spring rolls)

200g/ 7oz dried egg noodles (or rice or soba) OR fresh egg/ rice noodles

Soy sauce

1 egg (or chickpea water if vegan)

vegetable or sunflower oil

honey

ketchup

white wine vinegar

pinch of caster sugar

Chinese five spice for sprinkling (optional)

sesame seeds for sprinkling (optional)