

January 2019
Issue



Message from the Head

Dear Parents/Carers,

January seems to have flown by in no time at all! The children really have matured since joining their new year groups in September and it has been so lovely to see them taking pride in their learning.

Having spent lots of time in other schools this month, it is so refreshing coming back to Bellfield and reflecting on all of the outstanding things that go on. Okay, we don't always get it right but I hope you feel that we are receptive to change and improvement. Like any organisation, we are never going to be able to please everybody 100% of the time. You are our community and we are here for your children; I am confident that the staff at Bellfield give all children a great deal.

Please keep an eye on our online calendar, which lists all of the school events. We aim to notify you as far in advance as possible about events but sometimes things crop up at the last minute. Can I please inform you all that children should not be arriving at school prior to 8:30am, unless they are attending breakfast club. We have had some of our children on site from 8:10am onwards. Your children remain your responsibility until 8:30am and you need to ensure their safety until this time.

Finally, as always, I would like to thank you for your continued support, especially in providing feedback to the school. I would only ask that if you have issues, please do make contact with us. The Parent View completed before half-term showed that there are some issues which we are not aware of.

Mr Mills

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Your Opinion

The date for the next 'parent forum' will be Tuesday 12th February.

We know you are all very busy but really would encourage you to come along and offer your opinions. As the 'community for this school' it is important that you can have your say and hear the school's responses.

As before, there will be two sessions; one at 2:00-2:40pm and the other 3:20-4:00pm.

Did you know?

We currently have vacancies for 'Parent Governors'

School governors have an important part to play in supporting and challenging school leaders in making sure that the school continues to make progress.

If you think you have the right skills to bring to our governing body, please contact the school office on 374490.

Sporting Success

Ms Cowap has continued the tradition of keeping our sports stars busy this month. We are very proud of the number of competitions we take part in as a school; sport is a real strength of Bellfield!

Some KS2 pupils took part in a Dodgeball competition — showing excellent determination and teamwork.

Year 6 boys competed in a football competition and despite the cold, frosty weather, they did us really proud!

Children from across the school took part in a Kurling tournament, where two of our KS1 teams won medals — amazing!

Finally, KS2 pupils took part in a badminton tournament. They had lots of fun, showed their skills and again represented the school brilliantly well.

We look forward the sporting competitions planned for next month.



What's been happening?



All classes started their new topics this term — if you're not already aware, here's an overview:

Nursery/Reception — 'Transport'

Classes 1/2 — 'Let's Go Wild'

Classes 3/4 — The Golden Ticket

Classes 5/6 — Fit for Life

Class 5 have taken part in 'Lessons for Life', which has given them the knowledge to perform life-saving skills such as CPR. They took a lot from the session and showed what great ambassadors they are!

Our International Pupil Council members delivered a whole-school assembly this month, to tell us about what work they have been doing with our partner school in Sierra Leone. They showed great confidence and passed on some very important messages — especially about toilet sanitation.

On Tuesday 29th January, we had our Basic Skills Quality Mark review. The Headteacher from Neasden Primary School (who is also a Basic Skills reviewer) came to look at how well we support children in reading, writing and maths. As part of the process, she conducted a learning walk, visiting all classes. She was 'bowled over' by our children's attitudes to learning and by the consistently good teaching that she saw in every classroom. Needless to say, we passed the review with 'flying colours'!

There are many exciting visits planned for next month, including Reception and Nursery visiting The Street Life Museum to support their 'Transport' topic, and classes 5 & 6 visiting Thackray Museum to support their 'Fit for Life' topic. As I mentioned in a previous Newsletter, we want to enrich children's experiences and understanding of their topic through visits but these are only possible with the help of your financial contributions — thank you!



SeeSaw

We have now been using SeeSaw for a while and the feedback we have received is that parents appreciate the information posted on there.

The purpose of SeeSaw is to celebrate children's work with you and for you to be able to see the learning that your child is doing in school. Over recent weeks, many parents have been messaging teachers through the app, often outside of school hours and sometimes as late as 10pm at night. Can I please inform all parents/carers that SeeSaw does not replace our usual lines of communication. If there is something you wish to speak to your child's class teacher about, please go through the normal channels of catching them on the playground at the end of the day, or ring the school office to make an appointment. It is not reasonable to expect teachers to respond to messages outside of their working hours. In addition, messages can be interpreted in many different ways so it is always better to speak face-to-face. Thank you for your cooperation.

Data Capture

Thank you to those who completed and returned the 'data capture' sheets. We have reviewed the responses and will send out further information on the findings shortly.

Superstars

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

Nur — **Teddie S** for developing a 'can do' attitude towards his work and always giving 100%!

Rec — **Ella R** for perseverance and determination to improve her handwriting!

Class 1 — **Luke D** for excellent effort in Maths!

Class 2 — **Nowyad K** for his enthusiasm and excitement in all lessons linked to Topic!

Class 3 — **Missy J** for always trying her best in everything she does!

Class 4 — **Alicia B** for having a great attitude to learning every day!

Class 5 — **Damon A-A** for always giving 100%!

Class 6 — **James P** for an improved attitude to learning!



Attendance Matters

Our attendance target for this year is **97%**.

We have recently seen a surge in requests for term-time holidays. As a reminder to parents/carers, as per our policy, **all requests for term-time holidays are unauthorised**, unless they meet one of the three 'exceptional circumstances'. In addition, any holiday equating to 10 or more sessions (5 school days) will be referred to the Local Authority, who may choose to issue a fine to parents.

It is really important that children are in school every day so that they can receive the best of what we offer.

Attendance for January: **96.6% - not quite at our target but well done to all of the classes above 97%. Let's see if we can keep on improving!**

Rec	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
96.7%	98.2%	97.7%	97.5%	95.8%	98.6%	96.6%

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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 they can be.

www.bellfieldprimary.org.uk

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.

Monday 4th February 2019	- Siemens working with Class 5.
Monday 4th February 2019 (pm)	- Class 3 Kwik-Cricket tournament
Monday 4th February 2019 2:00pm	- PCSO visit to school
Tuesday 5th February 2019	- Safer Internet Day
Tuesday 5th February 2019	- Food for Life visit — x3 children
Thursday 14th February 2019	- Break off for Half-term
Friday 15th February 2019	- School Closed
Monday 25th February 2019	- Children return to school
Tuesday 26th February 2019	- Reception visit to The Street Life Museum
Wednesday 27th February 2019 (am)	- Nursery visit to The Street Life Museum
Wednesday 27th February 2019	- IMPS working with Class 6
Thursday 28th February 2019 (pm)	- Nursery visit to The Street Life Museum

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.