



Newsletter



FOOD BANK VOUCHERS

Mrs Turnbull has recently completed training and is now able to give food bank vouchers to parents who need emergency food. Please note however, that you are only eligible for 3 visits to the food bank every 6 months. If you require food bank vouchers, please speak to Mrs Turnbull who is at school on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays.

PARENTAL ENGAGEMENT

On Thursday, we enjoyed a successful coffee morning where parents had the chance to meet a range of professionals: an immigration lawyer, the educational psychologist, the speech and language therapist and the family support worker. Many thanks to Miss Gittens for organising this, and we hope to arrange another similar event where you will have a chance to meet professionals very soon. Mr Doey, Mrs Turnbull and myself are also running a drop in surgery every Thursday morning between 9.00-10.30 if there are any issues or concerns you would like to raise with us.

Attendance:

CLASS	
Reception	96%
Y1	97.1%
Y2 Hazel	96.7%
Y2 Laurel	95.1%
Y3	97.8%
Y4	97%
Y5	99%
Y6 Poplar	95.4%
Y6 Oak	98.2%

Well done to Y5 class for the best attendance in October!

A message from the Head of School

Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome back and I hope you had a relaxing half-term break.

It's only the first week back, but already the children have been working extremely hard. Year 6 have been creating narratives based on the book they are reading, and we certainly have some potential authors in these classes!

This week, the weather has certainly changed for the worse! Please can you ensure that your child wears a coat for school. Can you also ensure that your child's jumper is labelled as some of the children can have a tendency to leave their jumpers on the playground, and it can be difficult to find the correct one if their name isn't in it.

On November 7th and 8th, we have parents' evening, and I hope you have been able to make an appointment to see your child's teacher. This is a really important opportunity for you to discuss your child's progress. A parent survey will also be available for you to complete, and I really hope you can spare some time to complete it. This helps us know what you think we are doing well, and what we need to do to develop the school further.

Warm wishes

Julie Ireland (Head of School)

Friendship week

The week beginning 12th November is anti-bullying week, and we will be focusing on the theme of friendship. There will be lots of activities around the theme of friendship, and on Friday 16th November, we will be holding a 'Friendship Friday' whereby classes will have the chance to work and play together.

Harvest

Many thanks to all of you who have donated towards our harvest collection—we collected a wide range of items—all of which were gratefully received by Pecan Food bank. Your generosity really does help those in need. The photos below show all the items that we collected.



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY:

7/11 and 8/11—parents' evening.

7/11—Y4 at West Stow

9/11—Y3 at the Science Museum

12/11-16/11—friendship week

14/11—Children in Need fundraising Day

21/11—individual and sibling photos

23/11—Y3 at the cinema

28/11—Macmillan support fundraising day

11/12—Ks1 nativity at 2.00p.m

13/12—KS2 Christmas concert at 2.00pm

14/12— London chess classic competition

14/12—Christmas jumper day

18/12—Christmas Fair at 3.30

20/12—Christmas parties

21/12—Break up at 1.30 p.m.

Parent Gymn

Every Tuesday morning at 9.00 for the next five weeks, you are invited to Parent Gymn. This is an opportunity for you to meet other parents; enjoy refreshments and you will be given advice and strategies for supporting your child. It's free—so please come along!

International Evening

On Thursday 18th October, we enjoyed a fantastic International Evening. This was part of our Black History Month celebrations. Children in all classes had studied famous black artists, and I hope you were able to see their impressive art work on display in the main hall.

Many, many thanks to all of those parents who brought a dish to share—the food looked absolutely delicious! It was also fantastic to see the many talents of the children at Bellenden—the dancing, the singing and the steel pans (as always) were incredible.

I hope you had the chance to enjoy one of the workshops on offer—and many thanks to parents who gave up their time to offer workshops on hair braiding, sari dressing and henna.



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.

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