

THE BELHAM BUZZ



ISSUE 183 | 4 DECEMBER 2020

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HEAD OF SCHOOL'S NOTE

Excitement is mounting here at the Belham in anticipation of our first professionally filmed Christmas production! Reception and Year 1 are putting on a traditional nativity play and Years 2 to 6 will be taking a section of the Christmas story and making it their own. Even though I don't know what each year group will be doing for their performance, I have been bound to secrecy. Needless to say, I'm sure that the end result will be as creative, as innovative and as moving as it always is. I will have the pleasure of watching the 'live' version but you will be able to enjoy the performances on our YouTube channel. Times are given in our 'Key Dates' section. I can't wait to see the children perform and I'm especially looking forward to the choreography and singing, as well as Pumfrey's cameo performance.

EARLY BIRDS AND OWLS SPRING TERM 2021

Early Birds and Owls will be opening for booking on **Monday 7th December at 8pm**. Please log into your SchoolsBuddy account at **8pm** to book.

BELLENDEN GATE DROP OFF AND PICK UP

From next week, we will be asking parents dropping off their children in the morning at 9am in Years 1 and 3 to line up either side of the Bellenden Road gate entrance. This is to reduce crowding on the corner of Maxted/Bellenden Road. Please remember to wear face coverings when dropping off/picking off, unless you are exempt.

CHRISTMAS BOXES

Thank you to all of you who have donated so far; the response has been incredible! If you would still like to donate towards the Christmas boxes, please go to <https://thebelhamprimaryschool.square.site/> Alternatively, if you would like to donate a non-perishable food item or small age-appropriate gift (unwrapped), please drop off your items at the office before **Thursday 10th December**. Any funds or items left over will be given to Southwark Foodbank during the last week of term. If you have any questions or if your family would benefit from one of these boxes, please contact Ally Sprakes on Class Dojo. All requests and recipients will be treated in confidence.

Creative Reflection Time next week will be about:
Human Rights Day

KEY DATES

NO CLUBS Monday 7th Dec- Friday 11th Dec

Monday 7th December

Earlybirds and Owls bookings open at **8pm**

Thursday 10th December

Christmas Jumper Day

Belham Christmas Lunch

Monday 14th December

Last Day of Clubs

'A Miracle in Town' (Reception & Year 1) Log in -6pm-9pm

Tuesday 15th December

'It's Virtually Christmas' (Year 2 -6) Log in - 6pm-9pm

Wednesday 16th December

'A Miracle in Town' (Reception & Year 1) Log in -6pm-9pm

Thursday 17th December

'It's Virtually Christmas' (Year 2 -6) Log in - 6pm-9pm

Friday 18th December

Last day of term

CHRISTMAS JUMPER DAY AND MEAL

A reminder that on **Thursday 10th December** we will be having our school Christmas dinner. On this day we will also be supporting [Save the Children's Christmas Jumper Appeal](#). This year it is likely that we will have children at The Belham who do not own a Christmas jumper. With this in mind, 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.

CHRISTMAS PICK UP ARRANGEMENTS

We will finish for the Christmas Break **after lunch on Friday 18th December**. Please take note of timings and pick-up locations.

Reception – Maxted Road – 1pm

Year 1 – Maxted Road – 1.15pm

Year 2 & 4 – Bellenden Road 1.15pm

Year 5 – Maxted Road – 1.30pm

Year 3 & 6 - Bellenden Road 1.30pm

PLEASE NOTE THAT ANY EVENTS RUN BY EXTERNAL PROVIDERS (WITH THE EXCEPTION OF BEFORE AND AFTER SCHOOL PRACTICES AND CLUBS) ARE NOT ENDORSED BY THE SCHOOL AND THE SCHOOL CANNOT BE HELD RESPONSIBLE

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

Important dates

5 December, 2–4pm	Collect your Christmas Trees!
11 December	Christmas Community Cards submission deadline (see below)

Christmas Trees

If you have ordered a Christmas Tree from Friends of Belham, please come to main playground between 2-4pm tomorrow (Saturday) to pick up your tree. Pre-ordered trees only, no sales on the day. Please wear a face mask, we will have a one-way system, please queue along the Lane-side pavement if busy. Have your order email with you in case of queries.

We don't want poor old FOB volunteers standing around in the dark with some uncollected trees at the end of the slot...

Quiz night!

A big **THANK YOU** to our brilliant quizmaster Rich for hosting our first Zoom Quiz on Thursday, and thanks also to everyone who participated.

Belham Christmas Community Cards

Recently there's been a great poster in the window of local businesses: *'Peckham gave us neighbours. But you make it a community!'*

We thought it would be amazing if the Belham community could pull together after what's been a tough year for many by reaching out to those in our neighbourhood who might not receive many - or any - festive thoughts this year by giving them a Christmas card. This is open to children & adults!

You could use your FoB fundraising cards which should have gone home in book bags this week. If you'd like to design your own card own [then here are some crafty ideas](#).

Cards should be given to your form teacher by Friday 11 December, or posted in boxes by the gates at drop-off. We will then distribute within the local community - for example to local care homes etc. **If you know of a local facility that might appreciate some festive cards then please get in touch with Y2 rep Lizzy: e.r.carpenter@gmail.com**

We would like the cards to be as inclusive as possible, so below are some examples of wording you might like to use:

*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 (you can add your name if you're personally happy to but can remain anonymous if you prefer) at The Belham School
Thank you to the Belham community!*

Report and accounts

Many thanks to Neil Akhurst, who performed the independent examination of the 2019 accounts. Due to the vast amounts of fundraising in 2019 this was a lot of work for the past and present Treasurers, as well as a lot of work for Neil, so thank you to everyone involved!

Three completely free ways you can help the school!

1. Send in your second hand books

Do you have unwanted books at home? The school would love it if we could bring in good quality books that are no longer read at home. Books will be quarantined for a few days, and then distributed between the appropriate year groups. It would be great to build up the selection of books at school and I'm sure we all have a few nice books spare.

2. Donate unwanted musical instruments

Do you have an outgrown violin at home? An unwanted tuba lying around? Please [contact the school office](#) if you are able to donate musical instruments. Obviously they would need to assess whether they were actually suitable for the children to learn on. But I'm sure we would all like to see as much musical opportunity at the Belham as possible.

3. Online shopping? Support FoB

We love our local shops and feel very lucky to have such a brilliant range on our doorstep. We encourage you to support them at this tricky time.

If you are shopping online, there's two easy ways to raise funds for FoB:

EasyFundraising

This will generate donations for FoB at many online retailers. Create an account in support of FoB here: https://bit.ly/FoB_EasyFundraising

Start your shopping via the EasyFundraising site, use their 'donation reminder' widget in your browser, or use their mobile app. It will take you to retailer sites and apply the donation automatically. Loads of retailers are signed up, with varying levels of donation: John Lewis, Waterstones, Ethical Superstore, Majestic Wine, M&S, Argos, and Boden to name a few...

AmazonSmile

Friends of Belham is now also registered with AmazonSmile. 0.5% of the purchase price will go direct to FoB.

On a computer you must shop via smile.amazon.co.uk for this to work.

You can shop on the standard Amazon mobile apps but must set Friends of Belham as the beneficiary for AmazonSmile in the app settings.

FOB Uniform & Xmas Jumper Exchange

The FOB uniform exchange is now LIVE!!! Click on the links below to buy or sell second hand uniform. Christmas jumpers are also free on here, and any unclaimed by 7 December will be donated to the school.

1. If you have clothes to sell, fill in the form below to populate the main stock spreadsheet. Clothes must be a) clean, b) name-tags removed if possible, c) truthfully described in terms of quality ("excellent", "good" or "well worn").

http://bit.ly/FoB_2ndHandUniform_SubmitForm

2. If you want to buy clothes, review the form, "claim" the items you want by contacting the seller directly. Seller then updates the form to show the item is now sold.

http://bit.ly/FoB_2ndHandUniform_Stock

3. Buyer makes a donation to FOB via Justgiving based on the prices in the spreadsheet

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

4. Buyer collects from seller's home.
5. Seller updates quantities on the form once the item has been collected.