



Newsletter



Dates for your diary

Sadly, it will be very soon to say goodbye to Year 6.

Here are some dates of the events we will be holding for Y6.

Tuesday 17th July—Y6

performance at 6.30 pm.

Wednesday 18th July—Y6

leavers' disco 6.00-7.00

pm.

Thursday 19th July—Y6

leavers' assembly @ 9.10.

After the leavers' assembly, there will be refreshments for Y6 parents and pupils to enjoy together.

Attendance:

Last week, we were thrilled that every class in the school achieved an attendance above 99%! Attendance has continued to improve throughout the year, and is now an average of 95.5% - which is 2% higher than last year.

Attendance for April

Reception	96.2%
Y1 Beech	96.6%
Y1 Ash	96.7%
Y2 Hazel	97.5%
Y3 Elm	96.3%
Y4 Sycamore	96.2%
Y5 Pine	97.4%
Y5 Willow	95.1%
Y6 Oak	97%

Well done to Y2 Hazel! Please remember that we will not authorise any term time holidays, and it may result in you receiving a fixed penalty notice.

A message from the Head of School

Dear Parents/Carers,

It has been a very busy start back after Easter and the time has gone so quickly, I cannot believe there are only 2 weeks left until we break up for the half term holidays. The children have continued to make me very proud—both in terms of their behaviour and their hard work. On Friday, we were visited by our governors—Juliette Young (chair of governors); Gill Roberts, Gene Cooke and Michelle Pereira. They had an absolutely fantastic day. They joined us for assembly, and were extremely impressed with the children's behaviour. They also toured the school; met school council; enjoyed lunch with Y6 and visited the playground and looked through books. In the books, there was lots of work, and the children's progress over the year was very much evident.

I hope you have enjoyed the recent bout of warm weather—it has been lovely to see the sunshine after what felt a very long winter! Please can I ask that your child brings a bottle of water with them in order to keep themselves hydrated—there is drinking water in the classrooms, so they are able to keep it topped up. They also do not need to wear their jumpers when the weather is warm, and would benefit from having a cap to wear on the playground as there isn't that much shelter. Please can I also ask that all of your child's clothes are labelled—children keep taking off their jumpers in various places around the school, and it can be very difficult to find them if their name is not in them.

I would also like to remind you that we break up on **Thursday 24th May** at 3.30 and return on **Monday 4th June**.

Warm wishes.

Julie Ireland (Head of School)

Family support worker

We are delighted to have a family support worker linked to the school. Her name is Yemi Daniel, and she can provide advice (such as advice on housing or immigration) and offer support for any families experiencing difficulties. Yemi will be holding a coffee morning for parents on Tuesday 22nd May at 9.00. Please come along and find out more.

Year 2 and Year 6 SATS

On the week beginning 14th May, Y6 will be sitting their SATS tests. These are national tests which are sat by every Year 6 child in the country. The children have been working very hard in preparation for them, so if you have a child in Year 6, please make sure that they stay calm and do not worry about them. They also need to make sure that they get plenty of sleep the night before and have breakfast—we are offering breakfast club free of charge to all Year 6's for this week. They also need to be at school on time, as being late could cause them anxiety. Year 2 will also be doing assessments during this time. We wish both classes the very best of luck in their assessments.

Parents' network

As you know, Smeena (Yusuf's and Tehmour's mum) has set up a parent network group. Here is a message from her:-

"On Wednesday 25 April, we launched the Bellenden Primary School Parent Network.' This is a free drop-in style session for all parents and carers of children that attend Bellenden Primary school.

The group has been created by parents for parents so that you can feel free to share your concerns and praises; get to know the parents of the children who play with your child, and make new friends.

Thank you to everyone who took part in the Parent Network. We had some very positive feedback and some excellent ideas, especially from Nicole and Serena.

It was decided by the attending parents that the Parent Network will now be held mid-monthly on Fridays from 3.30-4.30 in the classroom via the Yew Class entrance (yellow door, near nursery end.) Look out for the signage on the day. The sessions will have a different discussion theme each month. Some topics for discussion are:-

- transition to secondary education
- new school arrivals Q and A
- bullying experiences and advice
- multicultural meetup
- summer holiday ideas, activities and schemes
- working parents work/life balance
- FAQ with teachers
- End of term get together.

If you have any other ideas, please let us know at the next session.

Refreshments will also be available—thanks to the school and Mr Doey.

The next session is on Friday 18th May, and the theme will be 'motivating kids' including motivating them to learn, play, socialise and even eat! Please come along to share your ideas and experiences.

Sports Club

This Easter, we ran a pilot project over the holidays promoting sports. Children had the chance to play a range of different sports such as football, basketball and kings and queens. Kitana in Y6 said it was tremendous fun. We are hoping to run future programmes such as this, and we will provide more information about them nearer the time. Many thanks to Tian for organising it and all the staff who took part in it.



Safeguarding

As you would expect, safeguarding your children is our first priority here at Bellenden. We have a safeguarding policy that can be found on our website or, alternatively, you can speak to Emma-Jayne or Susan for a hard copy of the policy.

Please visit our website for more information: www.bellenden.southwark.sch.uk