



Belleville News

20 October 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

It was fantastic to see so many of you at Parents' Evening on Wednesday and Thursday. A positive and productive relationship between home and school is a vital factor in any child's educational success and your ongoing support and engagement is hugely appreciated. If you were unable to attend for any reason, please contact your child's class teacher so you can discuss your child's progress after half term.

I hope everyone has an enjoyable half term break and we look forward to seeing all the children back at the usual time on Tuesday 31st October.

John Budden
Executive Headteacher

Yellow Lines

We are still noticing parents/ carers **stopping on the yellow zig zag lines** outside both school sites during the hours that the parking restrictions are in place for school drop off/pick-up.

Please do not drop off/pick up on the yellow lines. They are there for the safety of all our children. It is also [illegal to stop on the yellow zig zag lines](#) during the hours they are in operation.

Dates for your diary:

Autumn half term - Monday 23 – Friday 27 October

INSET day - Monday 30 October - school closed to children.

First day of Autumn 2 term - Tuesday 31 October

SEND Coffee Morning – Tuesday 31 October, 9.15am, Webb's Road, with representatives from Wandsworth Council and The Education Wellbeing Service. If you would like to attend, please email enquiries@belleville.q1e.org.uk by Saturday 21 October.

Belleville School Open Mornings for Prospective Parents – Wednesday 1 and Thursday 2 November, 9.15am – noon. If you know any families who would like to attend, [please encourage them to complete this form](#).

Belleville PTA Shopping Evening - Wednesday 8 November, 7.30-9.30pm, Webb's Road. Tickets are £5 (including a glass of fizz and a free tote bag by the sponsor Wilfords) and are [on sale here](#).

Belleville PTA Christmas Fair – Saturday 2 December, Webb's Rd.

Panathlon Competition

On Tuesday, some Year 4 and 5 children competed in a [Panathlon](#). This was a Multi-Sport event with eight different activities such as Ball blast, Target cricket, Volleyball, Curling, Bean Bag throwing, Flight Path, Lily Pad jump and Parachute Popcorn.

The team had a great afternoon and after participating in all the events were placed 4th.



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The Time Has Come...

Last week, Year 3 were given the gift of time as all 150 students opened their brand-new analogue wristwatch. This is such an exciting initiative aimed at helping children learn to tell the time and to grow their independence by looking after such a high-quality accessory. This initiative has been funded by Belleville PTA and we are incredibly grateful for their generosity. We would also like to say a special thank you to Nicky Davies for sourcing the watches and making this happen.

Telling the time is an important life skill and one that children are finding increasingly challenging to access as modern technology grows around us. As educators, we have noticed that the teaching of time takes longer each year. Some children are in danger of leaving primary school without this fundamental skill and we believe that the time to act is now.

Watch this space for further updates on the impact of this idea and please let us know how your child is getting on with their timepiece.



Free tickets for AFC Wimbledon Women's Football on Sunday 29 October

Our friends at AFC Wimbledon Women are offering **free tickets** for their game at Cherry Red Records Stadium, SW17 0NR on Sunday 29 October against Worthing FC. Gates open at 12.30pm and kick off is at 2pm.

To apply for your free tickets, please [visit their website](#) to secure your place for this unforgettable match. **Tickets are limited and are offered subject to availability.**



Our number one priority is to ensure that 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 Update

Year 3 have settled in really well to the new academic year and have been incredibly busy! In Science, we have been looking at Anatomy and Lifestyle. The children have learnt the names and functions of various bones and muscles in the body. They conducted an investigation to figure out 'Does leg length affect how far someone can jump?'

The children have also been studying the weather in Geography. They have spent time comparing the U.K.'s weather to that in other countries and have also researched different extreme weather caused by climate change. The children used globes and torches to create a geographical model about why the U.K. has seasons.

Finally, in computing, Year 3 have been learning to code the BBC Micro:bit. They have shown perseverance and resilience when connecting and coding their Micro:bit, as well as problem solving skills when things didn't always work first time! It was great to see their excitement when they successfully sent code to the device.

We are very much looking forward to all the exciting learning coming up next half term, especially our Roman Day on Friday 3rd November.



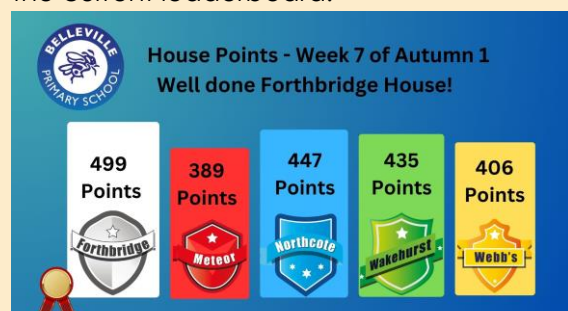
Year 6 Djembe Drumming Performances

6H and 6B really enjoyed sharing what they have learnt and created in music this term with two fantastic drumming performances this week.



House Points

Congratulations again to Northcote House for winning the Autumn 1 House Trophy! The points have been reset for Autumn 2. Here is the current leaderboard.





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Year 5 Residential Trip to Ufton Court

Last week, our Year 5 pupils enjoyed a terrific trip to Ufton Court. The team there really helped to bring history to life and the range of activities - from staging a Greek trial, reenacting a battle between the Greeks and the Persians, learning Spartan battle tactics, and indulging in a feast dedicated to Dionysus - truly enveloped the children in Ancient Greece. Amazing learning opportunities were created and life-long memories forged for all.



Half Term Athletics Sessions

Herne Hill Harriers Star Track are offering a half term camp from Monday 23 – Friday 27 October, 10.30am-2.30pm at Tooting Bec Athletics Track, SW17 3NP for children aged 7 to 15. The cost is £15 per day. For more information or to reserve your space, please email startrack@hernehillharriers.org or phone 020 8773 8733.



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Governors' Corner – An update from your Local Governing Body

SENDCO: The Belleville SENDCO team has undergone leadership change this year, with a new SENDCO for infants (Ms Burst) and for juniors (Ms Carruthers) yet maintains its core approach of inclusive learning. Quiet spaces for break times are established at both sites and are proving popular with children with and without SEND needs. A 'coffee morning' for SENDCOs, SEND governor and parents/carers runs twice a term. This is an open safe space to allow discussion about challenges being faced and what is working well, as well as an opportunity to get hands on experience with the tools and processes the school provides in all classrooms to help each child access learning in a way that works for them.

The SENDCO parents and carers WhatsApp group continues to expand since its inception last year. It is a useful medium to find out about local provision for wraparound and holiday care as well as a forum for sharing the wealth of experience Belleville families have when it comes to navigating the SEND system. They also meet for informal coffee mornings once every half term. All parents and carers of children with SEND needs or an interest in SEND needs are welcome to join the group by scanning the following QR code:

Nina Vora – Parent Governor



Nina Vora and
Fiona Macnab

Lunchtimes: Lunchtime at school can be incredibly busy and to some, a little daunting. As a school local governor, I was invited to take a tour of the school at lunchtime to observe the protocols in place. I am sure you will agree, it is no mean feat to ensure close to 1000 pupils are provided with lunch! The school has a very well-structured approach. I observed pupils who confidently knew exactly where to line up and how to obtain the necessary tray and cutlery for lunch. There were some reports of a lack of cutlery, however, this was quickly rectified and there is plenty for all.

The pupils are fortunate to have a choice of food, plenty of salad available to all age groups and a selection of dessert items - I was most impressed. The pupils are free to sit with friends and classmates and there is a strong staff presence to ensure everyone is eating and any concerns quickly addressed. I will be doing a follow up visit, to both the Webbs and Meteor sites, after half term. Do not hesitate to feedback any concerns about the lunchtime provision.

Fiona Macnab – Parent Governor

Term Dates 2023 – 2024 Academic Year

Autumn Term 2023

Last day of Autumn 1: Friday 20 October
Autumn half term: Monday 23 – Friday 27 October
INSET day: Monday 30 October - school closed to children.
First day of Autumn 2: Tuesday 31 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
Spring half term: Monday 12 – Friday 16 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.
Summer half term: Monday 27 – Friday 31 May
Last day of Summer 2: Wednesday 24 July