



Belleville News

10 February 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

On the final day of this half term, we are very sad to be saying farewell to Ms Zammit (RZ) who is moving on to a new role. We thank her for all the fantastic work she has done and wish her all the very best. After half term, we welcome Ms Mayo who will be teaching RZ for the rest of the academic year. I know you will join me in giving her a warm welcome to the Belleville community.

I wish you all a restful and enjoyable half term and we look forward to seeing all the children back at school at the normal time on Monday 20th February.

John Budden

Executive Headteacher

Dates for your diary:

Spring Half Term: Monday 13 February – Friday 17 February

School Council/PTA Pupil Discos – Tuesday 21 & Thursday 23 February, Webb's Road.

PTA Quiz Night – Friday 10 March, 7.30pm, Meteor Street.

Wandsworth Music Brighter Sounds Concert - Royal Albert Hall Tuesday 28 March, 7pm (Year 6, and Year 4 Brass players).

Last day of Spring 2 term: Friday 31 March.

PTA Auction of Promises – Friday 12 May, Wandsworth Town Hall. Tickets will go on sale w/c 6 March.

Belleville Orchestra

Belleville Orchestra had the fantastic opportunity to perform at the Mayor's Charity Gala Concert on Tuesday night with [Wandsworth Music](#). They performed 'The Drunken Sailor' and 'Wellerman'.



Earthquakes in Turkey and Syria

Our thoughts are with all those who have been affected by the devastating earthquakes in Turkey and Syria, including families within our community.

People need urgent aid to survive. If you feel able to donate to the relief effort, the [Disasters Emergency Committee](#) launched their appeal yesterday. Thank you.

Our first priority is to ensure all children and adults are safe.

Please do talk to any member of staff if you have any worries for yourself or others in our community.





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Year 3 visit the British Museum

It has been a brilliant end to the half term in Year 3! Last week, the children visited the British Museum as part of our Ancient Egyptians unit. They enjoyed seeing real life examples of the artefacts we have been learning about in History, including the Rosetta Stone. After having written their own mummification instructions in English, the children were particularly interested to see the mummies and sarcophagi.

They also enjoyed a workshop delivered by the Young Shakespeare Company on A Midsummer Night's Dream. The children watched and participated in a wonderful enactment of the play.



Eco-Council

This half term, the Eco-Council have been working on some important projects to help Belleville be a more sustainable school. We have been collecting old whiteboard pens and taking them to Ryman's stationery shop for recycling. This is a great way to recycle an everyday object that the school has a lot of and reduce our carbon footprint. Could you recycle your pens from home at Ryman's?

Members of the Eco-Council are also taking responsibility for the emptying of the recycling bags at the end of each school day to ensure we recycle all our paper at school. This is really important because as a school we use a lot of paper!

To raise awareness of Veganuary, we shared different vegan recipes with the children. Felix in 4G made a Thai green curry at home saying: "I cooked a Thai green curry because in eco council, they gave us some vegan recipes to try out. It was really fun to make, but it was very spicy!!!!!!."





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Year 6 Author Visits

Last week, Year Six had three inspiring author visits as part of Herne Hill's [Stepping Into Stories](#) festival, organised in partnership with the brilliant [Tales on Moon Lane](#) bookshop. We were fortunate to be visited by [Jane Elson](#), author of *How to Fly With Broken Wings*, a novel which includes bullying and friendship among its themes. After a dramatic reading from the novel, Jane spoke about the female spitfire pilots of the ATA (Air Transport Auxiliary) and their role in the Battle of Britain. Most inspiring, Jane spoke of her writing career including her school experiences with dyslexia, her entry into life as an author and her charity involvement. After her workshop, she kindly fielded the children's numerous questions (which were a clear reflection of their enjoyment of the event).



On Zoom, we were joined by [Tom Palmer](#) and [A.M. Dassu](#) discussing their books *After the War* and *Fight Back* respectively. Palmer talked about the Holocaust and his research for the novel. His story was inspired by the story of the [Windermere children](#), around 300 orphaned Jewish refugees, who settled in the Lake District in the summer of 1945. It is worth noting that Tom Palmer's award-winning novels for Barrington Stoke are all printed in a dyslexia-friendly format. A.M. Dassu, whose two novels *Boy, Everywhere* and *Fight Back* have received widespread critical acclaim, delivered a brilliant, empowering workshop on identity, standing up to bullying and being an ally.

The authors were very generous with their time, speaking with passion about their stories and inspirations. Books by all these authors are available to borrow in Year Six class libraries. Finally, Jane Elson commented very positively on the engagement and manners of Belleville children.

In Common

A small group of Year 3 children visited Queen Elizabeth House in Balham as part of the InCommon Intergenerational Project. A resident taught the children about the Morse code (he had learnt it when training to be a sailor). The children wrote their names and ages using the Morse code and they also sent Morse code messages via tin cans tied by a piece of string! At the end of the visit, the children played some games with the residents. It was a great start to the week.





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Art

Year 6 have been making papier Mache pots inspired by the British artist, Grayson Perry. The children have been thinking about Identity and how they could decorate their pots with imagery and graphics that represent a snapshot of who they are at this transitional point in their lives.



Year 5 have been learning about the American 'Outsider Artist', James Castle. Like the artist, the children have created an artist book using only found papers, charcoal, and stitching. They developed a picture book with a visual narrative and then went on to make a 3D construction linked to their story.





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Curling

Some children from Year 3 and Year 4 competed in a curling event at Southfields Academy. They had a fantastic time competing in five games against different schools.



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Your PTA needs you!



The PTA are looking for volunteers to help with several roles from this term onwards. They cannot run activities and raise money for the school without their team of volunteers, so please do consider getting involved if you can. They are looking for:

PTA Head of Meteor (1 or 2 people)

PTA Secretary

2-3 people to run Belleville's Got Talent

Editor of Belleville Buzz

Designer

2-3 people to support the Shopping Evening team.

If you can help or would like more info, please email hello@bellevillepta.org

School Term Dates

Spring Term 2023

Last day of Spring 1: Friday 10 February
Spring half term: Monday 13 – Friday 17 February
First day of Spring 2: Monday 20 February
Last day of Spring 2: Friday 31 March

Summer Term 2023

Inset day: Mon 17 April – school closed to children.
First day of Summer 1: Tuesday 18 April
Bank Holiday: Monday 1 May – school closed.
Extra Bank Holiday for Coronation of King Charles III: Monday 8 May – school closed.
Last day of Summer 1: Friday 26 May
Summer half term: Monday 29 May – Friday 2 June
Inset day: Monday 5 June - school closed to children.
First day of Summer 2: Tuesday 6 June
Last day of Summer 2: Friday 21 July

Autumn Term 2023

Inset Days: Mon 4 & Tues 5 Sept - school closed to children.
First day of Autumn 1: Wednesday 6 September
Last day of Autumn 1: Friday 20 October
Autumn half term: Monday 23 – Friday 27 October
First day of Autumn 2: Monday 30 October
Last day of Autumn 2: Thursday 21 December

Spring Term 2024

Inset Day: Mon 8 Jan – school closed to children.
First day of Spring 1: Tuesday 9 January
Last day of Spring 1: Friday 9 February
Spring half term: Monday 12 – Friday 16 February
First day of Spring 2: Monday 19 February
Last day of Spring 2: Thursday 28 March

Summer Term 2024

Inset Day: Mon 15 April – school closed to children.
First day of Summer 1: Tuesday 16 April
Bank Holiday: Monday 6 May – school closed.
Last day of Summer 1: Friday 24 May
Summer half term: Monday 27 – Friday 31 May
Inset Day: Monday 3 June – school closed to children.
First day of Summer 2: Tuesday 4 June
Last day of Summer 2: Wednesday 24 July