

## Newsletter No 8 March 2017

*Dear Parents and Carers,*

*I hope you are all enjoying the mild weather and light evenings as our term comes to an end. Children have, as ever, worked hard this term and I have been particularly pleased to be able to award our 'Warrior of the Week' shield to children who have shown grit, determination and a real growth mindset!*

*I am also very pleased with our cross country runners. Mr Fellowes and I are really delighted with how well all the children did who took part in the races at Notre Dame school.*

*A reminder that children in years 3 to 6 are allowed to wear a polo shirt instead of a shirt and tie (tucked in and still looking smart - please!) in the new term as part of our summer uniform policy.*

*Our values for April are Care and Compassion so please spend some time discussing these values and talk about how we can model these values. We will be talking about them in school after Easter.*

*Thank you very much for your continued support.*

*Enjoy the Easter break.*

*Best wishes*

*Anne Cooper*

### Staff News

We are thrilled to announce we have two new Bell Farm additions due this summer. Both Mrs Preuth and Ms McAdoo are expecting babies, due at the beginning of the summer holidays. They will be leaving us on maternity leave during the last part of the summer term. We wish them both all the best and look forward to meeting the little ones!

### Trips & Visits

We have had lots on this term with year 5 taking part in bikeability, Surrey Get Vocal and a visit to RES to watch Little Shop of Horrors, which they thoroughly enjoyed. Theatre Exchange ran some fantastic workshops for years 2, 3 and 4 on the great fire of London, the Romans and Egyptians respectively. Photos of all these events are available both on Facebook and our website.

The summer term as always is looking very busy. Year one are looking forward to a trip to Hobbledown Farm,

reception are off to see the animals at Chessington zoo and years 4, 5 and 6 are off on their residential trips. Lots of school events and dates have also been added to our calendar on the back page of this newsletter and on the school website, so please do have a look.

### Bell Farm go Cross Country!

On Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> March, we took a team of key stage 2 children to Notre Dame in Cobham to take part in the Elmbridge cross country event. Our children did extremely well, but special mentions must go to Lewis Bainbridge, who came second in his age category and Elisa Jarmon, who stopped and lost places to help another competitor who had fallen. Great Bell Farm values shown by both these children, well done!



### Tesco Bags of Help scheme

Our "Keep us Waterproof, Warm and Wild!" campaign supported by the Tesco Bags of Help scheme, is going really well but we still need you! Voting closes on **Saturday 29th April**. The project with the highest number of votes across our region will receive up to £5,000, which would allow us to purchase six class sets of waterproof outerwear in various sizes, for our forest schools sessions!

This money will make a huge difference to the amount of clothing we can purchase, so please do accept a voting token if you are offered one whilst doing your weekly shop and pop it in our section!

We look forward to letting you know at the end of May how we get on!

### Squires Draw a Rose Competition

To celebrate St. George's Day on 23rd April, Squire's Garden Centres are inviting local school children to draw or paint a rose. It can be any colour or style, and the designs can be done at school or at home. The best ones chosen by Squire's will win a rose plant for their school and one for their garden at home!

Please make sure that children put the following details on their picture:

Child's Name & Age

School Name & Town

Nearest Squire's – Hersham

Entries to Miss Robbins at the school office by Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> April.

### **Nut Free School**

This is a reminder that we are a nut free, healthy eating school and parents should be mindful of that when giving children food to bring in. Sweets/chocolate of any kind are not permitted to be given out under any circumstances. If a child has a birthday and would like to mark the occasion with their class, it would be lovely for them to bring something in to show the class or a book they can read together. We have children and adults in school with severe nut allergies and need to ensure we keep school as safe as possible.

### **Bell Farm Fundraisers**

We would like to thank everyone for your generous donations to our charity days this term. We were thrilled to send £166.10 to Book Aid International after our World Book Day celebration and a huge £670 to Comic Relief after the sale of red noses and mufti contributions on the day!

### **Author Visit**

Author CS Clifford is coming to Bell Farm to do writing workshops with years 2 – 5 on Wednesday 26th April 2017. He is providing these workshops free of charge, however will be hosting a book sale and signing at the end of the day.

His books are about two characters who discover and travel through a time portal. Each time they pass through they go into the past where they take on an adult body but retain their own minds. They find they have skills to match the time period and use these in their adventures. None of their modern gadgets work in the past. In each book they encounter a different myth or legend and assist them on their adventures.

#### **Books for sale at £6.99 for 8 – 11 year olds**

Walking with the Hood, Walking with Nessie, Walking with the Fishermen, Walking with the Magician (New)

#### **Books for sale at £7.99 for 6 – 9 year olds**

Badger and the Road (New)

### **Bell Farm gets Greener**

Our solar panels have been active for over a year now and so we can now establish how much we are saving on our electricity bills. So far, since the solar panels have been installed we have made a yearly saving of approximately £2000! We are really pleased with this and hope to make further savings in the years to come.

### **Friends News**

After a fantastic Mother's day event; which involved more than 15 parent helpers, more googly eyes you could wish to count and enough seeds to fill a field.... The Friends are now in full Mayfair planning mode!

Most classes have signed up for a stall, so please do let your class reps know if you are able to help, but if you have other interests or skills, please email us:

Friends@bell-farm.surrey.sch.uk and let us know how you

would like to help. We are always looking for raffle prizes and donations and so if you own a small business or know anyone that would be able to offer anything, please email us at the address above.

Please keep the date free - **Saturday 6th May 12pm-3pm** and join us!

### **Raring2go! Competition**

Raring2go! has joined forces with Go Ape to host a fantastic competition that allows one whole class to win a Go Ape session of our choice!

Anyone can enter, all you need to do is go to <https://raring2go.co.uk/competitions>, enter your child's name and age, and the school's name and address.

The competition runs from March 1<sup>st</sup> 2017 – Wednesday 31<sup>st</sup> May 2017 and children must be between 6-15 years old to enter. More details can be found on the competition page on the Raring2go! website and in the Spring edition of the Raring2go! magazine.

### **Little Legs for Life**

Little Legs for Life is an event that began eight years ago, started by a group of Hersham and Walton-on-Thames mothers in remembrance of a much-loved friend. It was an opportunity for her young children (who were at Burhill and Bell Farm at the time) and their friends to raise money for Cancer Research as a children's equivalent to "Race for Life". This annual event ran for six years and also has become a national event. It is back this year and is taking place on Sunday 11th June on the back fields of Esher Rugby Club. The children will be having an assembly after Easter to focus on the event and will then be given details on how to sign up to take part.

### **Sainsbury's Active Kids Vouchers**

We are still collecting the Sainsbury's Active Kids Vouchers to get sports equipment for the school. If you receive any vouchers whilst shopping at Sainsbury's, then please drop them into the box in the school reception area.

### **Promenade Choirs**

Children in years 4, 5 and 6 have recently been sent home with the flyer for the Promenade Choirs. These professionally run choirs for children rehearse at Bell Farm School on a Monday evening and offer high quality choral training for enthusiastic singer, both boys and girls. They are non-auditioned, but achieve a very high standard, putting concerts on every term. The Junior Choir, for children still at primary schools, rehearses from 6.30 to 7.45. Whilst there is a fee for taking part, Christopher Goldsack, who runs the choirs, is keen to point out that anyone who cannot afford the fee can ask to have it reduced or even waived completely. All children are invited to join the choir for a few weeks to see if they enjoy it before committing further. The choirs offer a really exciting musical opportunity for young singers and Christopher has a delightful project in mind for next term that needs more members, so now is a very good time to

think of joining! Anyone interested in the choirs can contact him through the choirs' website: [www.promenade.org.uk](http://www.promenade.org.uk). The choirs' next concert is at St Andrew's Church in Walton on March 26<sup>th</sup> at 4.30.

### Website Apps

Although child-friendly apps can make using the internet a more accessible and enjoyable experience, the thousands of apps available for different types of people mean it's important to make sure children use appropriate ones. We would ask you to check the apps that your children are using as they might create risky situations for children, such as unintentionally revealing personal information, stranger danger and generating large bills through in-app purchasing. Many children are using Roadblocks and Musical.ly, and we have been advised that these are not suitable for primary age children. Further information about keeping children safe on line can be found on the NSPCC website - <https://www.nspcc.org.uk/preventing-abuse/keeping-children-safe/online-safety>.

### Easter at St Peter's Church

It was lovely that so many Bell Farm children, and their mums and dads, joined the congregation at our Parish Church on Mothering Sunday, enthusiastically leading the singing under Mrs McAdoo's direction, and reading some of the beautiful prayers written by Mrs Stevenson's class.

Apart from all the usual Easter Services (see their website), this year St Peter's in the Burwood Road will be running a Fun Morning on Tuesday 11 April where children can enjoy taking part in crafts, stories and songs all with an Easter theme. No charge – just turn up in church!



## Bell Farm Diary

<b>SPRING TERM 2017</b>		
Friday 31 <sup>st</sup> March		Mufti Day for the May Fair
Friday 31 <sup>st</sup> March		Last day of term, school closes at 2.20pm
<b>SUMMER TERM 2017</b>		
<b>Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> April</b>		<b>INSET day – school closed to children</b>
Wednesday 19 <sup>th</sup> April		1 <sup>st</sup> day of term – back to school for everyone
Wednesday 19 <sup>th</sup> April	Y4	In the Net – online safety play @ Burhill
Monday 24 <sup>th</sup> April		Friends Wastebusters Collection
Wednesday 26 <sup>th</sup> April		Dare to be Different
Wednesday 26 <sup>th</sup> April	Y2-5	CS Clifford author workshops
Thursday 27 <sup>th</sup> April	Y1	Honeysuckle & Crocus classes to Hobbledown
Friday 28 <sup>th</sup> April	Y1	Snowdrop & Snapdragon to Hobbledown
<b>Monday 1<sup>st</sup> May</b>		<b>May Day Bank Holiday – school closed</b>
Wednesday 3 <sup>rd</sup> May	Y2	Year 2 pedals
Thursday 4 <sup>th</sup> May	Y2	Year 2 pedals
Saturday 6 <sup>th</sup> May		MAY FAIR – 12pm – 3pm
Monday 8 <sup>th</sup> May	Y6	SATs week
Monday 15 <sup>th</sup> May	Y2	Y2 SATs week
Monday 15 <sup>th</sup> May	Y6	Year 6 residential to Barton Hall
Friday 19 <sup>th</sup> May	Y6	Year 6 return from Barton Hall
Tuesday 23 <sup>rd</sup> May	YR	Reception to Chessington World of Adventure
Wednesday 24 <sup>th</sup> May	Y4	Year 4 residential to Gaviston Hall
Friday 26 <sup>th</sup> May	Y4	Year 4 return from Gaviston Hall
Friday 26 <sup>th</sup> May		End of half term
Monday 5 <sup>th</sup> June		Back to school
Wednesday 7 <sup>th</sup> June	Y3	Surrey Borders Festival – Dorking Halls 7pm
Friday 9 <sup>th</sup> June	Y6	Junior Citizen @ Walton Fire Station
Tuesday 13 <sup>th</sup> June		Class/Team Photographs
Tuesday 20 <sup>th</sup> June	Y5	Year 5 residential to Henley Fort
Thursday 22 <sup>nd</sup> June	R Sept 2017	Reception new parents evening – 7pm
Friday 23 <sup>rd</sup> June	Y5	Year 5 return from Henley Fort
Friday 23 <sup>rd</sup> June	Y4	Year 3 to Fishbourne Roman Palace
Friday 23 <sup>rd</sup> June		Parent Forum – 9.40am
Tuesday 27 <sup>th</sup> June		Sports Day
Friday 30 <sup>th</sup> June	Y5	Year 5 to Guildford Cathedral – Surrey get Vocal
Tuesday 4 <sup>th</sup> July	Y6	Secondary school inductions
Thursday 6 <sup>th</sup> July	Y6	Year 6 to Sutton Life
Friday 7 <sup>th</sup> July	Y6	Year 6 to Sutton Life
Wednesday 12 <sup>th</sup> July	YR-6	Summer Discos – YR-2 3.30pm – 4.30pm Y3-6 4.45pm – 6pm
Thursday 13 <sup>th</sup> July		Reserve Sports Day
Thursday 13 <sup>th</sup> July	N	Nursery new parents evening – 7pm
Friday 14 <sup>th</sup> July		Class swap day
Monday 17 <sup>th</sup> July		Open evening and reports – 3.20pm – 5pm
Tuesday 18 <sup>th</sup> July		Volunteers afternoon tea – 2.15pm
Wednesday 19 <sup>th</sup> July	Y6	Year 6 leavers assembly to parents
Thursday 20 <sup>th</sup> July	Nursery	Nursery Teddy Bears Picnic 11.30am – 1.30pm
Thursday 20 <sup>th</sup> July	Nursery	Nursery last day of term
Friday 21 <sup>st</sup> July	YR-6	Summer concert and special achievement assembly
Friday 21 <sup>st</sup> July	Y6	12pm finish - Last day of term
Friday 21 <sup>st</sup> July	YR - 5	Last day of term, school closes at 2.20pm

