

February 2019  
Issue



## *Message from the Head*

Dear Parents/Carers,

I hope you had a fantastic half-term break and have made the most of the recent lovely weather we have had.

I have been so impressed with the attitudes of our children towards their learning — they really are enthusiastic and eager to please.

I hope you can join us over the next couple of weeks for parent consults, where teachers will talk to you about the progress your child is making against their targets and against the National Curriculum expectations.

Can I please remind parents/carers to work with us in ensuring that bikes and scooters are not ridden on the playground. There have been a few 'near misses' recently, which could have been avoided simply by children walking their bikes/scooters. I really do not want to get to the point of having to stop bikes and scooters being brought onto the premises.

As a result of the comments and suggestions made by some parents, we have changed our homework policy. This can be viewed on the school's website under 'Our School' and 'School Policies'. This new policy outlines the type and frequency of homework across the school to create more consistency. You will notice that we have placed real emphasis on reducing the expectation of homework being completed over the weekends and holidays, as we appreciate that family time is precious.

Mr Batty will not be at Bellfield as much over the next few months, as he supports another school in the Trust.

Thank you for your continued support.

Mr Mills

### Inside this issue:

<i>Sporting Success</i>	2
<i>What's been happening?</i>	2
<i>General News</i>	3
<i>Superstars</i>	3
<i>Attendance Matters</i>	3
<i>Important Dates</i>	4

## *Your Opinion*

During Parent Consults, we will again be asking you to complete a 'parent survey'. Your views are important to us as they reflect the type of school that we are. It would be brilliant if 100% of our families felt that they would recommend our school to others — and this is something we will continually strive for.

We are always open about how we respond to suggestions and concerns.

## *Did you know?*

Mrs Puckering, our Emotional Well Being Worker, is here to support children and their families.

If you need any support with anything, she is able to signpost you to all of the agencies in the city who may be able to provide further support.

Please get in touch with her if you think additional support would be useful.

## Sporting Success

Even though we have had a week off this month, sporting events continue to be a high priority of our school.

Class 3 spent a day at the Allstar Cricket Festival showing off their catching, batting and bowling skills.

Children from classes 5 and 6 were awarded their bronze and silver medals for boxing — well done to all of them!

Some children from across Key Stage 2 took part in a table tennis competition, showing impressive teamwork skills — Ms Cowap was extremely proud of them!

In addition to the above, we continue to provide our children with experience in a range of different sports, through expert coaching in badminton and cricket. We also continue to offer a wide-range of after-school sports clubs for children to get involved in, free of charge.



## What's been happening?



Even though the beginning of the month seems a distant memory, there has been lots going on.

Class 5 were visited by Lab Rascals to carry out some scientific workshops. They had a brilliant day building wind turbines and powering motor vehicles. Classes in Key Stage 2 worked with The Woodland Trust, weaving willows and considering our local environment to make it more appealing to local wildlife — they even created our very own 'Bug Hotel'!

The whole school took part in activities around 'Safer Internet' and, with the latest craze in the media, we would remind you to be vigilant and supervise your children whilst they are online.

Mrs Smith organised a 'book swap' event where every child in the school has been able to select two books to take home with them. They were all very excited, as you can see from the pictures on our Twitter page.

Reception and Nursery have visited The Streetlife Museum to support their transport topic. They had great fun and were brilliant Bellfield ambassadors. Thank you to all of the parents/carers who gave up their time to help out.

Class 6 spent the morning working with IMPS learning about first aid and the vital skill of CPR.

## General News

If you are not already doing so, I would urge you to regularly visit our website: [www.bellfieldprimary.org.uk](http://www.bellfieldprimary.org.uk). Here, you will find our online calendar, where we publish dates as far in advance as possible. Also, over the next week or so, many of our policies will be updated and uploaded on to the site.

As part of our link work with Sierra Leone, the Headteacher of our 'link' school will be visiting Bellfield from Friday 11th to Thursday 14th March. He will spend time in classes, meeting with children and learning about Hull as a city — if you see him, please say 'Hi'.

I have been made aware that there have been a few issues with the payments for trips recently. As you know, we value the importance of visits to enhance learning and this is something many parents are keen for us to do more of. When you get letters for visits, they are (in more cases than not) well-in-advance of the visit date, to give you plenty of notice and to allow you to budget accordingly. When you receive your letter, it often refers to a 'voluntary contribution'. Schools are only permitted to ask for 'voluntary contributions' however, we rely on these 'contributions' for visits to go ahead. All parents and children are advised, when the trip is organised, that if not enough 'contributions' are received, then the visit may be cancelled. The school is no longer in a position to subsidise visits like it may have in the past. It is not helpful when we hear of parents refusing to pay for visits.

## Superstars

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

Nur — **Niamh R** for amazing resilience and perseverance in all areas of learning!

Rec — **Jessica C** for persevering with her writing!

Class 1 — **Jack M** for working really hard with his reading!

Class 2 — **Lily W** for being a kind and caring member of the class!

Class 3 — **Tommie B** for extra hard work in maths looking at telling the time!

Class 4 — **Alicia Buchanan** for mind blowing maths!

Class 5 — **Leone R** for trying her best in everything she does!

Class 6 — **Charlee B** for making outstanding progress due to her hard work and determination!



## Attendance Matters

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

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 February: **96.5% - lower than our target and a decrease from last month. Let's have a big push for next month. Well done to all classes that met/exceeded our target!**

Rec	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
95.5%	96.8%	98%	96.8%	95.6%	97.1%	95.2%

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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.

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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.**

<b>Monday 4th March 2019</b>	- Class 1 & 2 visit to Flamingoland
<b>Tuesday 5th March 2019</b>	- Class 3 & 4 visit to York Chocolate Factory - Reception Parent Consults
<b>Wednesday 6th March 2019</b>	- Class 5 Parent Consults
<b>Thursday 7th March 2019</b>	- Class 6 Parent Consults
<b>Friday 8th March 2019</b>	- Visiting Head from Sierra Leone arrives
<b>Monday 11th March 2019</b>	- Class 1 Parent Consults
<b>Tuesday 12th March 2019</b>	- Class 3 Parent Consults
<b>Wednesday 13th March 2019</b>	- Class 4 Parent Consults
<b>Thursday 14th March 2019</b>	- Class 2 Parent Consults - Class 5 and 3 Healthy Lifestyle workshop
<b>Friday 15th March 2019</b>	- KS2 Penathlon Challenge
<b>Thursday 21st March 2019</b>	- Class 5 and 3 Healthy Lifestyle workshop

## *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.