

# THE BELHAM BUZZ

ISSUE 109 | 21 DECEMBER

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## HEAD OF SCHOOL'S NOTE

It's hard to believe that it's the end of 2018 and that the Christmas holidays are just around the corner. Where does the time go? It's been a busy couple of weeks at the Belham with all children and staff involved in the production of our Christmas plays. Yesterday, Year 2,3 and 4 staged three performances of 'One Bright Star', with each year group retelling a part of the Christmas story in quite an unexpected way. I thoroughly enjoyed the carefully choreographed dances, the procession of the Kings (with those amazing puppets!) and beautifully sung songs. A second round of thanks must go to the Year 2,3 and 4 team who wrote and directed each part of the story, Alison Swann who choreographed the dances and of course, Nancy Wayman who spent many singing assemblies teaching the songs and who has developed the children's singing skills hugely. I am already looking forward to next year's Christmas show and am confident that it will be even more spectacular.

Finally from me, I would like to wish everyone a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. I look forward to seeing everyone back at school on Tuesday 8 January.

## THANK YOU FRIENDS OF BELHAM

The Friends of Belham are an active lot and have worked tirelessly over the Autumn term to raise funds for school. Amongst other events, they organised the hugely successful Christmas Fair, held a cake sale, and set up the refreshments stand at our Christmas performance. The Belham appreciates the support of our parent body and we would like to say thank you to our hardworking FoB and all of our parent volunteers who have made these events possible.

## CLUBS NEXT TERM

All before and after school clubs and sports practices will start **w/c 14 January** i.e. not the first week of term. The full club timetable can be found on the website: <http://www.thebelhamprimaryschool.org.uk/after-school-clubs-and-practices.html>

**Please could parents ensure that all after school clubs are paid for by the first day of term.**

## KEY DATES

### Friday 21 December

Term finishes at 1.15pm

### Monday 7 January

INSET DAY (school not open for children)

### Tuesday 8 January

Term begins

### Wednesday 9 January

Year 3 mixed Netball v Dulwich Hamlet, 1-3pm

### Monday 14 January

Before and after-school clubs begin

### Tuesday 15 January

Year 1 to V&A museum – packed lunch required

Year 4 Netball v Dulwich Hamlet, 1-3pm

## RECYCLING CHRISTMAS CARDS

In the New Year we will be collecting used Christmas cards to recycle as part of our work with the Tree Trust, so please don't throw away your Christmas cards! There will be a box at the office entrance and another in the bike shed.

## BELHAMITE VALUES BANNER COMPETITION

We all know how important our Belhamite values are to us and we want to celebrate this, with a banner – designed by you. Each value will be represented by a picture that we will put together to form a whole design, to be displayed in our playground.

Over the holiday, we are asking you to use your imagination and creative skills. Think big, bold and beautiful. When making your designs, think about what will stand out. The simpler the image, the more eye catching it will be. Use felt pens, paints or collage.

We are asking each year group to focus on different values:

Reception – Loving

Year 1 – Brave or Helpful

Year 2 – Enthusiastic or Inspirational

Year 3 – Equal or Ambitious

Year 4 – Modest or Trustworthy

Have fun – we are looking forward to seeing the results!

Entries to be given in to the office by 11 January 2019

## PLASTIC PROJECT

We need your help!

Year 3 are taking part in a creative project next term that explores how plastic pollution impacts on the life of our oceans. We are going to be making an ambitious piece of artwork relating to this issue that is going to be displayed in the school - we desperately need you to save your discarded plastic containers and donate them to us.

The holidays are an ideal time to start a collection. It would be fantastic if each child could bring in at least one carrier bag of **empty and clean** containers. We would also be grateful if you could **please remove any sticky labels** – this will be a huge help.

### No thanks to:

Containers that have contained dangerous or poisonous liquids or solids

Containers that have sharp or rough edges

### Yes please to:

Any form of transparent **coloured** plastic bottle is particularly desirable (sparkling water, fruit drinks, fizzy drinks etc.)

Laundry tablet containers, Cosmetic, shampoo, shower gel, containers etc.

If you have any questions about this then please get in touch.

Look forward to seeing your contributions!

The Plastic Project team (working with Insights, UAL)

**Insights<sup>oo</sup>**

**ual:** london college  
of communication

## STEAM TEAM CHALLENGE

## STEAM QUESTION OF THE WEEK



### Who can build the strongest bridge?

The final leader board:

Team	Maximum weight on bridge (kg)
The Art Girls and The Bridge	3.72
Fire Balls	3.16
Super Silk Worms	3.1
Girl Power and Golden Eagles	3.0
Rockets	2.83
Goldy Team	2.72
Aquila and Star Team	2.5
Black Slash	1.75
STEAM Girls	1.72
Link the Great	2.0
The Fearless Four	1.5
Golden Eagles	0.32
Crystal Palace	0.1



A final of the bridge testing will take place between The Art Girls and The Bridge teams on Thursday 10 January at Middy. The winners will be announced and awarded on Friday 11 January in Assembly and in the Belham Buzz.

Fancy another STEAM challenge? See the attachment to this week's Belham Buzz to create Santa's Sleigh Race...



### FIZZING TREES CHRISTMAS SCIENCE



Make a fizzing Christmas tree:

You will need:

Paper plates in a cone shape

Baking soda

Vinegar

Water

Sequins

Food colouring

Bowl, spoon, tray

Squirty bottle, eyedropper, syringe (Calpol)

Follow the link for the method:

<https://littlebinsforlittlehands.com/melting-christmas-tree-baking-soda-science-sensory-play/>

Extra challenge : What is the chemical reaction happening?

Last week's question:

### Why do Christmas trees always stay green?

Evergreen trees first came from cold climates. (But you can find many in warm tropical rainforests too.) They have very strong leaves rolled up tight, like long, thin needles. This shape allows the evergreens to save water, which is needed for photosynthesis (where plants make their own food). Because they have more water than their deciduous cousins, their leaves stay green, and stay attached longer. Evergreen needles also have a very waxy coating that also helps save water during summer and winter. Christmas trees are generally evergreens like spruce, fir, or pine.

# THE FRIENDS' FRIENDLY

Friends of  
Belham



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Main Committee Members: Patrick Murray, Michelle Hardy, Richard Knowles

Contact Email: [friendsofbelham@gmail.com](mailto:friendsofbelham@gmail.com)

## FoB NEWS

### What an amazing Autumn Term it has been!

We have raised an FANTASTIC amount of money for the school, none of which could have been done without you!

A special thanks to all who organised events, the volunteers who helped at them and all of you who came to them.

\* Cake sale for Gardens raised £518.92

\* School disco raised £570.05

\* Quiz night raised £935.09

\* Christmas Cards raised £484.50

\* Christmas fair raised £3195.79

\* Belham Bottles and Easy Fundraising raised £67.09

**All the above amounts to a grant total of £5,771!**

### Please, Please Keep Raising Money While Shopping on Line

Doing any internet shopping for Christmas and next year?

Easyfundraising is a fantastic way of raising money for the FOB at no extra cost to you!

All you need to do is when you're doing any online shopping shop via <https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/friends-of-belham/>

There are 3,300 shops and sites you can raise free donations with.

Including holidays and flights!

We have raised over £120 so far so keep shopping though the site!

## FoB NEWS

### Watch this space...

There's lots to look forward to next term including; Brick Brewery Tutored Tasting Talk, Spring Cake Sale, Easter Egg Hunt, Spring School Disco and our very first Parents Social Night!

**All that's left to say is have a great Christmas and New year.**

**See you all in 2019!**