



Newsletter No.16

Dear Parents, Carers and Children,

At last, the warmer weather seems to have arrived! It is lovely to be back on the field and watch the children's play expand and change in the different outdoor spaces we have available. This newsletter is full of lots of information, as always diary dates are on the final page.

Vision, Values, Motto and Aims

At our last full governing body meeting, the governors agreed our updated vision, values and aims. As we shared with you, our motto, soaring to success, was most definitely not changing! We are grateful to all of our community who inputted their thoughts and ideas into this process, it really was a team effort to produce the finalised document that the governors have agreed. In particular, the children's input was valuable. Their desire to develop their independence and be kind individuals really shone through. You can see the completed document on page 3 of the newsletter. We will be launching it fully with the children for use in Summer 2 and beyond.

Wider offer

Thank you to all the parents who completed the "Wider Offer" survey that was sent out. It is important to us to get the views of the children too, so we have also recently conducted a pupil voice to see how they feel about the experiences they have in school. Children spoke enthusiastically about the trips they had been on and visitors they have had such as authors and "History off the page"; they really felt they really helped consolidate and extend their learning. "It brings it to life more and makes it really enjoyable". They spoke positively about the competitions we have in school. "You get to celebrate each other", "You can show other talents. I didn't realise other people had that skill." They have also enjoyed opportunities to explore their local area, with trips to Challis House and SVC to see an orchestra play.

This year we have really looked at how we can ensure that all children can access clubs if they would like to. We are aware after school clubs can sometimes be logistically tricky so Y6 children have taken on leadership roles by organising and running KS2 lunchtime clubs. The clubs have proved hugely popular with spaces filling up instantly. Clubs included Pom-pom making, arts and crafts, fan making and Pirate Game maths club. We have trialled this in KS2 but are hoping to extend to KS1 –starting with a singing club on Wednesday lunchtimes. Hopefully more to follow next academic year. KS2 film club has also proved hugely successful with children getting to watch different genres such as silent movies, Aardman animation and anime films.

A huge thank you to the parent volunteers and staff who give up their time to run these clubs to benefit our children. As the survey stated, if you think you have a talent or interest you could share with our children in a club, please contact Mrs Collins via the school email office.

Parent view

Whilst we are thank you for sharing your opinions with us to help us develop the school, it is worth noting that you can give your views on our school using parent view at any time. Parent view is a tool that OFSTED use to gather parent/carer opinions when they visit a school. It is also useful for us to have your opinions, as you know, we use these to feed into our ongoing development work. Should you have time we would be grateful if you could complete the survey and give your views.

<https://parentview.ofsted.gov.uk/login?destination=/give-your-views>

Maths Challenge

We are delighted to share that, on Wednesday, we hosted one of the heats for the year 5 county maths challenge. It is always a privilege to host such events. We are proud to report that our team of year 5's won the heat and will proceed to the final. Well done to the children, The Bellbird adults who supported them were bursting with pride!

Safeguarding

Suntan lotion: now that the warmer weather has arrived and the sun is out, please can we remind parents to ensure their children have suntan lotion applied in the morning before coming to school. Also wearing a sun hat to keep the sun off children's faces as well as remembering water bottles to keep adequately hydrated. We have plenty of shaded areas outside which we encourage the children to use as needed in the warmer weather. Suntan lotion should not be brought to school as it's even application cannot be guaranteed by children and adults are not allowed to apply it. In addition some children are allergic to some brands and the safe use cannot be effectively monitored. Thank you for your support with this.

Whatsapp groups: Another reminder that whatsapp is not appropriate for children of primary school age. The age for use was recently lowered to 13 which still means that primary age children should not be using it. We are continuing to receive complaints from parents regarding the unkind and in some cases bullying nature of children's use of whatsapp outside of school. This includes adding and removing people from groups, name calling and other unnecessary behaviour. This is a reminder that the app is not age appropriate and children do not know how to access and use it appropriately. It is a parents responsibility to enforce this age limit. School will continue to support where issues come into school affecting friendships at break and lunchtime but we urge parents to consider carefully how you manage this with your child. If you choose to allow them on to this app despite the age limit, monitor their use and behaviour closely. Please also consider this advice in relation to other apps such as tik tok when safeguarding your child online.

Mobile phone policy: Safeguarding is always a school's first piece of work, coming before everything else. We are regularly reviewing systems to ensure our work safeguards our children. In line with this we have recently updated our mobile phone policy for staff and pupils. This can be found on our website: <https://thebellbird.cambs.sch.uk/wp-content/uploads/2024/04/Mobile-phone-policy-March-adults-and-pupils-2024.pdf>

Equipment: A polite reminder that children should not go on the equipment after school, even if supervised by an adult. The school field needs to be kept clear so that our after school club children can get outside as promptly as possible. Thank you for supervising your children and leaving the school premises promptly to allow after school club to begin.

Sawston Fun Run

Finally, we would like to wish all of our families who are taking part in the Sawston Fun Run this weekend the very best of luck. We hope you enjoy yourselves, the weather is looking good!

Best wishes

Mrs Emma Clayton and Mrs Rebecca Pentney



Our very proud Year 5 maths challenge heat winners: on to the final they go!

The Bellbird Summer term 2024: Vision, Values, Motto and Aims

Vision:

At The Bellbird Primary School we focus on developing **happy, confident** children, who are **intrinsically motivated** to achieve their **individual potential**. We aim to provide them with a **safe and creative environment** with consistent learning opportunities to achieve this. We recognise the value in involving the **whole school community** in this vision and seek to empower all staff, parents, carers and governors to work towards this goal for our children: learning does not just take place within the school day. We actively promote the values below to support our children in **'soaring to success'**.

Values:

Through working with our school community we have identified the following key areas that we all value for our children: Our **learning environment**, which provides a caring, secure and stimulating place in which every child can develop as an individual: intellectually, socially, emotionally and physically.

Our **curriculum**, which provides access to balanced, engaging and progressive learning opportunities for each child to ensure each child can excel at each stage of their education and feel ready for the next stage of their education.

Our **school community**, which provides opportunities for every child to feel a part of The Bellbird. A place where they can develop respect for themselves and others through the celebration of equality, diversity and inclusivity. We aim to inspire curiosity not judgement of others.

Our vision and values can be summarised in our motto and aims which we will use with our children to support their development.

Motto:

'Soaring to success'

Our Bellbird aims are to be:

Balanced and kind: we are **balanced** when we approach any new situation we are curious and not judgemental which helps us to be **kind** individuals who feel happier because of how we behave;

Independent: we aim for **independence** from adults in our learning because it helps us to build confidence in our abilities;

Respectful and responsible: we **respect** ourselves, each other, our resources and our environment taking **responsibility** to make the right choices;

Determined: we show **determination** to do the best we can even when things are hard, we use support when we need to and are proud of the progress we make making us resilient and confident learners;

Safe and supportive: we support others to feel **safe** with our words and actions and use CHUM CATS to **supportively** resolve our differences to support each other.

Diary dates:

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

Week beginning	Diary dates
	Sunday 12 th : Sawston Fun Run
13 th May	KS2 Year 6 SATS WEEK
20 th May	Monday 20 th : Premier Sports Football Euros fundraising goal event FS and KS1 Wednesday 22 nd : Year 1 sharing assembly [doors open 9am for 9.15am start, 10.15am close] Wednesday 22 nd : Premier Sports Football Euros fundraising goal event KS2 Wednesday 22 nd : Year 6 PGL information meeting 4pm Friday 24 th : Sports Day
27th May	HALF TERM NO SCHOOL
3 rd June	Year 4 Multiplication check week 1 Monday 3 rd : Year 6 swimming begins Friday 7 th June: FABS Fun Friday
10 th June	Year 1 phonics screening check week Year 4 Multiplication tables check week 2 Friday 14 th June: Whole school Premier Sports Football Euros Celebration Assembly
17 th June	Sawston Village College Work Experience Students at The Bellbird
24 th June	Sawston Village College Work Experience Students at The Bellbird
1 st July	Monday 1 st July: Year 6 production evening Tuesday 2 nd July: Year 6 production evening Wednesday 3 rd July: Year 6 induction day at Sawston Village College Thursday 4 th July: Year 6 induction evening at Sawston Village College Friday 5 th July: FABS Summer Fair
8 th July	Monday 8 th – Wednesday 10 th : Year 6 Residential trip to Norfolk Lakes Friday 12 th : Geography and Music Day Friday 12 th : Reports to parents
15 th July	Tuesday 16 th : Leavers BBQ Year 6 Thursday 18 th : Leavers assembly Friday 19 th : Staff training day NO SCHOOL
22 nd July	SUMMER HOLIDAYS BEGIN NO SCHOOL

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)

For the 2024– 2025 academic year, please visit the school website: <https://thebellbird.cambs.sch.uk/term-dates/>