



Dear Parents and Carers,

We hope you and your families are all well. It has been a busy fortnight in school with children now truly getting back into the swing of school life.

### **What's been happening in school?**

We are seeing some fantastic learning taking place – please do have a look at Seesaw (Years 1 – 6) and Tapestry (Nursery and Reception) to see what has been happening in your child's class. Also have a look at Twitter @bellevillesch to see what has been happening in science, art and reading recently. Thank you to all of you who have completed the form about using your child's photo for different purposes. We will follow up next week with you if we don't have a response yet.

### **Parent/Carer Meetings**

We will be looking to have parent/carer meetings with the teachers in the week before half term over Zoom video conferencing (or phonecall if you prefer). We will send further details of times available and how to book an appointment online early next week.

### **Virtual Open Days - Can you help?**

We usually would have had our open mornings in the week after half term with current parents and carers leading the tours of the school. We won't be inviting 150+ visitors into the school due to Covid-19 but would still like to share your experiences of Belleville with those considering making an application as our visitors always say how much they appreciate your insights.

If you would be willing to provide a short audio or video clip that we could put on our website as part of a virtual tour, please contact our PA, Alexandra Turnbull, by email [alexandra.turnbull@bellevilleschool.org](mailto:alexandra.turnbull@bellevilleschool.org) by Friday 16<sup>th</sup> October and we will make arrangements with you.

### **School Streets**

A number of parents/carers have contacted us about the possibility of using the 'School Streets' scheme to close the roads around the sites during drop off and collection times. We are exploring this with the council and will update you when we have more information.

With best wishes and hoping you have a relaxing weekend,

Sarah Atherton  
Headteacher Juniors

Mary-Lyne Latour  
Headteacher Infants



### **What is Black History Month?**

October is Black History Month in the UK, an event that has been celebrated nationwide for more than 30 years. The month was originally founded to recognise the contributions that people of African and Caribbean backgrounds have made to the UK over many generations. Now, Black History Month has expanded to include the history of not just African and Caribbean people but black people in general.

We share the belief that it is important to recognise the people who may have been forgotten and how they have helped to shape the UK and the world as well as the contemporary people who are currently making a difference.

You may find this resource helpful to talk with your children about Black History Month:

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/newsround/49883230>

### **What is happening in school?**

We are continuing to work on our curriculum, taught throughout the year, to ensure it is representative of our children, their families and the richly diverse local and global community in which they live.

To add to this during Black History Month we will spend time in classes looking at 10 people in 10 days. We will discuss 3 main questions: Who are they? What they have done? Why they are significant?

By the end of this half term the children should be able to share up to 30 facts about the 10 people they have looked at. We would also welcome suggestions and sharing of significant black figures from staff and families to add to our knowledge as a community. For adults, you may find this resource interesting:

<https://www.theguardian.com/world/ng-interactive/2020/jul/11/black-history-timeline>

### **How can I talk to my child about Black Lives Matter?**

Many of our children are aware of, and have been moved by, the Black Lives Matter movement in recent months. Black Lives Matter is a statement which has become an important way for people to show their support for members of the black community who have experienced discrimination because of their race. It is a movement for equality for all people and against racism.

You may find this resource helpful to talk with your children about this: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/newsround/53149076>



## The school is alive with the sound of music!



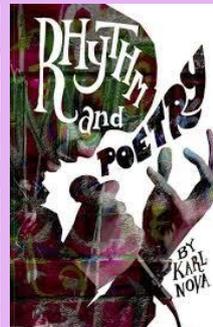
As well as music lessons for children from Reception to Year 6 taught by our specialist teacher, Ms Hughes, all of the children in Year 4 had their first lesson with their orchestral instruments and their tutors from the Wandsworth Music this week.

We are the only school in Wandsworth to have such a high quality programme with tuition in groups of 10 and with a variety of instruments: viola, cello, flute, clarinet, saxophone, baritone, trumpet and trombone.

The instruments will be coming home next week, which Year 4 parents and carers are really looking forward to!

This programme is fully funded by the Belleville PTA and we thank the PTA (and all who have contributed their time and money) for their continued support for this exceptional programme.

## Karl Nova (Virtually) Visits Year 6 Classrooms



Today, Year 6 children thoroughly enjoyed a virtual visit from CLiPPA award-winning poet, Karl Nova. The children have been studying and writing their own poems this week inspired by his 'Rhythm and Poetry' collection. During his brilliant workshop, he spoke about his inspirations, poetic techniques and (without any prompting) the importance of reading.

We look forward to seeing the poems children produce after this inspiring experience and will share some on Twitter @bellevillesch next week. This was the first of a number of author/ poet visits we are planning for this school year.

### Don't forget to enter our annual National Poetry Day competition!

This year the theme is 'Vision'. Thank you to the children that have submitted their poems already. Remember the poems can be about what you can see around you, a description of your favourite piece of art or your vision for the future. Be creative! Please hand in the poem to your child's Class Teacher by Monday 19th October. The children could also upload a video of them performing their poem on Seesaw or Tapestry.



## Skipping Success



*Thank you Lizzie!*

We had our final workshops with classes in Years 3 – 6 today as well as additional training for our Skipping Captains who will be coming to the playgrounds soon to encourage and support their peers to skip.

We thank Ms Ogunyemi and Lizzie, the coach from Skipping Workshops, for four days of fantastic experiences and we hope to arrange another visit later in the year.

## A New Arrival



Huge congratulations to Ms Kemeny who gave birth to a daughter this week, named Zara. Mother and baby are doing well and we send all our love to the Kemeny family.

## Term Dates 2020-21

### Autumn Term 2020

- Autumn half term - Monday 26th October - Friday 30th October
- End of Autumn term - Friday 18th December 2020

### Spring Term 2021

- Inset Day January 4th 2021
- First day of Spring term Tuesday 5th January 2021
- Spring half term – Monday 15th February – Friday 19th February 2021
- End of Spring term Wednesday 31st March 2021

### Summer Term 2021

- Inset Day Monday 19th April 2021
- First day of Summer term Tuesday 20th April 2021
- Summer half term – Monday 31st May – Friday June 4th 2021
- End of Summer term Friday 23rd July 2021



**Flu Immunisations** in Reception-Year 6 will take place on **November 10<sup>th</sup>**.

Please return your forms to the school office or to your child's class teacher as soon as possible!