



## The Bellbird Newsletter

**Dear Parents, Carers and Children,**

### **A Great Start to an Exciting Journey**

As I reflect on my first week here as headteacher, I feel incredibly grateful for the warm welcome I have received from staff, pupils and parents alike. From day one, it has been clear that this is a school full of passion, enthusiasm, and a strong sense of community. It was so nice to have spoken to so many of you at the school gate both at the start and end of each day. My next challenge will be to remember everyone's name!

I have enjoyed getting to know the talented staff who are dedicated to the success and wellbeing of every pupil. It has also been wonderful to spend a whole day in both Y6 and Y3. In both year groups it was lovely to see the clear enthusiasm that they had for their learning, and absolute engagement in their work.

Looking ahead, I am filled with optimism for the future. With the strong foundations in place thanks to Mr Brough, Mrs Pentney and Mrs Clayton, I am confident that we can continue to build an environment where every child thrives. I am excited to work alongside all of you to shape an even brighter future for our school.

Thank you once again for making me feel so welcome. Here's to an exciting year ahead!

### **Parent Working Party – Saturday, 8th February**

I am excited to invite parents to join both myself and Mr Foster for a Parent Working Party on Saturday, 8th February, from 9 am to 12 pm. As part of our ongoing efforts to improve the school, we'll be repainting the lower sections of the hall and corridors, and we need your help! All painting materials will be provided, and we'll keep you fuelled with as much tea as you can manage. There might even be a bacon roll, if we can find someone to make them! Due to a tight budget, your support means more than ever. It's a great opportunity to get involved and make a difference in our school environment. If you are able to assist, even for half an hour, please a member of the office team know. Children are more than welcome to attend.

### **Parent Governor Election**

We have a vacancy for a parent governor. Governor's play a crucial role in the strategic direction of the school and offer a wealth of knowledge and expertise. You should have received a letter about how to express your interest in the position and if you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

### **Music update**

We will be continuing to introduce the children to a wide range of musical genres and artists through our "Musician of the Month" initiative. 2025 is being kicked off with the late, great David Bowie. Hopefully, you too will enjoy listening to songs such as "Starman" and "Heroes" at home with your child.

Last term, the KS2 choir got out into the community; singing at Orchard House and "Sing to Remember" (a local singing groups for people with dementia). The children were, as always, a real credit to our school and sang

beautifully, spreading Christmas joy. The choir will continue to rehearse afterschool on a Friday, starting 17<sup>th</sup> January. If your child would like to join, please contact Mrs. Collins via the school office.

### **Open Door Policy**

The Bellbird has an open-door policy, which means, if you have any concerns, worries or questions, we encourage you to come into school straight away. Your child's class teacher may not be able to see you instantly, but will see you as soon as possible, normally the next day, and certainly by the time the week ends (unless of course it is a safeguarding issue when we will ensure someone sees you there and then). In our first few days here, we have been incredibly impressed by the whole Bellbird team and we know they will do what they can to sort any issues.

### **Calling All Parents and Carers: Help Us Run School Clubs!**

We're looking for parents and carers with talents, hobbies, or special interests to volunteer and run school clubs! Whether you have a passion for sports, arts, music, or any other exciting activity, your involvement can make a real difference to our children. If you'd like to contribute, please email the school office or speak to a member of the senior leadership team at the school gate. All volunteers will need to complete a DBS check and provide suitable references. Join us in enriching our pupils' learning experiences!

### **Feedback**

We have added a new way of you feeding general information back to us. At the front of school and in the office there is now a QR code which gives you the opportunity to leave general feedback. This is for generic positive and negative issues and we would ask that you still speak to your child's class teacher about individual concerns. As always, members of the Senior Leadership Team are around at the beginning or end of the day for queries.

### **Support Pupils in Reading with Confidence**

We're looking for volunteers to help our pupils improve their reading accuracy and confidence. By listening to children read, you'll provide invaluable support as they practice sounding out words, building fluency, and understanding texts. Your patience and encouragement can make a real difference in their progress. If you're interested in helping young learners succeed, we'd love to hear from you! Please contact the school office for more information or to get involved.

### **Key dates for your diary:**

<b>Event</b>	<b>Date</b>
<b>Year 5 Class Assembly</b>	Thursday 13 <sup>th</sup> February @ 9:15am
<b>Year 3 Class Assembly</b>	Thursday 27 <sup>th</sup> March @ 9:15am
<b>Year 1 Class Assembly</b>	Wednesday 21 <sup>st</sup> May @ 9:15am
<b>Year 2 Class Assembly</b>	Tuesday 8 <sup>th</sup> July @ 9:15am

Kind Regards,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'JP', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

**Mr James Puxley**

Headteacher