

# THE BELHAM BUZZ



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Head of School: Ms Liz Cohen | Email: [ecohen18.210@lgflmail.org](mailto:ecohen18.210@lgflmail.org) | Tel: 020 8353 4290

## HEAD OF SCHOOL'S NOTE

And so we come to the end of a busy term and despite the national Covid restrictions, we were still able to carry out our usual Christmas festivities (including a much less raucous virtual staff party). Like me, I'm sure that many of you were delighted and moved by the Christmas performances. The Reception and Year 1 Nativity was simply lovely; huge thanks to our parents Elliot, Milena and, Petar who filmed and edited it, and of course to all of the school staff involved. The Year 2-6 performance was unique as ever and the different parts of the Christmas story slotted together beautifully. Thank you to all of the staff, including our peripatetic teachers, who organised the performance, and to Tom Turnham and Nancy Wayman for editing and coordinating the music. All that is left for me to say is have a restful break and we look forward to seeing you in the New Year.

## CARETAKER'S HOUSE

Thank you to the many parents who came together in record time, to object to the sale by auction of the Caretaker's House which sits within our playground. As you may know, Southwark has listened to the school and the community and withdrawn the house from sale, for the time being. We now wish to work constructively with Southwark to explore all possible options that might benefit the school and the wider community as well as Southwark Council. We wish all of you, the officers and councillors, a very restful break -we all thoroughly deserve it.

Sonia Case Executive Head Teacher

## CONTACT TRACING

As a school we have a responsibility to engage in contact tracing for any cases which develop within 48 hours of the school closing for Christmas. If your child develops any symptoms related to coronavirus before **Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> December 3.30pm**, it is **vital** that you fill in this form <https://forms.gle/LAxpjoDgAnAXjrHU9>

If we receive notice of a positive case we will be in touch with everyone from our school community who is affected. If anyone you have had close contact with develops symptoms, you must self-isolate following this current advice.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-stay-at-home-guidance/stay-at-home-guidance-for-households-with-possible-coronavirus-covid-19-infection>

## KEY DATES

### Monday 4<sup>th</sup> January

School closed for INSET day

### Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> January

First day of term!

Yr 2 - PE

Yr 4 - PE

Yr6 - PE

### Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> January

Reception – Dance Lesson

Yr1 – Dance Lesson

Yr6 - PE

### Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> January

Yr2 – PE

Yr3 - PE

Yr5 – Yoga

### Friday 8<sup>th</sup> January

Yr4- PE

Yr5 - PE

## ACTION RESEARCH PROJECT

We are delighted that The Belham is one of three schools chosen to work with The Tate, as part of an action research project on the benefits of Arts Rich Schools. The research is being carried out by Maddie Gilliam (a PhD research student) and Professor Pat Thomson, convenor of the Centre for Arts, Creativity and Literacy at Nottingham University.

Her current research focuses on creativity, the arts and change in schools and communities. I have heard her speak a few times now and have been really inspired by her passion for an inclusive, diverse, art rich education. We look forward to working closely with Pat and The Tate, across the school, over the coming year.

Kate Gorely - Art and Cultural Lead and Year 4,5,6 Phase Lead

Creative Reflection Time next term will be about:

World Braille Day (4 Jan)



## AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS SPRING TERM 2021

After school clubs will start on Monday 25<sup>th</sup> January 2021 and will end on Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> April 2021. **Clubs need to be paid in full by Friday 8<sup>th</sup> January 2021.** Please see the website for the full **timetable**.

## RECEPTION PLANTING

A huge thank you to Harriet Bailey, Elliot Smith and Adam Scott for all the planting they did this week in our Reception area! They planted thyme, mint sages, rosemary, lavender, lovage, a myrtle bush, marigolds, lemon balm and some narcissi and daffodils to come in the spring! We can't wait to see them all grow!

## IMPROVE YOUR CYCLE SKILLS

Transport for London's new free online cycle skills course is a free course and is not a replacement for face-to face cycle training, but it is useful for new cyclists or for those who would like to brush up on their skills.

There are four modules to complete and each one takes less than five minutes.

If you complete all four modules, you'll receive a unique **15% discount code** that you can use on Halfords own-brand cycle lights, locks and helmets.

1. 'Get ready to ride' gives you tips on getting you and your cycle ready for the road including basic maintenance and road handling skills.
2. 'First time on the road' shows you how to cycle safely and responsibly and includes tips on setting off, road positioning and stopping safely.
3. 'On the road again' helps to get you cycling again with advice on traffic lights, roundabouts and junctions, and how to share the road safely.
4. 'Cycling with children or groups' gives you advice on cycling in a group.

**Please see the link to the course here:**

<https://cycle-skillsonline.tfl.gov.uk/>

## POLITE REQUEST

Please can we ask our families not to climb on the church walls, windows and fences whilst they wait for their siblings, however tempting it may be!

# THE FRIENDS' FRIENDLY



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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)

## Important dates

Sat 16 <sup>th</sup> January	Velodrome Y3/Y6
Sat 23 <sup>rd</sup> January	Velodrome Y2/Y5
Tues 12 <sup>th</sup> January	FOB meeting

## Happy Christmas!

It's been a strange term, but we appreciate even more the effort that everyone has put in to contribute to the school and the community. From the Halloween craft competition, the quiz, the Christmas trees, and the Christmas cards, we have managed to raise some money and have some fun despite not being able to get together!

We want to give another heartfelt thanks to all the teachers and staff at the school who have put so much effort in in such trying times. It is wonderful to have this lovely school as a point of stability for our children.

Wishing everyone there a very merry Christmas, and hope to see you all in the New Year!

## FOB meeting 12 January

Do join us for our next FOB meeting on the 12 January, we'd love to see as many as can make it. Email [friendsofbelham@gmail.com](mailto:friendsofbelham@gmail.com) if you would like to attend or watch this space for Zoom details.

## Velodrome tickets:

The velodrome event can still run in Tier 3. Tickets are available through Schools Buddy, if you haven't booked yet there's still a chance...

### Saturday January 16th 2021

#### Y3: 15:00-16:00 (inner track)

Parent / carer to be on inner track with children. For all children but for those less competent on a bike, they will need parent / carer support. Tickets are £5.50 per child

#### Y6: 16:00-17:00 (Main Track)

Parent / carer to wait by the stands. Children must be competent on a bike. The lights will be on for the track. Tickets £7.50 per child.

### Saturday January 23rd 2021

#### Y2 15:00-16:00 (inner track)

Parent / carer to be on inner track with children. For all children but for those less competent on a bike, they will need parent / carer support. Tickets are £5.50 per child

#### Y5 16:00-17:00 (Main Track)

(outer track - parent / carer to wait by the stands). Children must be competent on a bike. Tickets are £7.50 per child. The lights will be on for the track.

## Belham Christmas Community Cards

Thanks so much to everyone who wrote a card for the community Christmas Card appeal. We had over 150 cards which was an amazing response. These have been shared between Southwark Day Centre for Asylum Seekers, Jack Jones House and Elim House - all of whom were really appreciative. We'll be handing out the last few remaining cards to the local shops on Bellenden Road. Thank you to everyone for supporting your local community!