

Bellfield Primary School

“Believe, Persevere, Succeed”

21st October 2020



Dear Parents and Carers,

Wow, we have had a great first half term! Thank you for your continued support through these difficult times. We know it has been a worrying time, but your support has been very much welcomed. The children have been AMAZING and as teachers we have been thrilled to see how hard they have worked and how well they have adapted to changes in the school.

School vision

You may have noticed at the top of the newsletter our new school vision – Bellfield Primary School – Believe, Persevere, Succeed. This will run alongside our ‘Bellfield BEAMS’ that the children are very familiar with as our approach to promoting positive behaviour (B – behaviour, E – enthusiasm, A – attitude, M – manners, S – Support). Our BEAMS are used to encourage pupils to believe, persevere and succeed. After the half term, we will be launching our new vision with the children. Please ask them about our vision and Bellfield BEAMS. Watch out for the stickers and certificates given out for those demonstrating their BEAMS each week.

Christmas!

Next half term is usually a big build up to many Christmas festivities. Unfortunately, this year we will not be able to do our usual Foundation Stage and Year 5/6 Christmas concerts. It breaks my heart to say that we will not be having lots of little shepherds with tea towels on their heads and angels singing so beautifully. Instead, each class will be making Christmas inspired decorations to sell, so please keep an eye out on Seesaw for your child’s amazing work.

Year group	Decoration	Price
Foundation Stage (Nursery/ Reception)	Christmas photograph keyrings	£2
	Reindeer food	£1
Year 1 and 2	Photograph Snow globes	£3
Year 3 and 4	Photograph and decorated baubles	£3
Year 5 and 6	Photograph and decorated baubles	£3

Please support us as all funds raised will go directly to each class. The class will use the funds during the year for a special event, once we are able to organise events again.

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Safety/Safeguarding

Over the half term, many people will be starting to get ready for Bonfire night, I know I have already heard and seen many fireworks being set off! Please talk to your child about how to be safe around fireworks and what to do if anyone is being dangerous. We will reinforce these messages in school, on our return, but feel it is important that children are made aware of the potential dangers of firework misuse.

Since my last newsletter, Mr Newton has met with our local community police officer, (PC Jackie Cressy) and passed on our concerns about a white van that many parents had reported to the school. PC Cressy took the details and informed us that she would be vigilant on her patrols and keep an eye out for anything concerning. Thank you for keeping us informed, safeguarding is the responsibility of the whole community.

If your child is in Year 5 or 6 then you will have been sent a video via Seesaw asking the children to stand within the school gates so that they are not on the pavement. Many parents are struggling to get past with prams/the younger children and are having to walk on the road. Please help us to keep all children safe.

School Stakeholder Group

We are still looking for another parent to join our stakeholder group. If you would like any further information, please contact the school office. We need to fill the position and it is an opportunity to support the school and help to shape the future of Bellfield.

Attendance/Punctuality

Thank you for continuing to support our community with attendance. Our attendance continues to remain high at **97.3%**. **This is a fantastic start to the year, well done everyone.** We know as we enter the ‘winter’ months that children may start to get colds, please endeavour to bring children to school. If your child was unable to concentrate or were in any discomfort, we would ring you. Remember, we are able to administer medicine and or Calpol for things such as headaches. All you need to do is inform your class teacher, via Seesaw or ring the school office.

During this half term we have had several attendance meetings with families and I am pleased to say that these have all been successful. All the children have had a steady rise in their attendance, well done. Please do not worry if you get a phone call to invite you to discuss your child/s attendance, these are supportive meetings.

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Please try to take holidays out of term time to ensure this does not affect your child's learning. We know this is not always possible, but please be aware that we will not authorise any holiday and all absences of 10 or more sessions (5 days+) will be referred to the Local Authority who may wish to issue a fine. This half term we have had many families take holidays which has not only affected attendance but more importantly, learning.

On returning to school after a period of absence, pupils have missed large chunks of learning and have found it difficult to catch up even more work.

Please continue to arrive at school for the start of the day on time, lots of reading/spelling and arithmetic work happens first thing in a morning, therefore it is imperative that your child is here. We want all children to achieve to the best of their ability and know with your support this will be possible.

Nursery/Reception: Start time – 8.30am (*morning work is from 8.30 – 8.45am*)

Year 1-6: Start time – 8.40am (*morning work is from 8.40 – 8.55am*)

Online learning

We are pleased to inform you that as a school we are investing money into purchasing the full version of Seesaw. As soon as the new Seesaw package is set up, all home learning will once again be sent via your app.

All children are now familiar with how to use this to complete work and send it to the teacher for feedback. In the event of a school or bubble closure, work will once again be set on Seesaw for all children to complete.

This is now a government expectation, we are ahead of the game as our children are very good with Seesaw. All homework will also be sent out via Seesaw.

Teachers will be doing one lesson in class on how to use Seesaw activities as a way to complete work, this will help to refresh pupils with how to use it and also given an opportunity for the younger children to see how to use the app.

If your child is off school for any reason, whether for Covid related or any other illness, the class teacher will send them work for the day/s via Seesaw. We ask that if your child is well enough that they complete the work set, this will help them settle back into class quickly and easily on their return. We really appreciate your support with this.

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Other information

A massive **THANK YOU** for your wonderful contributions for Harvest Festival, we were blown away and Hull for Hero's were so grateful for the food parcel. The children all participated in a class harvest festival assembly to learn about the importance of harvest and how giving to others is a great way to support the wider community.

We are **very proud** of our Key Stage 2 classes for completing the Hull Active Schools Marathon and Hull Active Schools Cross Country event. Mrs Cowap is not letting Covid deter her from aiming for the Hull Active School of the year award again! Rainbow Room have been entered into the 'Hull Active Schools Virtual Rainbow Boccia' event. We are looking forward to seeing how well they do, so keep an eye on our Twitter. She will be entering the children into many virtual events over the coming months, Covid will not stop us from being a fit, healthy and competitive school!

Over the half term holiday we are, once again, having some changes to the school grounds. On your return you will notice a new gate on the playground. This is to make our playground completely secure, the safety of our children is paramount. We are also having the 'trim trail' taken down. Although the children enjoy playing on the equipment at playtime, we have had to condemn some parts of it due to it being unsafe. We will be having artificial grass fitted and eventually some activity sheds so that the children have more to do at break and lunchtime. Our Year 1 outdoor area will also be having artificial grass fitted so that the children will be able to play outdoors during the winter months.

When we return after half term we will be having some more building work to secure the mobile Rainbow Room classroom. There will be a fence fitted around the mobile classroom so that our Rainbow Room children will have their own outdoor learning and play area. This will also mean that they are safe when playing outdoors.

Have a wonderful half term. The children are in need of a well-deserved rest. They have worked their socks off and have shown how resilient they are. I cannot express enough, how proud we all are of them.

Have a lovely week,

Miss Howard