



Newsletter



Attendance:

CLASS

Reception	94.8%
Y1	95.9%
Y2 Hazel	95.9%
Y2 Laurel	93.3%
Y3	92.8%
Y4	97.4%
Y5	93.3%
Y6 Poplar	95.5%
Y6 Oak	96.8%

Well done to Y4 for the best attendance during January!

Please remember that no term-time holidays will be authorised, and may result in you receiving a fixed penalty notice.

A message from the Head of School

Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome back to the Spring term! As I write this, the weather has turned very chilly (we even enjoyed a light smattering of snow last week!). As the temperature forecast is very cold for at least the next week, please can you make sure your child comes to school in a coat and they have a hat, scarf and gloves. We have opened the spare reception classroom at lunchtimes if children would rather stay in where they can colour or draw.

This half-term, Mrs Turnbull and I have visited many classes to watch their topic lessons, and they have impressed us with both their enthusiasm and their knowledge of the topics they are studying. Our pupils are experts on a wide range of topics—from the Great Fire of London to the Mayan gods!

As you know, as part of our curriculum, all classes go on visits or enjoy workshops which link to the topic they are studying. This term, Y3 have been to the Science museum and Y6 have a Mayan workshop booked this week. Reception class are learning about people who help us and have a visit from a librarian tomorrow. Also this week, school councillors from Year4 –6 are visiting the City Hall to find out more about the Mayor of London and the Greater London Authority. We are always grateful for any parents who are willing to assist us on trips, so if you are able to volunteer, please let us know.

Warm wishes,
Julie Ireland (Head of School)

Miss Crandon

We welcome back Miss Crandon who has returned to Bellenden to teach the Y4 class. Y4 have made a fantastic start to the spring term, and were our first class of the week. We are thrilled that Miss Crandon is back at Bellenden, and wish her every happiness here.

Fizz-free February

Southwark council have introduced a new initiative called 'Fizz-free February.' This is an opportunity for families to cut down on their sugar intake by having no fizzy drinks throughout the whole of February. We will also be taking part in fizz-free February. For every day pupils do not have a fizzy drink, they put a tick on a chart. If they get through the whole of February without a fizzy drink, they will receive a prize.

Here are some other great reasons to go fizz-free:-

- You can save £438 a year if you stopped drinking just one bottle of soft drink per day.
- Drinking just one can of 330ml can of fizzy drink per day can add up to over a stone weight gain per year.
- Tooth decay is the leading cause of hospitalisation among 5-9 year olds in the UK.

So I hope your family will be joining Mrs Turnbull and myself as we take up the fizz-free challenge!



EAL parents' workshop

After half-term, we will be running a parental course called 'Help your child to learn English'. It is run by the Southwark Adult Education centre and will run every Wednesday from 9.00-11.00. There are only a few places available, so speak to Mrs Turnbull if you are interested in attending.

Parents' e-safety workshop

As part of our e-safety week, Mrs Turnbull and Miss Caires will be running a parental workshop on social media and how you can keep your child safe. I am sure you have read in the media how cyber bullying is a real issue, so I do hope you are able to attend. It will be on Tuesday 5th February at 9.00. Refreshments will be provided.

Nearly new uniform

We have a big favour to ask you—if you have any school uniform that you no longer need, please could you donate it to the school—we would be very grateful for your contribution as we are running very low on second hand uniform.

Social media

Our e-safety week will run during the week beginning 4th February and will be based around social media and staying safe. It is very important that you are vigilant and that if your child has a mobile phone, you regularly check any social media accounts. There have been instances of inappropriate messages and inappropriate videos being shared on media sites such as 'whatsapp' and I would like to remind you that the minimum age limit for whatsapp is 13. Please do check your child's mobile phone regularly in order to ensure pupils' safety.

Roman Immersion Day

On Friday, we were invaded by Roman warriors! Year 3 pupils in Bellenden and Pilgrims' Way had a fantastic Roman immersion day. We were really impressed by the efforts the pupils went to creating their costumes. They were all very well behaved and enjoyed a range of exciting activities linked in with their topic of 'The Romans.'



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