



Newsletter



Yoga

We are thrilled to introduce yoga into our curriculum. Yoga has many benefits: pupils learn how to use their bodies in a healthy way; it helps build concentration, increase confidence and develop positive self image.

Your children (from Y1 upwards) will receive a 30 minute yoga lesson from a qualified instructor every alternate Tuesday.



Attendance:

CLASS	Attendance
Reception	91.4%
Y1	96.1%
Y2 Hazel	96.6%
Y2 Laurel	94.7%
Y3	97%
Y4	94.2%
Y5	95.3%
Y6 Poplar	91.6%
Y6 Oak	97.3%

Well done to Oak class for the best attendance this month. Please remember Year 5 and 6 pupils should be in school by 8.30 a.m; all other pupils should be in school by 8.50 a.m.

A message from the Head of School

Dear Parents/Carers,

I hope you had a lovely, relaxing summer break and enjoyed the warm weather. Welcome back to both a new term and a new school year, and our first full academic year in our new building. Over the summer, the builders came in to make some improvements, and the building looks lovelier than ever!

I would like to welcome our new staff. Mrs Turnbull is our deputy head and works on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays. If you haven't met her yet, she is on the gate on these days, so please do come and introduce yourself! We also welcome Mr Shirodkar and Mr Solnick who are teaching Year 6; Mrs Glen who is teaching reception and Miss Eastwood who is teaching nursery. Ms Michaels will be the early years leader, and is at Bellenden School on Fridays. We also have extended our leadership team and Ms Trew is the Assistant Head. All new staff have settled in very well and we are incredibly pleased they are part of the Bellenden team.

I also extend a warm welcome to all of the new pupils that have joined us—both our new nursery intake and other pupils who have joined throughout the school.

As you are aware, last week we had OFSTED. We found it a very positive experience and I will inform you once the report is available for you to read. Many thanks to those parents who met with the OFSTED inspector to share their views.

The children have made a fantastic start this term. Their behaviour has been excellent, and I have also been impressed with the work I have seen in their books. Year 6 have taken to their new responsibilities very well, and have shown great maturity this year.

As always, I am always keen to hear your views about school. If you have any queries or suggestions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Warm Wishes
 Julie Ireland

International Evening

In October, we will be celebrating black history month, and once more we are having an international evening on Thursday 18th October from 3.30 p.m onwards. There will be a range of activities for pupils to enjoy such as mask making, cooking, African drumming and much more. We have lots of entertainment for you to enjoy including choir, steel pans and street dance. We would appreciate it if you were able to bring a dish for us to share on the evening. If there are other ways in which you would like to help, please come along on Thursday 4th October at 3.30 for a planning meeting with Tian and Mrs Turnbull in Y1 Beech. Last year was a huge success, but we know we can make this year's event even better!

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY:

3/10/18— e-admissions session in the computer for Y6 parents wishing to fill in secondary application form with support.

5/10/18—group of Y5/6 girls at Tag rugby.

5/10/18—fundraising day for Macmillan charity

9/10/18 – Y1 and Y2 road safety workshop at

Bellenden School.

15/10/18—Harvest collection—more information to follow.

15/10/18—Y3/4 bikeability begins.

18/10/18—International evening from 3.30 p.m.

19/10/18—Reception at Peckham Rye for forest school—parents invited.

19/10/18—School breaks up for half-term at 3.30 p.m.

29/10/18—School re-opens.

7/11/18 and 8/11/18—parents' evening.

W.b. 10/12/18—Christmas fair and Christmas production—I will send the actual dates for

these once they are finalised.

21/12/18—Break up for the Christmas holidays at 1.30 p.m

Macmillan Fundraising Day

On Friday 5th October, we will be holding a fundraising day for Macmillan Cancer Support.

We are having a non-uniform day (pupils to bring a donation of £1—it would be great if the children could wear green), cakes will be on sale and we will also be offering face painting. We hope that you can help us raise as much money as possible for this fantastic charity.

School packed lunch

Please can I remind you that if your child is bringing in a home packed lunch, they are not to bring in fizzy drinks, sweets, biscuits or chocolate. Crisps are only allowed on a Friday.

Dropping children off

I have recently received a few complaints about a small minority of parents who drop their children off by car. Please can you not block either entrance into Dewar Street, as this can prevent access for other cars and cause congestion. I also ask for you to not reverse into the school gates. Last week, a parent and their child were nearly knocked over by a car doing this.

Remembrance Day

On 11th November, it will be one hundred years since Armistice. To support the Royal legion charity, we will be selling a range of poppy inspired products which cost between 50p-£1.00. These will be on sale in the playground before and after school every day from 29th October—9th November.

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 if you would like to obtain a hard copy of the policy.



School council

On 14th September, we held school council elections. Any pupil who wanted to run for school council was asked to submit a manifesto, which they then read to the school. Pupils in every class then voted for their school council reps based on what they heard in the manifesto. In some classes, it was very close! Our school council reps this year are Laila-Jay, Cameron, Julia and Kai (Y2); Khalisa and Aiden W (Y3); Jason and Joel (Y4); Kitima and Yusuf (Y5) and Sophia, Shanice, Osunja, Shayna, Zion and Brihanna (Y6). Hannah has kindly stayed on school council as an executive advisor.