



Newsletter No. 6

Dear Parents and Carers,

Hopefully you all received the Christmas Events Calendar last week, with the updated times and dates of all of the upcoming Christmas activities taking place in school. It is a very exciting time of year for us and the children, and we are excited to be able to invite you to join us for some of these.

On Thursday 24th November, the children in reception, year 1 and year 2 met the local author and illustrator Alison Miles. Each year group spent some time with Alison in the hall and there was the opportunity for the children to ask Alison questions about her books and her work as an author and illustrator. The children's engagement in these sessions was excellent and all of the teaching staff in these year groups were impressed with the children's listening skills and with the quality of the questions that they asked. The children listened to Alison read her latest book entitled 'Snippy the Crab's Christmas Cracker.' The Snippy the Crab books can be purchased via Alison's website:

<https://alisonjmiles.co.uk/my-story>

See photos on next page

Despite the horrendous weather, our year 6 children managed to complete their bikeability week with success. A huge well done to them for demonstrating great persistence and resilience, in spite of the heavy rain. Increasingly cycling is becoming a crucial form of transport for us all, both economically and environmentally too. There is a wonderful safe cycle route directly in to Cambridge as well as to neighbouring villages, so knowing that our children are continuing to develop those safe cycling skills is very reassuring, knowing there will be plenty of opportunities for them in the future

Last week the year 5 classes welcomed The Welding Institute to school to complete a workshop. They explored welding and engineering principles, building on their knowledge of materials from previous science lessons. I am sure that the fact that chocolate was the material being used for the purposes of demonstration was a huge motivator for the children too!

After many years work at The Bellbird as firstly, teaching assistant, then Higher level teaching assistant and ultimately Class teacher, following several years of training, Mrs Karena Hunt is now moving on. Mrs Hunt will be leaving at Christmas to work in another school as a Key Stage 2 teacher. Whilst we are always sad to see staff leave, we would like to wish her all the very best for her next steps of her teaching journey.

As we come to the season for coughs and colds, there has also been a slight increase in covid cases. Thanks to parents who are testing children for covid, as the guidance is still for children to remain at home for 3 days, if they have a positive test. However, the common cold can be very unpleasant too. Hopefully the information below may help you to support your children if they are suffering with any of the viral symptoms.

<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/baby/health/colds-coughs-and-ear-infections-in-children/>

With the heating on in school, it is a perfect breeding ground for headlice (nits) to thrive and spread. Please do check your children's hair regularly for eggs and live lice as it can be a problem in classes. Do read the useful information below on how to successfully manage and treat headlice in your children.

<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/head-lice-and-nits/>

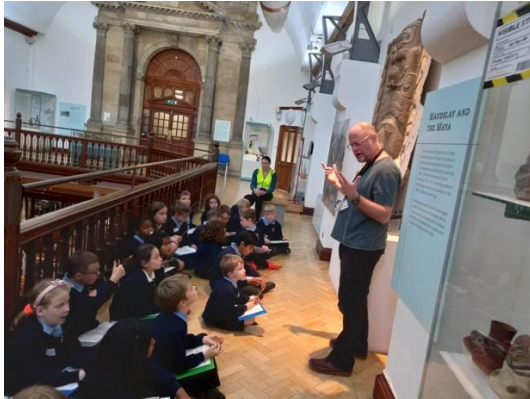
Mrs Katie Kendall & Mrs Rebecca Pentney | Headteachers



The Bellbird Primary School

December 2nd, 2022

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Year 4 children recently enjoyed a trip to Cambridge to visit the museum of Archaeology and Anthropology, as well as dropping in for a demonstration at the Cambridge Fudge Kitchen



Q & A session with local author Alison Miles for the KS1 children



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Autumn term dates	Events
28th November	Flu vaccinations: round 2 (information will follow)
7th December	Presentation and tour for New Reception parents September 2023: 9.15am
9 th December	FABS event Mini Christmas fair 3:30 – 5pm
12 th December	Reception and year 6: weighing and measuring
13th December	Reception sharing assembly: Nativity (time tbc)
14th December	Carol service at St Mary's church 10:30—YR & Y6 10:30—Y1,2 & Doves 1:30—Y4,5 & Swallows
15th December	Reception sharing assembly: Nativity (time tbc)
19th December	Carols Around the Tree KS1 and parents: 9.30 – 10.00am
20th December	School Christmas Lunch
21st December	Carols Around the Tree KS2 and parents: 9.30 – 10.00am

Spring term dates	Events
Week beginning 23rd January	Year 4 bikeability (details to follow)
9th February	Year 4 sharing assembly: 9.10 – 10.00am
15th March	Mothers Day event in school am (details to follow)
21st March	Year 3 sharing assembly: 9.10 – 10.00am
24th March	Reports out to parents
28th March	Parent consultations 8.00 – 11.00
30 th March	Parent consultations 3:30 – 7.00

Summer term dates	Events
Week beginning 8th May	Year 6 SATS week
25th May	Year 1 sharing assembly: 9.10 – 10.00am
9th June	Sports day times tbc
28th June	Year 6 pupils Induction day at Sawston Village College: all day
29th June	Year 6 Induction evening at Sawston Village College: pupils and parents 4 – 7.30pm
11th July	Year 2 sharing assembly: 9.10 – 10.00am