



## HEADTEACHER'S NOTE

At the weekend, temporary Covid measures were announced by the government to slow the spread of the new variant. We sent an email to parents outlining what we are continuing to do in school, including asking staff and visitors to wear masks in communal areas and take regular lateral flow tests. Next week's Christmas performances will still go ahead but we will keep an eye on the national situation and inform you should these arrangements have to change. Thank you for your continued support and understanding.

## BELHAM COMMUNICATIONS REVIEW

Communication is a key part of how we all – parents, carers, and staff - experience The Belham. We aspire to have open and two-way communications that reflect our core values, are clear, consistent and contribute to a thriving school community.

Our communications and the systems and processes we use have grown organically as we have become an established school, and this has left us with challenges that, parents and colleagues tell us, can result in less than brilliant communications.

We are therefore undertaking a strategic review, to assess our current situation and develop the foundations for new parent communications programmes for the 2022/23 school year.

This will be a highly collaborative project and we are seeking and welcoming ideas and skills of people from across our school community.

If you would like to contribute to the success of the communications project, there will be several ways you could get involved. For instance, we will be running parent and carer focus groups in the new year. We are also likely to need systems and design skills. If you are interested in getting involved or have ideas you want to share, please email Catherine in the office [info@thebelhamprimaryschool.org.uk](mailto:info@thebelhamprimaryschool.org.uk)

## EARLY BIRDS AND OWLS SPRING TERM 2022

Early Birds and Owls bookings for Spring Term 2022 will be opening on **Monday 6<sup>th</sup> December at 7:30pm**.

Bookings are on a first come first serve basis so please make sure to log in to your SchoolsBuddy account at 7:30pm as places do go fast.

## KEY DATES

### Monday 6<sup>th</sup> December

**\*NO MORNING OR AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS\***

**\*NO SWIMMING\***

\*Bookings for early birds and owls will open at 7:30pm\*

### Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> December

The Sketchbook Project club (to make up for cancelled club)

### Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> December

Year 3 - 6 Christmas Performances (Ticket details below)

### Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> December

Year 3 - 6 Christmas Performances (Ticket details below)

Hands on Science Club (to make up for cancelled club)

### Friday 10<sup>th</sup> December

Christmas Lunch & Christmas Jumper Day

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

Reception and Year 1 Theatre trip to The Albany (packed lunch required)

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

Last day of term (finish at 1.15pm)

## CHRISTMAS PERFORMANCE COLLECTION

This year we are raising money for [Southwark foodbank](#).

If you would like to donate, please follow this link - <https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/the-belham-primary-school3?newPage=True>

Every penny raised will go towards supporting families in need this Christmas.

## CHRISTMAS PERFORMANCES

Tickets for our Christmas performances are available to book via Eventbrite:

Linen, Hessian, Tweed & Satin - **Bells Ring Out'**

Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> Dec - 2pm

Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> Dec - 6.15pm

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/212407886707>

Cotton, Chiffon, Corduroy & Taffeta – **'Bells Ring Out'**

Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> Dec – 6:15pm

Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> Dec - 2pm

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/212413443327>

**Tickets limited to two (total) per child for their performances.**

Creative reflection time next week will be about:

**International Day of Disabled People**

# THE BELHAM BUZZ



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## LAMDA AT THE BELHAM

We are delighted to announce that LAMDA classes will be available for pupils in Years 1-6 at The Belham Primary School from January. LAMDA is one of the UK's oldest and respected awarding bodies and its qualification is extremely beneficial to young children as it helps them develop confidence, overcome nerves and gain a range of life skills.

LAMDA classes at The Belham will be delivered by Armstrong Speech and Drama and will take place for 30 minutes at a set time on a weekly basis. Pupils will follow LAMDA's Speaking Verse and Prose syllabus and will get to explore a wide range of fun children's poetry throughout the year!

The cost is £10 per small group session and invoices will be sent at the start of each term. When you book, you will be committing to the whole term. If this sounds like something your child would like to do, then please email Armstrong Speech and Drama directly on - [info@armstrongspeechanddrama.com](mailto:info@armstrongspeechanddrama.com)

The classes will run either before or after school at these times: 8am-8.45am and 4.45pm-5.15pm.

Tuesday before school: Year 1 and 2

Tuesday after school: Year 3 and 4

Thursday before school: Year 5

Thursday after school: Year 6

## NATIONAL ONLINE SAFETY

Each week we will attach a PDF from National Online Safety. This week's guide is '*What parents need to know about Age-Inappropriate Content*'.

## PARENT DROP IN SESSIONS

Ms Cohen will be holding virtual or in-person parent drop in sessions each Thursday from 2.30-3.30pm. If you would like to book a slot, please contact Catherine in the office [info@thebelhamprimaryschool.org.uk](mailto:info@thebelhamprimaryschool.org.uk).

## HOME LEARNING

All pupils have access to remote learning should they be required to self-isolate due to Covid-19. If your child is absent for any other reason, including sickness, home learning will **not** be provided. Please see the [Home Learning](#) section of our Covid-19 Information Hub for more details.

## BELHAM FESTIVE MARKET!



We hope you will be able to join us this Saturday! Lots of info below in the Friends' Friendly and in the flyers attached. So many wonderful stalls and Santa's grotto! Thank you FOB: we can't wait!

## CAROLS BY THE GREEN

This is a **free** event on Saturday 18 December 11am - 12:30pm. Carols, music, mince pies and mulled wine at St John's East Dulwich, 62a East Dulwich Rd, SE22 9AT.

## CHRISTMAS JUMPER DAY!

On **Friday 10<sup>th</sup> December**, we will be having our school Christmas lunch. On this day, we will also be supporting [Save the Children's Christmas Jumper Appeal](#). We want to make sure that all of our children are able to join in so if you have any spare or 'grown out of' jumpers at home that you would be willing to donate, please visit the office where we will have a donation point. Many thanks in advance!

# THE FRIENDS' FRIENDLY

Friends of  
Belham



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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)



## Belham School Festive Market - Sat 4th Dec, 1:30 - 3:30 at the school, free entry through Bellenden Road gate

We can't wait to see you tomorrow at the Festive Market. There's going to be lots of stalls (see attached flyer), craft activities, some food and drink and Santa's grotto! The main gate will be open and will have a volunteer monitoring it but parents and carers are responsible for their children at all times.



You could buy these Beeswax wraps and candles made by Belham parents!

Here's our last minute checklist for you:

### 1. Could you make something for the bake sale?

It's not too late! Bakes can be sweet or savoury, as simple or elaborate as you wish, and we'd love to

see food from any culture, country, or celebration. Share your world through food! Each bake will be displayed with the name of the maker and the name of the food. Please don't use nuts/nut flour and we'll ask you to fill in a card about allergens when you drop it off. Bring to school between 11-1:30 tomorrow and label the container with your name.

### 2. Book Santa's Grotto - some slots are already sold out.

[www.tickettailor.com/events/friendsofbelham](http://www.tickettailor.com/events/friendsofbelham).

If you have a ticket, please come to the grotto at the start time of your slot.

### 3. Prepare a donation for the Albrighton Community Fridge

Bring what you can and we'll be taking it all up to the Albrighton Centre after the market. They would love pasta, rice, soap, biscuits, festive treats and tinned food.

### 4. Pack your face mask

Please wear your mask when indoors.

### 5. Get in the seasonal spirit

Clear a space for your tree, light a candle, dust off the decorations! See you tomorrow!

## BELHAM COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS CARDS

Last year we delivered over 150 cards to the local community, spreading a bit of Belhamite cheer and goodwill after a difficult year all round. And we'd like to do the same again this year! We know that some people may not receive very many - or any - Christmas cards so we're reaching out to the Belham family and asking everyone to write a card (more if you like!) which will be given to someone in the local community including local care homes, community groups or even an elderly neighbour who you know doesn't have many visitors.

You could use your FoB Christmas cards that should be coming home in book bags very soon – or there are lots of ideas online if you want to get creative and design your own!

We would like to make the cards as inclusive as possible so along with the usual Christmas greetings you could include:

*Dear Local Resident or Dear Local Friend,  
Warm wishes; Wishing you a peaceful holiday and New Year; Wishing you a peaceful and safe New Year; Happy holidays; Merriest wishes; Wishing you peace and joy;  
From a local friend at The Belham School (you can add your name if you're personally happy to but can remain anonymous if you prefer)*

A collection box will be in the reception and main school playgrounds from Monday 6 December through until Tuesday 14 December or please hand-in to form teachers. If you know of an organization or neighbour who would like to receive a card then contact Year 3 rep Lizzy ([e.r.carpenter@gmail.com](mailto:e.r.carpenter@gmail.com) / 07879 402935)

## SUSTAINABLE PECKHAM

Do you have a vision for a future Peckham which is cleaner, and greener, and where sustainability is a priority? Local (and parent-led!) group [Plastic Free Peckham](#) is crowdfunding for a new project to work with small businesses to reduce their impact on the local environment. Sustainable Peckham hopes to reduce local air pollution, waste on our high streets and carbon emissions through collaborative projects. Please [donate](#) and share before the deadline of 7<sup>th</sup> December!

## TERRARIUM WORKSHOP 13th JAN

Come and make your own self-watering terrarium! Or give this as a lovely present for a friend. You will make your own Bottle Terrarium to take home, and every ticket purchased will **help pay for a workshop for Belham pupils**, where they will create terrariums for the classrooms.

The workshop is being run by local company Jar and Fern, who are kindly offering a great discount to their normal prices. Full details and tickets: [www.tickettailor.com/events/friendsofbelham](http://www.tickettailor.com/events/friendsofbelham)

