



26th January 2024

Newsletter No.10

Dear Parents, Carers and Children,

It has been a very windy few weeks. We have been fortunate at school that the high winds have fallen outside of break and lunchtimes, therefore not affecting **safe play outside for our children**. As January draws to a close, discussions have turned to the lighter skies in the evenings, spring is most definitely on its way.

Pantomime

The children enjoyed our annual school pantomime experience last week. Beauty and the Beast was a wonderful, engaging, fun and high energy performance. There was **lots of positive feedback from children and staff** about the show. We hope your child came home and told you about their favourite bit. This is a long standing commitment to sharing performance as a whole school community. Having the theatre company visit us allows us to keep costs down and ensure all children can access the show. I am sure the children will be pleased to know that we have re-booked for next year!

School Development

In our last letter we shared with you our continued school improvement work. We are pleased to share that the **children continue to impress us with their commitment to improving their conduct around the school**. It is always a pleasure as a school team member to be able to praise our children for their focus. Movement around school continues to see an improvement and the children understand that this is not only calm and orderly but also supports learning for those in class. The children's behaviour was also commented positively on by the Bikeability team who came and worked with our year 4 children this week. They were impressed with their listening skills, politeness and ability to follow instructions. Well done year 4, what great ambassadors for our school!

School policies

All school's have a range of policies that they use to ensure consistent approaches across the school for a variety of reasons. These policies are regularly reviewed to ensure they accurately reflect school provision and any national requirements. In the autumn term, teachers came together to review the **responsive feedback and marking policy**. This is a policy that is used everyday in school. It shares how we give feedback and mark the children's work to have the biggest and most immediate impact on their learning. We are aware that school policies are not always easy for parents to read and are grateful to our governor, Peter Deane for providing a useful one page summary for parents to engage with. **The summary document is attached to this email today** along with the newsletter and provides a useful summary of how marking and feedback work at The Bellbird. Should you wish to read the full document, this and other policies can be found on the school website in the parents tab. Do share any feedback or questions you may have.

Premier update

We are proud of **our strong link with our premier wrap around care team** who support the children before and after the school day. The premier team are continually reviewing and developing their provision to make sure the children have a positive and engaging session with them. Recently **children have become particularly fond of the activity carousels** that the team have been setting up. Rather than always taking up the whole hall space for one single activity they have been running multiple, smaller activities. Last week the carousel included a gymnastics, archery and badminton combination which was particularly well received. KS1 were tasked with experimenting with the vaulting platforms to see what shapes they could make with their bodies while jumping off, while KS2 were having an archery themed race to see who could score 100 points most quickly! The team have also been focusing on developing their display space in the main premier room and the children have been making colourful spaceships and astronauts to decorate this. If you are interested in your child attending premier wrap around care before, or after school please use the following link: <https://www.premier-education.com/parents/venue/courses/321/>

CHUMCATS

This half term sees a staff focus on CHUM CATS, our **school approach to supporting children with dealing with friendship and everyday issues**. The aim is to support children in developing strategies to ensure they are listening to each other to resolve minor issues. Adults use the structured CHUM CATS approach to walk through stages to ensure issues are properly resolved. Teaching staff received training on this last term and this term, the teaching assistant and midday supervisor teams are receiving the training to ensure we are all supporting children in the same way. **Consistency is key to helping children learn these helpful strategies** so a whole school approach is essential. We are currently looking at how we can share the detail of this approach with you all as you may find it useful at home to support your children, we will send communication about how we will do this in the coming weeks. In the meantime, please see the CHUM CATS overview below. Do ask your child about it and whether it has helped them to resolve a problem yet.



CHUM CATS Conflict Resolution Plan



C- Calm Down

H- Hear (listen to the other person's point of view)

U- Understand (empathy- put yourself in their shoes)

M- Make a plan



C-Compromise (my way, my way- our way)

A-Apologise (say a meaningful sorry)

T-Take turns (sharing- timers etc)

S-Speak (to a trusted adult)



COMMUNICATION

A reminder that **your child's class teacher is always the best person to speak to in relation to any learning, behaviour or friendship issues**. You can contact them by emailing the school office so you can arrange a mutually convenient time to meet. Your child's teacher has the best knowledge of your child, working with them daily and will always escalate any concerns or issues should it be appropriate. Thank you for your support with this.

Our choir children are attending a national event in London next week, **a great experience awaits them** and we look forward to hearing about it. Thank you to Mrs Collins and Mrs Irons for all of their hard work in ensuring the choir are ready to go and sing their hearts out! Parents who are attending in the evening, you will not be disappointed!

Wishing you all a positive weekend.

Best wishes

Mrs Emma Clayton and Mrs Rebecca Pentney

Parent diary dates:

(this list will be updated as the year goes on and dates are added so do keep checking it in each newsletter)

Week beginning	Key dates so far
29 th January 2024	Monday 29 th January: Year 5 and 6 National Measuring Programme Monday 29 th January: English Challenge Tuesday 30 th January: Young Voices Friday 2 nd February: FABS KS1 Disco
5 th February 2024	Wednesday 7 th March: Year 4 sharing assembly (9-9.45am)
12 th February 2024	Tuesday 13 th February: Parent Consultations pm Thursday 15 th February: Parent Consultations am
19th February 2024	HALF TERM WEEK: NO SCHOOL
26 th February 2024	Friday 1 st March: FABS KS2 Disco
4 th March 2024	Saturday 9 th March: Singing with The <u>Perse</u> at West road concert hall , Year 5
11 th March 2024	Monday 11 th March: Year 5 Challis House visit – Victorians Wednesday 13 th March: Year 5 Challis House visit - Victorians
18 th March 2024	Tuesday 19 th March: Book Fair Tuesday 19 th March: Year 3 sharing assembly Wednesday 20 th March: Dental Survey Wednesday 20 th March: Year 5 Victorian day Friday 22 nd March: FABS Easter Bingo
25 th March 2024	Thursday 28th March: Last day of term Friday 29 th March: Good Friday, Easter holidays

Remaining term dates for the 2023 – 2024 school year:**Spring term 2024**

Half term 19th – 23rd February 2024

Spring term closes Thursday 28th March 2024

Summer term 2024

Term Starts Monday 15th April 2024

May Day Monday 6th May 2024

Half term 27th May – 31st May 2024

Summer term closes Thursday 18th July

Professional Day Friday 19th July (no school)

Professional Day Monday 22nd July (no school)