

September Issue



## Message from the Head

Dear Parents/Carers,

What a busy month it has already been — the first 4 weeks seem to have flown by in no time at all.

A big welcome to all of the new children and families joining us this year — we hope you enjoy being part of the Bellfield family.

Over the summer holidays, we have had lots of work done to make our building and outdoor areas welcoming to our children. Firstly, you will notice that our car park gates have been upgraded and our pedestrian gate made safer. In addition, Mr Broadley has spent lots of time working on the internal environment of our school.

We have finally got the go-ahead to replace the dilapidated mobile outside the hall and this will be getting completed this year. We look forward to having a multi-purpose space for our children and community.

Can you please remind your children that riding bikes/scooters on the school site is prohibited. Our priority is the safety of our children and we would appreciate your support with this.

The weather appears to be unpredictable at the moment so please ensure your child comes to school with appropriate clothing, including a coat for outdoors.

We would like to say a fond farewell and thank you to Mrs Nicolini, who leaves us next Friday to take up a new challenge working for the NHS. She has been an invaluable asset to our school over the many years she has been with us.

On behalf of all of the staff, we look forward to working alongside you on what we hope will be another successful year at Bellfield.

Mr Mills

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## Your Opinion Matters

Last year was the first year of our Parent Forum and from the meetings that were held, we were able to make some changes within school that reflected our parent's views.

We will again be running parent forum sessions this year and would urge anybody to come along and get involved. It gives you the opportunity to speak to senior leaders and raise any concerns or suggestions you have to make our school better.

The first meeting will be held on **Wednesday 17th October 2018 from 3:30pm**. We will provide an after-school games/ICT club for any parents staying behind with children.

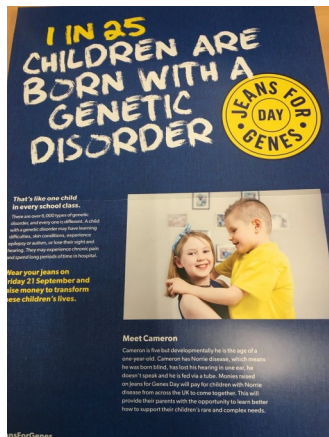
In addition, we will be asking you to complete a 'Parent Survey' during parent consult week, which will help us look at your views on the strengths and areas for improvement in our school.

## Sporting Success

Already, we have had a busy month of sports:

- Classes 2-6 have been taking part in table-tennis lessons as part of their P.E. curriculum.
- Class 4 have completed their swimming sessions (it is a Statutory requirement that we provide swimming lessons at some point throughout Key Stage 2). Well done to the 26 children who managed to swim the expected 25m.
- Classes 5 and 6 have started their boxing sessions with Bob and have shown some real talent (even if they are being put through their paces!)
- Our after school sports clubs have started and are already proving to be very popular with our children.

Last year, we were again awarded the Gold Mark for P.E. and this year, Ms Cowap and her Sports Leaders are aiming for the Platinum Mark — we are confident that they will be successful.



## What's been happening?

At Bellfield, we pride ourselves on having a really strong, bespoke curriculum, which allows our children to learn far more than simply reading, writing and maths. From speaking to our children, our thematic approach to learning through topics really does engage and enthuse them....but we know there is more to be done! This year, our curriculum leaders, Miss Howard and Mrs Clark, will be reviewing the topics we currently teach and designing some new ones to give our children a secure understanding of life in modern Britain and the life skills they will need to go on and become successful adults.

This month, class 5 have taken part in Bikeability — a course designed to give them an understanding of how to ride safely on the road.

Class 3 have undertaken their pedestrian skills, which teaches them how to cross roads safely.

Class 2 have started their 'Go-Skoot' sessions. Similar to Bikeability, this training teaches our children to be safe when riding scooters.

Class 5 and 6 have been to Eden Camp for their termly visit. They had a great time learning all about World War II, which will help them with their learning this term. Well done to those that got in to the war time spirit and dressed up — you looked amazing!

On Friday 21st September, our children were allowed to come to school in jeans for the day. This was to help raise funds for the charity 'Jeans for Genes'. Thank you to all that took part—we raised an impressive £81.50 from the children's contributions — thank you!

## Last Year's Achievements

Last year was another brilliant year for Bellfield's year 6.

In their Statutory Assessment Tests (SATs), an impressive 88% of our children achieved the expected standard for reading, writing and maths combined, compared to a national figure on 64%. Yet again, they did exceptionally well in Maths, with 100% of our children reaching the expected standard and 41% of them achieving the tougher 'greater depth' standard. Nationally, 76% of children reached the expected standard in Maths and 24% reached the higher standard. This goes to show that our children work extremely hard and want to achieve their potential.

With results like these, it is no wonder that the school is held in high-regard within this city.

These exceptional results are no fluke — we have sustained this high standard for over 3 years now and I thank you for your continued support in enabling our children to flourish!



## Superstars

Although there have been many superstars this month, the following children have really stood out with their learning and attitude:

Nur — **Cora Wild** for putting her heart and soul into everything and settling in well!

Rec — **Thomas Major** for settling in to class exceptionally well and being a reading star!

Year 1 — **Scarlett Croft** for putting in 100% and trying her very best in everything that she does!

Year 2 — **Darcy Amers-Murrell** for always doing the right thing and striving to be the best!

Year 3 — **Franki-May Ness** for excellent effort in Maths!

Year 4 — **Aimee Grannon** for being an attentive, supportive and ambitious member of the class.

Year 5 — **Kierran Sutcliffe** for always giving 100% to everything he does!

Year 6 — **Alex May** for displaying a super year 6 standard in attitude, work and behaviour!



## Attendance Matters

As you will be aware from my final Newsletter last year, attendance remains one of our priority areas. Even though our attendance increased slightly to 95.6%, it is still well-below our target of 97%.

We expect our children to be in school, on time each day. If they are not in school, then the expectation is that you make contact with us to inform us of the reasons. If we haven't heard anything by 9:30am, our office will make a telephone call to you. If this is unsuccessful, a home-visit will take place. This is not to catch people out — we have a duty to know where our children are if they are not in school.

A reminder that all term-time holidays will be unauthorised and will be referred to the Local Authority if they amount to 10 sessions or more. In addition, for any child whose attendance falls below 90%, parents/carers will be asked to come and meet with staff to discuss.

Attendance for September: **96.5% - A BRILLIANT START TO THE YEAR!**

Rec	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
95.7	96.8	97.4	97.1	92.4	98.6	96.3

## Bellfield Primary School

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Our aim at Bellfield Primary School is for all children to be confident, enthusiastic and happy individuals who are brave and ambitious in all that they do.

Our restorative approach will enable children to become inclusive team players and problem solvers who treat each other with respect and empathy.

We will provide an engaging curriculum designed to prepare children to be resilient whilst on their journey to becoming successful adults.

Here at Bellfield Primary School, all children will be championed and encouraged to be the best

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[www.bellfieldprimary.org.uk](http://www.bellfieldprimary.org.uk)

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**Bellfield — Building firm foundations to empower and inspire all to do their best.**



## *Important Dates*

All of our important dates and key events are now shown on our website under the 'calendar' tab.

**Wednesday 3rd October**

**Thursday 4th October (3:30pm)**

**Tuesday 16th October**

**Wednesday 24th October—Friday 26th October**

**Monday 8th October**

**Tuesday 9th October**

**Wednesday 10th October**

**Thursday 11th October**

**Friday 26th October**

**Monday 5th November**

- Y3/4 Viking Day

- Parent Forum

- School Photographs

- Y5/6 Residential

- Class 1 and Reception consults

- Class 2 and Class 4 consults

- Class 3 and Class 5 consults

- Class 6 consults

- Break off

- Children return to school

## *Free School Meals*

If you are in receipt of any benefits and have not already done so, we would urge you to apply for free school meals. Not only does this cover the cost of lunches for your child(ren), for each child in receipt of free school meals, the school receives £1320, which can then be spent on resources.

Please contact the school office for more information.