

Newsletter No 3, November 2016

Dear Parents and Carers,



Our value this month is Freedom and we have been talking to children about how fortunate we are to make choices

and have the freedom to follow our own interests and enjoy ourselves.

Thank you very much for taking extra care when driving and crossing the road before and after school as Surrey County Council have been unable to appoint a crossing patrol person yet. Please do continue to closely supervise your children at this time. Please also continue to drive slowly, carefully and respectfully in Hershaw road.

We are looking forward to all the Christmas celebrations that we have planned and do hope that you are able to join us for these festivities.

Best wishes
Anne Cooper

Trips & Visits

Year 4 had a wonderful trip to Hampton Court last week learning all about Henry VIII and the Tudors. Photos of the trip are now available to view on the gallery on our website.

Year 6 are braving the cold this week at Henley Fort, taking part in home front day exercises.



Dates for your Diaries

We have a packed 2nd half of the term so please do keep an eye on your emails for updates and reminders. All events are also

listed on the last page of this newsletter.

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 year with a "spotacular" theme in aid of Children in Need (which is on the same day). 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 talks held in the hall by our maths lead Miss Smith.

For Children in Need, pupils are welcome to come dressed in mufti (something yellow or spotty) in exchange for a £1 donation to the charity.

Friends News

This is always one of the busiest times for our Friends and this year is no different. Coming up we have our "Stories by Twilight" on Tuesday 15th November, where the children come back to school at 5pm in their pyjamas for stories and chocolate with their teachers. This is a really magical evening and we have over 300 children signed up, our biggest ever!



The Friends quiz is running on Friday 25th November at 8pm. This is a great event for parents and includes prosecco & other cash bar delights, nibbles/snacks, chocolate tombola, much hilarity (and a prize) when your team wins/loses. Tickets cost £6 per person, to sign up just email, Friends@bell-farm.surrey.sch.uk.

On Friday 9th December, we have the big event of the term, our Christmas fair. As always, these events, which raise so much money for the children, take a lot of planning and help from parents. We have a mufti day on Friday 2nd December in exchange for sweets/chocolate (years N-2) or bottles (years 3-6) for the tombola stalls. We are also running a cuddly toy tombola, so if you have any pre-loved teddies, then please drop them to the school office week commencing 5th December. There will be a bake off event at the fair, so if you are a budding Candice or Mary Berry, bring your creations to the school office on Thursday 8th December, ready for judging on the Friday.

As a thank you for all your hard work and donations, the Friends have arranged for Santa's reindeer (and his helpful owl!) to come and visit the children on Tuesday 20th December before they need to rest for their big night on the 24th!



Christmas

As well as the Christmas fair, we have a number of other Christmas events happening at Bell Farm.

Rehearsals are now underway for the year 5 with year 4 support Christmas production of "Primary School Christmas Musical" which will take place on the evenings of Monday 19th and Tuesday 20th December. Details of how to get tickets will be released nearer the time.

Our reception to year 2 children invite you to “Christmas with the Aliens” week commencing Monday 12th December. Due to the number of children in our lower school, performances will be ticketed and different classes will perform on different days, details of which are on the events calendar at the end of this newsletter or on the website.

Travel to and from school

Now the evenings have got darker, please can you ensure that all children travelling to and from school on bikes have lights. They must also all be wearing helmets.

We have noticed an increasing number of parents trying to drive into school and park outside the main reception. No one should be driving through the main gates without prior permission from Miss Cooper.

We are very limited on space outside the school office and so these spaces must be kept clear for those who need them. It can be very dangerous for children leaving the school when vehicles are trying to turn and leave. If you do have permission to drive in, we would appreciate it if you could use the rear car park when possible.

Lost Property

Please ensure all of your child's belongings are clearly named, at that you check them regularly, just in case names are faded due to washing!

Forest Schools

You may have heard the term “Forest Schools” being used in and around school this year. Forest Schools is an outdoor learning experience, where children play and learn skills whilst developing a love for the outdoors. Learning includes, how to build a fire, knife skills and taking part in nature walks amongst other things. We are currently selecting which year group will take part next term, and are also working hard to clear our forest school area as it has become rather over grown. If anyone could spare some time, and would like to come and help, please speak to the school office.



Kitchen Staff Required

Term time only, if interested please contact Sandra on 07968834421.

St Peters Church

Family Time at 4 returns for fun and fellowship for all the family on Sunday 20 November. 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!

**Could you be a
School Crossing Patrol
Officer?**

**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.**



WANTED

**School
Crossing
Patrol**

FOR DETAILS PLEASE
CALL

SURREY
COUNCIL

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.

AUTUMN TERM 2016		
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 14 th November	Y5	Year 5 to the Victorian School Rooms
Tuesday 15th November		Stories by Twilight – 5pm
Wednesday 16th November		Prospective Parent Tour – 10am
Friday 18th November		Maths Open Morning
Friday 18th November		Children in Need
Friday 18th November		No celebration assembly this week
Tuesday 22nd November		Primrose & Buttercup to St Peter's church
Wednesday 23rd November		Tulip & Sunflower to St Peter's church
Thursday 24 th November		Reception 2017 parent talk – 7pm
Friday 25th November		Year 1 Toy workshop
Friday 25th November		Friend Quiz – 8pm
Saturday 26 th November	Y5	Walton Festival Light – 5pm
Monday 28th November		Parent Reader Training – 9am
Tuesday 29th November	Y3	Year 3 to Butser Farm
Wednesday 30 th November		Flu Immunisations – Years 1,2 & 3
Friday 2nd December		Mufti Day – Years N-2 (sweets/bottles) Years 3-6 (bottles)
Friday 2nd December		Parent Reader Training 2020pm
Wednesday 7th December		Choir to sing at Clare House and Sutton Lodge
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 15 th 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 20th December		Santa's reindeer in
Tuesday 20 th December	Nursery	Nursery end of term
Wednesday 21 st December		End of term – school finishes at 2.20pm
SPRING TERM 2016		
Tuesday 3rd January		INSET day – school closed to children
Wednesday 4th January		Back to school
Tuesday 17th January		Year 1 to Pizza Express (classes TBC)
Thursday 19th January		Year 1 to Pizza Express (classes TBC)
Thursday 19th January		Year 5 to Guildford Cathedral – Surrey get Vocal
Thursday 2nd February		Year 1 to Pizza Express (classes TBC)
Tuesday 7th February		Year 1 to Pizza Express (classes TBC)
Tuesday 7th February		Winter Discos – Reception 3.30pm – 4.15pm Years 1 & 2 – 4.30pm – 5.15pm
Wednesday 8th February		Winter Discos – Years 3, 4, 5 - 3.30pm – 4.30pm Year 6 – 4.45pm – 5.45pm
Friday 10th February		End of half term
Monday 20th February		Back to school