



Belleville News

3 November 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

On Wednesday and Thursday of this week, we held our two main Open Mornings for prospective Belleville parents. We were delighted to welcome well over two hundred visitors to look around our school over the two days and, as ever, I was immensely proud of the contribution made by all the pupils and staff to the success of the events.

Special thanks to the parents who led tours across both sites on both days; your enthusiasm and willingness to represent the school is hugely appreciated. Thanks also to our House Captains who represented the school superbly. We make a point of not doing anything out of the ordinary on these days; we are very proud of what the pupils do and achieve every day at Belleville, and it was a pleasure to share this with our visitors.

John Budden
Executive Headteacher

Dates for your diary:

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 Wilfords) and are [on sale here](#).

Scholastic Book Fair – Tuesday 14 – Friday 17 November, Webb's Road playground and Meteor Street entrance hall, before and after school. Payment via the QR code at the fair or by card reader, supported by Belleville PTA.

Belleville PTA Christmas Fair – Saturday 2 December, 12noon – 3pm, Webb's Rd.



Year 4 Multiplication Tables Check Webinar

The National Curriculum states that by the end of Year 4, pupils should know their times table facts up to 12 x 12. In 2020, the government introduced a statutory times table test for Year 4 pupils to be taken in June each year. Much like KS2 SATs, the **Multiplication Tables Check (MTC)** is mandatory for schools in England.

Having quick recall of times tables gives children a solid foundation in mathematics that will help them work out a variety of calculations easily and quickly. Knowing times tables provides the building blocks for understanding higher learning, such as long multiplication, long division, fractions, algebra and solving word problems.

To help parents with strategies to support children learning their times tables and in understanding the Year 4 MTC, the Q1E Trust is pleased to offer a virtual workshop on **Tuesday 14 November** at **2-3pm** and again at **5.30pm-6.30pm**.

Join using the links below.

[2pm – 3pm session](#)

Meeting ID: 846 8241 2881

Passcode: XtablesPM

[5.30-6.30pm session](#)

Meeting ID: 833 5096 3335

Passcode: XtablesEVE

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Belleville News

Music Update

At the end of last term, all our children had the opportunity to become composers and develop the ability to compose their own music linked to the notes they were learning in music for the term.

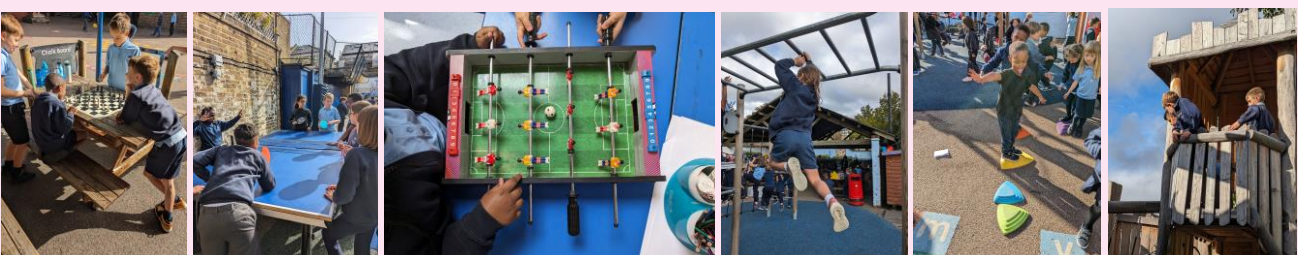
Year 1 composed and performed their own long and short durations to 4-beat pulses. Year 2 composed and performed 4-bar rhythms and added the pitches DAB. Year 3 composed and performed 2-bar melodies on the recorder by composing their own rhythm pattern and adding pitches AB and wrote on the stave!, and Year 5 composed their own strumming patterns using the notes A and E on the ukulele.



School Lunchtimes

Lunchtimes at Belleville have started smoothly this half term, and children are very positive about lunchtimes at school. Children are enjoying playing with their friends in the playgrounds, the quiet areas, and the games clubs across both sites of the school. As well as the climbing equipment, the children are fortunate to have access to a wide range of activities and games to choose from, some of which were bought by the PTA this year, which we are really grateful for.

There is a strong staff presence at lunchtimes, with staff supervising each 'zone' of the playground and the lunch halls, engaging with the children, supporting them with developing their social and emotional skills, ensuring they are eating and that all children are making the right choices. Just as we did last year, this half term at Webb's, the order in which year groups eat their lunch has been rotated. We are continuing to monitor the lunchtime provision so that we can make any adjustments or address any issues immediately. Fiona Macnab, a member of our Local Governing Body, recently toured the school at lunchtime. You can read her feedback in the newsletter dated 20th October.





Belleville News

Year 5 Update

Year 5 have had a brilliant start to the year. Alongside the incredible trip to Upton Court, our pupils have been engaging in stimulating studies, developing key academic skills, and creating expressive and effective writing as well.

In Maths, after solidifying their understanding of place value - knowledge that is of vital importance to accurate calculating and understanding of the four maths operations – our pupils developed their addition and subtraction skills before moving on to multiplication and division. Fractions lay ahead, later this term.

At the beginning of the term, the pupils read the amazing book of narrative book of poetry, *Cloudbusting* by Malorie Blackman. Themes of friendship were explored and fed into some highly effective poetry writing. For our next unit, narrative writing became the focus and selected short stories from *The Book of Hopes*, alongside the short BFI film *Brew-tali-tea* informed some exciting and stirring narratives from our young writers. The purpose of the writing tasks was to be able to build rich atmospheres through vocabulary choices and varying sentence structures. From the outcomes, we have a very exciting year of writing ahead in Year 5.

Our first unit of Science was based on forces. This sequence of lessons provided our young scientist with the opportunity to develop their scientific skills by predicting, collecting information through a range of experiments, and using their findings to draw conclusions. The enthusiasm with which our pupils embraced these lessons was inspiring and a joy to see.



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.



Belleville News



We start this half term with the **Belleville Festive Shopping event** on **Wednesday 8 November**. [Tickets are still on sale](#) (but nearly sold out) and include a glass of fizz and a tote bag (kindly sponsored by [Wilfords](#)).

If you have submitted a design, you should have received your **Christmas IQ cards** order form this week, with full instructions on how to order. The deadline for orders is **Sunday 12 November**.

We will be supporting the wonderful charity [WrapUp London](#) again with a winter coat collection. We would love donations of clean and warm coats. Please bring them in on **20 – 22 November** to the collection bags in school reception areas. Thank you to Anna Biesty for organising this collection.

Get into the festive spirit with a **wreath making workshop**. Sessions will run on **28 - 30 November** at Webb's and ticket sales will open soon. The **Belleville Winter Fair and Christmas tree sale** is due to take place on **Saturday 2 December, 12noon-3pm** at Webb's Road.

NHS Healthy Start

If you are pregnant or have children under 4, you could get help to buy cow's milk, fruit and vegetables, pulses, infant formula, and vitamins. Just scan the QR code to register your interest and the Healthy Start team will contact you. You can also speak to the local Wandsworth Children's Centre or Family Hub - Paula on 07866 123708 or Kathy on 07971 005884.

www.healthystart.nhs.uk



Girls' Football Sessions

Balham FC & Wandsworth PSFA Wildcats Centre are running some new girls' only football sessions at Hillbrook Primary School, SW17 8SG from 9.15am to 10.15am from Saturday 4 November 2023.

These sessions are for 5 – 11-year-old girls offering a fun and friendly environment, delivered by qualified, experienced coaches.

For further details or to book, please email - girlsfootball@balhamfc.com

Autumn Term 2023

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
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
First day of Summer 2: Monday 3 June
Last day of Summer 2: Wednesday 24 July