

Newsletter No 2, October 2016



Dear Parents and Carers,

Our value this month is Friendship. We have been talking about our 'Bell Farm friends' and how although we are closer to some people than others, at Bell Farm we will always help everyone out if they are in difficulty. Mr Wasserberg is busy training our new year 6 peer mediators who will be supporting all children and helping the other children to build good friendships in the playground.

Children are really stepping up to the challenge of their new year groups and I have had the pleasure of seeing some really great work. It is great to see how proud children are when they have managed to solve a really challenging problem. This term we are emphasising to children that making mistakes in our work is a good thing because this is how we learn. We call them 'good mistakes' and use them as a teaching point.

It is great to see the new reception children settling in to their classes. They are working hard and learning the routines quickly.

Best wishes
Anne Cooper

Staff News

Congratulations to Miss Glauch who got engaged recently! Some sad news for us is that Mrs McGee, our school crossing patrol and lunchtime supervisor is leaving us at half term. We are all very sad to see her go but wish her well for the future.

Trips & Visits

Lots has been going on so far this half term. Year 1 took part in the Limelight workshop as part of their English topic. They had great fun finding Martin the Alien and helping him launch his flying saucer to send him home. Year 2 had a visit from some mini beasts! They were very brave stroking the snakes, spiders and giant snails, learning all about these fascinating creatures. Our year 6 children took part in short workshops held by MN Academy where they learnt about the film and TV industry and had a go at aspects of the filming process. Coming up, year 4 are off to Hampton Court Palace, year 6 go to Henley Fort on their day trips learning about WW2 and year 2 visit the natural history museum. Our residential trips for next year (years 4, 5 & 6) are now all booked and we have 2 fabulous new locations for years 4 and 6, details of which can be found on our website at

<http://bell-farm.co.uk/children/our-exciting-school/residential-trips>.



Dates for your Diaries

Parents Consultation evenings are on Wednesday 19th (4.30pm-7.30pm) and Thursday 20th October (3.30pm – 6pm).

Letters with appointment booking details will be coming home shortly.

Our first Parent Forum of the year will be held on Friday 11th November at 9.35am. Please do come and speak to our headteacher Miss Cooper, to voice your suggestions, recommendations and feedback on all aspects of school life.

Our popular Maths open morning will be held this term on Friday 18th November 2016 from 9am. This is an opportunity for you to come in and spend the morning with your child's class/es to observe and join in with the maths teaching that day. There will also be a talks held in the hall by our maths lead Miss Smith, who will explain how maths is taught at Bell Farm.

Facebook

Don't forget that in order to keep up to date with things at Bell Farm, do like us on Facebook. We often post reminders and information about upcoming events, as well as pictures of what the children are up to that day. We appreciate a lot of year groups have their own Facebook groups which we actively encourage to exchange information. We do ask that if you have any specific questions or concerns about school, please do ask at the school office so we can ensure the correct information is going out to parents.

Medication Update

In line with the Surrey guidelines, there will be some changes to the way medication is administered at Bell Farm. The only medication that will now be accepted into the school office to be administered by our office staff, will be prescribed medication. No over the counter medications will be given without a prescription label attached, this includes paracetamol and antihistamine. For antibiotics, they will only be given to a child if they are needed 4 times a day. For medication that is 3 times daily, it can be given before and after school and at bedtime. Inhalers will now be kept in classrooms in named pockets as opposed to the school office and will readily available for all children that need them.

A copy of our supporting children with medical conditions policy is available on our website at <http://bell->



farm.co.uk/parents-information/useful-information/school-policies

If you have any questions/concerns, about this update, please do not hesitate to contact the school office.

Friends Meeting

The first Friends meeting of the year took place on Thursday 6th October. It was so good to see so many new faces at the meeting - thank you all for coming. We now have a new Chair, two new Vice Chairs (infant and upper school) and a new Treasurer all officially on board! Fantastic to have a full team ready for action!! Lots of exciting dates and events are already in the planning so keep an eye for flyers, Facebook posts and letters.

Reminders for Parents

We would like to remind parents that buggies are not to be brought in to the school building at any time. This is a health & safety issue and is especially important in case of a fire to allow children and adults space to evacuate the school. If you are dropping a child to one of the reception classes and have another child in a buggy please feel free to either leave the empty buggy outside the first set of double doors or walk around the school and enter the reception outdoor area from the back.

We also ask adults to be mindful of their conversations and language when dropping off or collecting children, particularly outside the main school gates. Even though there may not be children around at the time, you would be amazed at how voices carry how good impressionable little ears are! We thank you for your co-operation in all these matters.

Jamming Together

The band programme Jamming Together, who many of you will have seen perform at our awards event last term, is now open to any budding musicians in Yr2+. All instruments are provided free and sessions run during school time at a cost of £6.50ea.

Please contact admin@jammingtogether.com for info. Absolute beginners are welcome!

Events at St Peter's Church

Sunday 16th October

Following the successful launch just a few days ago, our second Family Time at 4 will take place on the 16th October in church and then once a month on the 3rd Sunday at 4pm. Share tea together, enjoy a bible story, craft and games and take home a Christian message. Bring cakes or biscuits to share if you wish. Activities are planned for 4-8 year olds but children of all ages are welcome!

Sunday 30th October

Music to calm the Soul

To complete the weekend and prepare for the rigours of the week ahead, at 7:00pm on the last Sunday of the month, join us for a candlelit hour of soothing sounds and classical music to ease the stresses and strains of the week. Music to calm the Soul is an escape for anyone who wants to take time out in a place of peace, quiet and tranquility, where our own clamour is silenced and the presence of God can be savoured.

Please join us from 6:40pm for refreshments.

Sunday 6th November

The 11:15 special service for November will be on the theme of invitation and we'll be exploring the parable of the Great Banquet. (That's Luke 14:15-24 if you want to look it up)

Also on Sunday 6th November at 3pm, it's our annual memorial service in which we invite families for whom we have held funerals over the past year to join us, but anyone wishing to remember loved ones who have died at any time are also welcome. Please give Sarah in the Parish Office the names of people you would like remembered by Wednesday 2nd November.

Sunday 13th November

Remembrance Sunday this year will be on 13th November. There will be a shortened all-age service in church at 10:00 followed by the community remembrance in the Memorial Garden by Hershams Green at 10:50.

Young People's Activities

The full programme of activities for young people at St Peter's are back in full swing after their summer break. As well as the regular children's activities, at 10:00am on Sunday 30th October, we have an All Saints' Party in the Church Hall. There will be games, crafts and plenty of fun – all about Jesus as the Light of the World and how saints reflect that light.

Gems

10am-12pm in the church hall. Fun and play for babies and younger toddlers at Mini Gems on Monday and Little Gems for the under 5's on Tuesday.

Young Vines

Our under 5's and their people meet every Friday at 10:00am for songs, stories, prayers, craft, refreshments and (of course) a chat.

Sunday Club and Sunday Challenge

Our Sunday Club activities for children aged 4-8 and Sunday Challenge for those 9 and over meet for with Godly Play in the Church Hall at 10am. This is a time to explore and wonder over a Bible story and be creative. Parents are welcome to come along to help new children settle and get to know our team of leaders.

Penalty Notices for unauthorised absence

We wish to draw to your attention that holidays taken during term time will not be authorised.

All requests for leave of absence are treated sympathetically, but only in exceptional circumstances will they be approved. The policy of Surrey County Council, to which this school has agreed, states that each parent who takes their child out of school for five days or more during term time, without the authority of the head teacher, will be liable to receive a penalty notice. Each parent is liable to receive a penalty notice for each child who incurs unauthorised absences in these circumstances. Penalty Notices will be issued by the Local Authority.

From September 2013, the penalty is £60 if paid within 21 days of receipt of the notice, rising to £120 if paid after 21 days, but within 28 days of receipt of the notice. If the Penalty Notice is not paid within 28 days, the Local Authority must prosecute the parent/carer for failing to ensure regular school attendance under section 444 Education Act 1996.

Penalty notices may also be used by the Local Authority in the following circumstances: -

When a pupil is stopped during school hours by the Truancy Team, and there is a history of unauthorised absence, a warning letter will be sent to the parent/carer informing them that their child's attendance will be monitored for the following 15 school days. If there are further unauthorised absences, a Penalty Notice will be issued.

Where a parent is failing to ensure their child's regular school attendance, and is failing to engage with any supportive measures proposed by the school or Education Welfare. Before a Penalty Notice is issued, the parent will be sent a formal warning of their liability to receive such a notice.

Absence request forms are available from the school office and must be completed and returned to the school office at least 4 weeks prior to the requested date of absence.

Please refer to our website for our school Attendance Policy.

Could you be a
School Crossing Patrol
Officer?



FOR DETAILS PLEASE
CALL



Bell Farm Primary School
is looking for the right person to
help their pupils cross Hersham
Road.

The hours are 8.15 to 9.00 each
morning and 3.15 to 4.00 each
afternoon (term time only).

Training and uniform provided.

For further details visit our
website www.bell-farm.co.uk or
contact the
Business Manager on 01932
224009.

AUTUMN TERM 2016		
Thursday 6 th October	Y4	Year 4 Curriculum Meeting – 3.30pm
Thursday 6th October		Friends AGM – 7pm
Thursday 13 th October		Prospective Parent Tour – 10am
Tuesday 18 th October		Prospective Parent Tour – 10am
Wednesday 19th October	Y4	Year 4 to Hampton Court Palace
Wednesday 19 th October		Parents Evening 4.30pm – 7.30pm
Thursday 20 th October		Prospective Parent Tour – 10am
Thursday 20 th October		Parents Evening 3.30pm – 6pm
Friday 21 st October		Half term starts
Monday 31 st October		INSET day – school closed for children
Tuesday 1 st November		Back to school
Wednesday 2 nd November		Prospective Parent Tour – 10am
Friday 4th November	Y6	Year 6 Height & Weight
Monday 7 th November		Prospective Parent Tour – 1.30pm
Monday 7 th November		Year 6 To Henley Fort (Sycamore)
Tuesday 8 th November		Year 6 To Henley Fort (Silver Birch)
Wednesday 9 th November		Year 6 To Henley Fort (Maple)
Wednesday 9th November	Y2	Year 2 to Natural History Museum
Thursday 10 th November		Year 6 To Henley Fort (Redwood)
Thursday 10 th November		Prospective Parent Tour – 10am
Friday 11 th November		Parent Forum – 9.35am
Monday 14th November	Y5	Year 5 to the Victorian School Rooms
Friday 18th November		Maths Open Morning
Friday 18th November		Children in Need
Thursday 24 th November		Reception 2017 parent talk – 7pm
Saturday 26th November	Y5	Walton Festival Light – 5pm
Tuesday 29th November	Y3	Year 3 to Butser Farm
Wednesday 30 th November		Flu Immunisations – Years 1,2 & 3
Friday 9 th December		2pm – Friends Christmas Fair
Monday 12th December		EYFS & KS1 Christmas performance 1a Orchid/Crocus/Sunflower – 2.30pm
Tuesday 13th December		EYFS & KS1 Christmas performance 2a Daffodil/Snapdragon/Buttercup – 2.30pm
Wednesday 14th December		Christmas Lunch
Wednesday 14th December		Nursery Christmas Performance – 10.45am
Wednesday 14th December		Nursery Christmas Performance – 2.30pm
Thursday 15th December		EYFS & KS1 Christmas performance 1b Orchid/Snowdrop/Tulip – 2.30pm
Friday 16th December		EYFS & KS1 Christmas performance 2b Daffodil/Honeysuckle/Primrose – 2.30pm
Monday 19th December	Y5/Y4	Year 5 Christmas production with Year 4 support – 7pm
Tuesday 20th December	Y5/Y4	Year 5 Christmas production with Year 4 support – 7pm
Tuesday 20 th December	Nursery	Nursery end of term
Wednesday 21 st December		End of term – school finishes at 2.20pm