



Belleville News

16 December 2022

Dear Parents and Carers,

Today is the last day of what has been a fantastic Autumn term. The series of Christmas concerts was a fitting way to bring the autumn term to a close and I would like to say well done to all the children for their hard work and application both in those performances and in all other aspects of their school life since September. We are very proud of what they do.

I hope everyone has an enjoyable and restful break and we look forward to seeing the children back at school at the usual time on Wednesday 4th January 2023.

John Budden

Executive Headteacher

Dates for your diary:

INSET Day - Tuesday 3 January. School closed for children.

First Day of Term - Wednesday 4 January, usual timing.

Understanding the Year 4 'Multiplication Tables Check' Workshops - Tuesday 10 January, 1.30-2.30pm & 6-7pm.
Further details and zoom links in the newsletter below.

Meet the Executive Headteacher – The final events are:

[Nursery & Reception](#), Webb's Road, Thursday 19 January, 9.15am,

[Reception](#), Meteor Street, Thursday 19 January, 11.15am.



Charity Donations

Thank you for your generous donations to support our charity appeals this term.

The Christmas Jumper day in aid of [Save the Children](#) raised £768.30 and the Poppy Appeal in aid of the [Royal British Legion](#) raised £400.14.

Thank you also to all of you who have given donations at our Christmas events in support of the [St George's Hospital Time For Change Appeal](#) and [St Michael's Church](#) and those who provided donations in kind for [Wandsworth Food Bank](#).

We will provide an update on these appeals next term.

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.



If you are worried about something
If you are worried about someone else.....



You can talk to
ANYONE who works
for the school



Safeguarding is the
responsibility of EVERYONE



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Year 3 Visit to InCommon

This week a small group of Year 3 children visited Queen Elizabeth House in Balham as part of the InCommon Intergenerational Project. They enjoyed the visit where they made decorations for the residents for Christmas, enjoyed a festive quiz and talked about different winter traditions. The children were delighted that the same residents were there again so they could build more of a relationship with them.



Modern Foreign Languages at Belleville

Having joined Belleville School in 2017, Madame Lambert, our French teacher, will be leaving at the end of this term. She has decided to start a new role at a secondary school and leaves us with our thanks and best wishes.

In our relentless drive for improvement, excellence, and equality, we are now re-evaluating our Modern Foreign Language provision to ensure that it is excellent for the future.

The National Curriculum requires children to have received some teaching in a Modern Foreign Language by the end of Year 6. We have been offering French from Year 3 to Year 6 for many years and we extend the children's learning beyond the National Curriculum requirements. It is our intention to maintain and strengthen our MFL provision.

The review will take place during the Spring Term, and we will provide a further update once this is complete.

Eco-Council Update



The Eco-Council have been thinking about ways to save our planet and keep the Christmas cheer. Try our top tips!

Make your own decorations.

Collect different items to paint or draw on to brighten up a Christmas tree or your home. There are great DIY tutorials to follow on YouTube. Not only is making decorations fun and eco-friendly, you could also make some precious memories.

Gift wrapping

Although Christmas wrapping paper is colourful and fun, a lot of it goes to waste. You could decorate an old newspaper or some scrap paper and give your wrapping paper a personal touch.

Christmas jumpers

The average use of a Christmas jumper is about two wears in its lifetime! Don't buy a new one this year! There are plenty of YouTube tutorials about refreshing your old jumper or giving a regular jumper a Christmassy look.

Thames McDowell (Year 6)

Year 5 Update

Last week, we welcomed scientist Dr Gunjan Tyagi from Imperial College London, to Year 5 to speak to the children about astrophysicists and further enrich their topic of 'Earth and Space'. The children were hooked by her presentation and enjoyed asking her creative and inquisitive questions. They also learnt about the importance of observing closely in science, one of our scientific enquiry skills, and how this can help make you a better scientist. Furthermore, the children had the exciting opportunity to step into Space themselves this week, when an immersive mobile planetarium, facilitated by Wonderdome workshop, joined us on Thursday to help children experience life beyond Earth.



In Design Technology this week, Year 5 have rolled up their sleeves to get stuck into papier mache! They will be using all that they've learnt about planets in our solar system to design, create and decorate a model solar system for their classrooms.

Year 5 were delighted to welcome parents and carers to Meteor Street this week, as all five classes came together for their winter concert. We hope you all enjoyed the singing, readings, and ukulele performances!



Christmas Performances

This week has seen an amazing array of Christmas concerts from Nursery, Year 1, Year 2, Year 5, and Year 6. Thank you to our specialist music teacher, Ms Hughes, and to our teachers and teaching assistants for all their hard work in preparing for these performances. Thank you also to all the parents and carers who came to support the children and, most of all, congratulations to all the children.



Maths – Understanding the Year 4 ‘Multiplication Tables Check’ Workshops

Karen Taylor, Director of Maths, Q1E Trust, is offering a virtual workshop for parents/carers on **Tuesday 10 January at 1.30-2.30pm** and at **6-7pm** to help provide you with strategies to support your children in learning their ‘times tables’, and an understanding the Year 4 ‘Multiplication Tables Check’.

The National Curriculum states that by the end of Year 4, pupils should know their times table facts up to 12 x 12. As you may be aware, 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 assessment, the ‘Multiplication Tables Check’ (MTC) is mandatory for schools in England.

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

Workshop on Tuesday 10 January at 1.30-2.30pm

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/88262984238?pwd=Z0JCZlZ6dmpTTE9GekUvOGpLczNMUT09>

Meeting ID: 882 6298 4238, Passcode: XtablesPM

Workshop on Tuesday 10 January at 6-7pm

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/84577379871?pwd=VDRcNEM1bW5lTGpvc1dPZStjamozZz09>

Meeting ID: 845 7737 987, Passcode: XtablesEVE





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Work with Us!

Would you, or anyone you know, like to work part-time in our friendly and happy school?

We are looking for more members of our midday team who provide support to pupils during their lunchtime break - encouraging them to make the right choices, support in the dinner halls, build friendships and interact with each other through play.

The role is for 7.5 hours a week (Mon to Fri), 1.5 hours a day (12.15 noon-1.45pm), 39 weeks a year (term-time and Inset days).

To find out more and apply, visit [work with us](#).

Young Author publishes prize-winning story!

One of our Year 5 pupils has recently won a competition held by the Northcote Road library.



Young writers were challenged to write a story based around the theme of Halloween. Autumn, in her own time, wrote a chillingly delightful story called "Midnight's Adventures". This was a tale of a cat who is unhappy with the treatment it receives from its owner and who creates a devious plan to seek revenge.

"Midnight's Adventures" has now been published, in a limited run of six copies, for her class reading corner. Many congratulations!

School Term Dates

Spring Term 2023

Inset day: Tues 3 Jan – school closed to children
First day of Spring 1: Wednesday 4 January
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
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