



Belleville News

28 March 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

The children in Wakehurst and Webb's Houses proudly enjoyed an own clothes day yesterday, after their houses tied for top place in this half term's scores. It is a joy to see the pride the children take in their House and the understanding they show that house points are awarded for displaying the Belleville CARE values and Excellent Learner qualities. The House system only began at the start of this academic year, and it is now a key part of Belleville life. We are looking to develop it further in the coming months, so look out for that!

A word about the fantastic singing performances by Year 6 last week and last night at The Fairfield Halls in Croydon. They were wonderful events to be part of and we are very proud of all the children that took part.

I hope everyone has an enjoyable Easter break and we look forward to seeing the children back at normal time on Tuesday 16th April.

John Budden
Executive Headteacher

Mary-Lyne Latour
Headteacher

Dates for your diary:

Last day of Spring Term - Thursday 28 March.

Schools Streets Consultation – Please also complete the [Schools Street Survey](#) for Webb's Road before Sunday 7 April.

INSET day - Monday 15 April – school closed to children.

First day of Summer 1 term - Tuesday 16 April

Closing date for applications for Music Scholarships for the Wandsworth Music Academy for children in Years 3-6 – Tuesday 30 April. For information and eligibility criteria, [visit their website](#).

Nursery Closure – Thursday 2 May. Please note the Nursery will be closed on Thursday 2 May as it will be used as a Polling Station.

Maths Champion Awards



This term, we launched the Q1E Maths Champion badge which will be awarded to children and adults who show all the excellent learner traits in maths lessons.

Some of our first recipients have been the Year 5 and 6 children who took part in the [Primary Maths Challenge](#) this year. All the children showed excellent creativity and resilience to tackle some really tricky problems.

A special well done goes to Giulia in 6W, who achieved the bronze award in the bonus round as well as Aidan in 5T and Benjamin in 6B, who achieved silver. Well done on an excellent achievement!

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New Wraparound Care Provision - FAQs

Following our letter to you all earlier this month, we have received a few questions about the new breakfast and after school club provision from September. We hope that the answers below will provide some reassurance.

If your child currently has a place at the breakfast or after-school club, we guarantee that they will still have their place for their existing days and times in September.

Although the final number of places available and hours of provision are not yet finalised, we are committed to ensuring that the **current hours of provision will not reduce, the availability of places will not decrease and the costs to parents and carers will not increase.** It is our intention to make more places available to meet the needs of our families. However, whether there will still be a waiting list in future will be dependent on demand.

As we will not be using Balham Community Centre's existing booking processes, all families will need to register with a new booking platform to book their place. **Information about how to sign up, or book more sessions, will be provided during the summer term. This information will also be sent to the families joining the school in September at that time.** It is also our intention that there will be the option to pay for wraparound care by Childcare Vouchers or the Government's Tax-Free Childcare scheme.

Please be assured that we will do all that we can to minimise the disruption of this change and we look forward to sharing further information about the new wraparound provision with our community during the summer term.

Year 6 Visit the Black Cultural Archives

As part of their Migration topic in History, Year 6 visited the [Black Cultural Archives](#) for a Windrush Generation workshop.

They explored the aspirations, experiences, and legacies of the Caribbean communities who were part of the post-war journey to Britain, and gained greater insight into the challenges that Caribbean people faced and overcame in Britain, and the positive impact they have made on British laws and culture.



Work with us! – Teaching Assistants

We are looking for great Teaching Assistants to join our team. If you are interested, or know someone who might be, please [have a look on our website](#). The deadline for applications is Mon 15 April.



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Year 4 Update

Year 4 have had a great time exploring EV3 robots in ICT. They all learnt how to build a robot from following Lego instructions. Each child had a different role, builder, engineer, and supplier. They then programmed their robot to complete different tasks, such as move forward, move backward, make a sound, make a face and then the challenge was to make the EV3 move in a square.



They have also had an exciting DT day which linked to their history topic of the term, Vikings! They constructed Viking longships out of cardboard and other materials. Finally, we had a very exciting visitor last week: Dr Xand (from [Operation Ouch!](#)). He spoke to us about our current science topic of 'microbes' which was extremely interesting and we learnt so much!



Year 3 Visit to the Natural History Museum

Last week, the Year 3 children visited the Natural History Museum to enhance their learning linked to their science unit, geology. They explored the rocks and minerals room, looked at a range of different fossils and took part in a 'Dino Dig' workshop. It was a fantastic experience and the children were able to see the vast range of different rocks and minerals, as well as learn more about how fossils are formed. The children were a real credit to Belleville. Also, a huge thank you to all the parent volunteers to supported and enabled the trip to go ahead!





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Spring Term Highlights at Belleville

In sport, some of our older children have taken part in competitions in athletics, football and lacrosse. Our Year 5 children have been enjoying their swimming lessons and our younger children have been learning ball skills and gymnastics and dance with our specialist teachers.



In music, many of our Year 6 children had the opportunity to perform at Fairfield Halls, our School Orchestra played at the Mayor's Gala concert and our Year 4 children have continued to learn an orchestral instrument. With our specialist art teacher, the children have been studying the work of Eric Carle, Picasso, Amedeo Modigliani and Anselm Kiefer, and in French, our older pupils have taken part in the National Routes into Languages French Bee.



In Reception, our children learnt the story of The Gingerbread Man and made their very own delicious gingerbread men. They are beginning to write in full sentences and use more complex story language. They also became palaeontologists for the day when they were visited by animatronic dinosaurs!



In January, we were visited by Marsha de Cordova, our local MP. We have taken our children to visit Battersea Fire Station, Black Cultural Archives, British Museum, Florence Nightingale Museum, Institut Français, Kew Gardens, National History Museum, Polka Theatre and Science Museum. We have raised funds for Red Nose Day and our partner schools in Ghana, as well as celebrating World Book Day, Children's Mental Health week and British Science week with a school-wide biscuit dunking experiment!

To support our parents and carers, we offered open classrooms to come in and see your child's work, as well as a variety of webinars and in person events around children's wellbeing and learning. We also hosted many social and fundraising events organised by our very supportive and active PTA and we thank you all for your support. We hope you all have a relaxing Easter break, and we will see you in the summer term!



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Music Update

Year 6 have taken part in the Wandsworth Music Singing project - and they all worked hard to develop their singing skills and singing in 3-part harmony - they sounded beautiful in their in-school rehearsal and performance last Friday, and at the Fairfield Halls as part of the Brighter Sounds concert on Wednesday evening.



Year 1 have been learning about tempo and dynamics and have learned how to conduct changes in speed and volume. Year 4 have performed what they have been learning this term to each other.



Our number one priority is to ensure that all children and adults are safe.

Please do talk to any member of staff if you have any worries for yourself or others in our community.

Spring Term 2024

Last day of Spring 2: Thursday 28 March

Summer Term 2024

INSET day: Mon 15 April – school closed to children.

First day of Summer 1: Tuesday 16 April

Bank Holiday: Monday 6 May – school closed.

Last day of Summer 1: Friday 24 May

Summer half term: Monday 27 – Friday 31 May

First day of Summer 2: Monday 3 June

Last day of Summer 2: Wednesday 24 July

Autumn Term 2024

INSET Days: Mon 2 and Tues 3 Sept - school closed to children.

First day of Autumn 1: Wednesday 4 September

Last day of Autumn 1: Friday 25 October

Autumn half term: Monday 28 October to Friday 1 November

INSET Day: Monday 4 November – school closed to children.

First day of Autumn 2: Tuesday 5 November

Last day of Autumn 2: Friday 20 December

Full term dates for 2024/25 academic year are [on our website](#).