

Belleville Newsletter



May 9th

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Please remember to keep informing us about cases of Chickenpox, Measles and Shingles within your family.

NSPCC THANK YOU!

Our NSPCC 'Stay Safe, Speak out' sponsored readathon over the Easter break has raised over **£1600** with a few late donations still coming in. Thank you hugely for all the reading and money collection which has taken place to help this charity.

If you do have any further envelopes or donations please do bring them in and they will be passed on to the NSPCC who are visiting again to pass on their thanks in assemblies.

WANDSWORTH ANNUAL PUPIL ACHIEVEMENT AWARD CEREMONY

We were delighted to be invited to Wandsworth Town Hall for the annual pupil achievement award ceremony.

Belleville was one of the top four schools in the borough with the highest proportion of pupils meeting the expected standard in all three Key Stage 1 assessments in reading, writing and maths in 2018.

It has been a busy start to the summer term at school with new topics, visits and events coming thick and fast. Our INSET day focussed on many areas including teaching of reading, maths, safeguarding training and looking at writing progress.

We also looked together at our pupil surveys which were carried out just before the holidays. Our children showed great insight into identifying strengths of the school and where improvements could be made and have given excellent focus for our reflections and attention this term and beyond. We will ask you all to complete a parent/carer survey later this term also, but please do not hesitate to come and talk with us before then should you have any queries, concerns or suggestions.

There is a lot to look forward to this term and some exciting projects coming up so please do keep an eye on dates. We look forward to a very productive summer term and seeing you all at one of the many events as well as on the playgrounds.

Sarah Atherton Mary-Lyne Latour Jane Ford

COMMUNICATION SYSTEM

We will be launching our Parent Mail system in the coming weeks. We ask that you ensure any updates to your preferred email address and mobile numbers are correct as both text and email facility will be enabled shortly.

The system will be our main communication system to manage emails, trips, messages, consent forms and, in due course, payments and parent/carer evening sign ups. The current Belleville app will, therefore, very shortly be replaced by Parent Mail. CHQ will remain as the system for clubs for the time being. Precise details about how to install and use the new system will be shared in the next few weeks.

LEAVERS AND ARRIVALS

Georgina Mackenzie is leaving us on Friday 10th May to join the emergency response team with the Metropolitan Police. Her 16 years of dedication to the children and the families of Belleville are hugely appreciated and we thank her for all the service she has given. We wish her all the very best in her new career.

We send our warmest congratulations to three members of staff who have very recently had their babies. Our very best wishes go to the following families: Ms Allan and baby Isla; Ms Biset and baby Luca; Ms Boyd and baby Tommy. We look forward to seeing them all soon.

EVENTS COMING UP

Nursery Closure on Thursday 23rd May for European Parliament elections

The Nursery will be closed for elections all day on Thursday 23rd May. The rest of the school will be open as usual.

Ramadan and Fasting

We ask that you do let your child's teacher know if your child is fasting with food and/or water each day during Ramadan. If a child tells us they are fasting but we have no information from their parent/carer, we will contact you as this is a daily, individual decision for families.

PTA Fun Run on Sunday 19th May

The hugely popular Fun Run is taking place on Sunday 19th May on Wandsworth Common. We look forward to seeing many of you there from 9am. Many thanks to the PTA for organising this fantastic event.

Peripatetic Music Lessons from September 2019

If your child will be in Year 5 or 6 in September and wishes to continue with their musical instrument lessons, please do get your form in by Friday 10th May.

Swimming Gala

This Saturday will see some of our children from Years 4-6 competing in the annual Wandsworth Swimming Competition. There will be 12 schools competing within the borough this year. Many thanks to Mel George and Kimberley Burrows for getting our squad ready. Good luck!

DROP OFF AND PICK UP REMINDERS

Gates

Our gates are open from 8.45am. We remind you that children should only be in school from this time onward unless at a club. At the end of day we aim to have the gates closed by 3.45pm so clubs can begin and the admission to the school is via the office.

We again remind parents to ensure you are signed in at the office if you are in the building at all times of the day.

Rainy Days

Until the real summer weather reappears, a reminder that if we do have a very wet start to the day, children can come straight in from playgrounds into the classrooms. Parents/carers please do say goodbye in the playground as usual rather than following your child into school as the number of parents in school creates congestion. Thank you for your understanding.

VISITS AND VISITORS

We have had a busy time since the Easter break with a huge range of learning experiences taking place.

Professor Sugata Mitra at Belleville

Our links with Professor Mitra (winner of the 1 million dollar TED prize in 2013) have been built over many years and his work goes on to influence many in the field of education and beyond. We were honoured to have him visit us again at Belleville the week before last and again this week. Professor Mitra always challenges our thinking and ways of learning for teachers and the children. Our work with him has led to our use of SOLE (Self-Organised Learning Environments) lessons as one of our school approaches to learning and were delighted to have Sugata back with us to take our thinking on again.

Professor Mitra led two very different sessions with two of our Year 3 classes. The children were excited (and absolutely unfazed!) by working with Professor Mitra and simultaneously being observed by over 30 visiting heads and teachers from across London who were in the room for the sessions. Sugata led stimulating and challenging discussions with staff about learning and the future of education. We will be looking at how we can further develop our SOLE lessons within our curriculum.

If you are interested in seeing more of Sugata's work there is a huge amount of fascinating material and many videos available online. These are particularly good places to start:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VGF3kjgCaMQ> - *The Future of Learning*

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=y3jYVe1RGaU> - *Sugata Mitra: Build a School in the Cloud*

Reception to the Golden Hinde

Our Reception classes have been enjoying their visits to the Golden Hinde. Thank you to all parents/ carers for making these young pirates look so fearsome this week!

Year 4 Recycling Centre

Our Year 4 visit to the Wandsworth recycling centre has generated much discussion in school and at home for many of our families as the children really took on the issues raised in their questions and follow up discussions. They have had a paper-making workshop run by the recycling centre also in school this week which was fascinating for everyone.

Edward Thomas Fellowship Visit

As our most famous ex-pupil, Edward Thomas, is an important figure in our history and Year 5 pay particular attention to him in their history unit. Three members of the Edward Thomas Fellowship organisation toured Webb's Road last week and were very excited to see the classrooms where Edward Thomas went to school. They were hugely impressed and wrote their thanks saying "...it's very obvious Belleville is a very happy and well-run school". We look forward to further developing these links.

GOOD AS NEW UNIFORM SALES AT BOTH SITES IN MAY

A sale of good as new uniform will be held at Webb's Road on Friday 10th May and at Meteor Street on Friday 17th May, both from 3.30pm in the playground. Do please come along and support these Ghana fundraisers.

HONEYPOT UNBELIEVABLE TALENT SHOW

Do please keep Friday 21st June free from 7.00pm for the hotly anticipated Honeypot *Unbelievable Talent Show*! Tickets, priced £15 each, will go on sale at both sites soon!

TERM DATES

SUMMER TERM 2019:

- **HALF TERM HOLIDAY:** Monday 27th May – Friday 31st May (including Spring Bank Holiday Monday 27th May).
- **INSET DAY:** Monday 3rd June – school closed to children. **Children return to school on Tuesday 4th June at the usual time.**
- **SUMMER HOLIDAY:** The school breaks up at **2.30pm** on Tuesday 23rd July 2019.

AUTUMN TERM 2019:

- **INSET DAYS:** Monday 2nd and Tuesday 3rd September – school closed to children. **Children return to school on Wednesday 4th September at the usual time.**
- **HALF TERM:** Monday 21st October – Friday 25th October.
- **INSET DAY:** Monday 28th October – school closed to children. **Children return to school on Tuesday 29th October at the usual time.**
- **CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY:** The school breaks up at **2.30pm** on Thursday 19th December 2019.

SPRING TERM 2020:

- **INSET DAY:** Monday 6th January – school closed to children. **Children return to school on Tuesday 7th January at the usual time.**
- **HALF TERM:** Monday 17th February – Friday 21st February. **Children return to school on Monday 24th February at the usual time.**
- **EASTER HOLIDAY:** Monday 6th April – Friday 17th April (including Good Friday 10th April and Easter Monday 13th April). The school breaks up at **2.30pm** on Friday 3rd April.

SUMMER TERM 2020

- **INSET DAY:** Monday 20th April – school closed to children. **Children return to school on Tuesday 21st April at the usual time.**
- **MAY DAY BANK HOLIDAY:** Monday 4th May – school closed.
- **HALF TERM HOLIDAY:** Monday 25th May – Friday 29th May. **Children return to school on Monday 1st June at the usual time.**
- **SUMMER HOLIDAY:** The school breaks up at **2.30pm** on Tuesday 21st July 2020.