



The Bellbird
Primary School

11.07.25

The Bellbird Newsletter

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we enter the final stretch of the academic year, the school is buzzing with activity, celebration and a strong sense of community. Our Year Six pupils gave a magnificent performance of *What's the Crime, Mr Wolf?* this week. Their confidence, creativity and teamwork were truly impressive, and it was a joy to see them shine on stage.

Today, all of our pupils have taken part in a wonderful fundraising effort to support the Year Six leavers' party fund. Thank you for your generosity and encouragement – it has made a real difference.

With just one and a half weeks to go until the end of term, there is still much to enjoy and celebrate. In the meantime, I wish you all a relaxing and enjoyable weekend.

Non-Uniform Day Brings Smiles and Support for Year 6 Leavers' Party

Today, Friday 11th July, our school was filled with colour, creativity and excitement as children swapped their uniforms for their favourite outfits to take part in our whole-school non-uniform day. The event was held to raise funds for the Year 6 Leavers' Party, and it was wonderful to see so many pupils getting involved and enjoying the day.

From sparkly tops to football kits, the children took great pride in expressing their individuality, all while helping to support a fantastic cause. With a suggested donation of £1 per child, the school community has come together to raise money towards a memorable send-off for our Year 6 pupils.

Funds raised today will go towards making the Leavers' celebration extra special — with exciting plans including bouncy castles, games, delicious food and possibly even a photo booth, just like last year's hugely popular party.

A huge thank you to everyone who contributed and supported this event. Your generosity is helping us create a joyful and meaningful end-of-year celebration for our Year 6 children, and we can't wait to share it with them!

End-of-Year Pupil Reports – Sent Home Today

Your child's end-of-year school report is being sent home today, Friday 11 July.

The report provides a detailed summary of your child's progress, achievements, and next steps in their learning. We encourage you to read through the report with your child and take the opportunity to recognise and celebrate their efforts over the past academic year. If you have any questions or would like to discuss the report further, please contact your child's class teacher via the school office: office@thebellbird.cambs.sch.uk.

Staying Safe and Healthy in the Sun: Urgent Reminder During Extreme Heat

With the current extreme temperatures, it is absolutely vital that all pupils are protected from the risks of sun exposure and heat-related illness. Please help us to ensure your child stays safe, healthy and comfortable throughout the school day by following the guidance below:

Sun Cream Is Essential

Children *must* arrive at school with sun cream already applied. Given the intensity of the current heat, it is imperative that they are protected from harmful UV rays from the start of the day. Pupils may bring a named bottle of sun cream to school so that they can reapply it later, especially if they will be outdoors for extended periods. For safety reasons, we kindly ask that children do not share sun cream with others.

Cool Clothing and Hydration

Loose, cool clothing and sun hats should be worn to help pupils stay comfortable and prevent overheating. Please ensure your child brings a full water bottle each day. They will be encouraged to refill it regularly throughout the day. Staying hydrated is essential in these extreme conditions.

Personal Hygiene in the Heat

As part of our PSHE curriculum and our unit on *Looking After Yourself and Body Changes*, we are also reminding pupils—particularly in Years 5 and 6—about the importance of good personal hygiene during hot weather. We ask that older pupils wear deodorant to support their own wellbeing and that of their classmates.

Thank you for working with us to keep everyone in our school community safe, healthy, and sun-smart during this period of extreme heat.

Year 6 Production – What’s the Crime, Mr Wolf?

A huge congratulations to our incredible Year 6 pupils for their outstanding performances in What’s the Crime, Mr Wolf?, a witty and whimsical courtroom drama that had the audience captivated from start to finish. Set in the heart of Fabletown, the play brought fairy-tale favourites to life in a clever and humorous trial of the infamous Mr Wolf. With memorable appearances from Johnny Mole (secret agent), the Three Little Pigs, and Red Riding Hood, the production delighted audiences with its twists, turns, and unexpected revelations.

The children impressed us all with their excellent singing, slick choreography, imaginative costumes, and truly fantastic acting. Their confidence, teamwork, and enthusiasm shone through in every scene. We would like to give special thanks to Mrs Dobson and Miss Abraham for their inspiration, dedication, and hard work in bringing the production together. Their creative vision and support helped make this such a memorable experience for everyone involved. Well done, Year 6 – you should all be extremely proud of what you’ve achieved!

Support for Pampisford Families – Uniform Grants & More

As we start thinking ahead to the new academic year, we’re pleased to share some helpful news for families living in Pampisford. *The Pampisford Relief In Need Charity* offers a £250 annual grant to help with the cost of school uniform and other essentials for primary school-aged children living in the village. This grant is not means tested and can be claimed once per academic year. If you live in Pampisford or know someone who does, please spread the word so families can benefit from this support. The charity is also happy to consider requests for help with the cost of school trips or extracurricular activities if finances are a barrier. Schools can apply on a child’s behalf if needed, and all applications are treated in confidence. To apply or find out more, email: PRIN@axiom-e.co.uk

Thank you to the Pampisford Relief In Need Charity for their continued support of our local families.

School Meals – Price Increase from 1st September 2025

We regret to inform parents and carers that, due to rising costs of food products and staffing, the price of school meals will increase to £2.80 per day starting 1st September 2025.

This decision has not been taken lightly. However, in order to continue offering healthy, nutritious, and high-quality meals for all our children, this small increase has become unavoidable.

We appreciate your understanding and continued support.

School Reading Books

Key Stage 2

During the week starting Monday 7th July, the teachers in key stage 2 will be collecting in Star reading books, colour banded books and library books. They will also be collecting in the children’s reading record books.

Reception and Key Stage 1

Little Wandle reading books will not be issued to children from Friday 11th July and the children’s reading record books will be collected in on this day. All colour banded books in year 2 will also be collected in on this day.

At the end of the term, from Reception to Year 5, the children’s current class teachers will be sorting out the children’s first reading book for September 2025.

Please have a good look around at home and send back into school any school reading books. There may be a few previously read books lurking under beds or on the top of shelves.

From the 7th July, there will still be books in the class reading areas and the children will have access to these books during reading time in class.

Pupil Cake Sale – Saving Angle Sharks

On Thursday 17th July, 4 children are going to run a bake sale to raise money for the Marine Conservation Society. We are passionate about sea animals (especially sharks). The Angle shark is critically endangered due to a combination of their habitat being destroyed and getting caught in fishing nets. Some populations of Angle Sharks have even declined as much as 98% in the recent decades. If you want to help us, you can bring a cake in for us to sell. Please make sure you have the ingredients displayed. Bring your cakes in on Thursday 17th in the morning and leave them in office. Thank you.

Nut-free Reminder

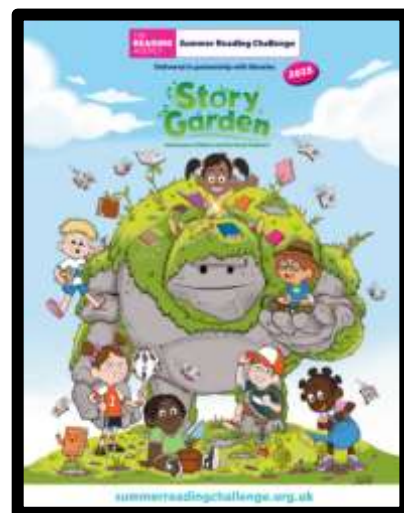
We would like to remind you that The Bellbird is a nut free school. Yesterday evening some wrappers for chocolate snacks containing nuts were found in the dust bins in the year 2 toilets. The children are provided with fruit every day for their snack and parents can also send in a piece of fruit for their child. We have children with nut allergies in both key stages 1 and 2. Thank you for your co-operation with this matter.

Summer Reading Challenge 2025 – Library Assembly Visit

On Monday 7th July, all pupils at The Bellbird Primary School enjoyed a special assembly led by staff from the Cambridgeshire Library Service. The team from Sawston Library introduced this year's **Summer Reading Challenge 2025**, which is themed "**The Story Garden.**"

The Summer Reading Challenge is a nationwide initiative designed to encourage children to enjoy reading during the long summer holiday. It is a wonderful opportunity for pupils to stay engaged with books, maintain their reading progress, and discover new favourite authors and stories – all while enjoying themselves. The library team delivered an engaging and energetic presentation, explaining how children can take part by visiting their local library, borrowing books to read over the summer, and collecting rewards along the way. The pupils responded with great enthusiasm and were inspired to get involved.

We would like to thank the Cambridgeshire Libraries for their visit and encourage all families to visit Sawston Library this summer and take part in **The Story Garden** challenge.



<https://summerreadingchallenge.org.uk/>

School Uniform Reminder for September

As we look ahead to the new academic year, I would like to take this opportunity to thank you all for your continued support of the school and to share a reminder about our school uniform expectations. From September, we will be closely monitoring adherence to the school's uniform policy. The Governing Body has set a clear policy to ensure consistency, fairness, and a strong sense of belonging among all pupils. We believe that wearing the correct uniform supports a positive school identity and helps create a sense of pride in our learning community. We understand that many parents and carers will be purchasing new uniform items over the summer holidays, so please find below a reminder of our school uniform requirements:

Daily School Wear

White or blue polo shirt – preferably with the embroidered school logo and name
Blue sweatshirt or cardigan – preferably with the embroidered school logo and name
Black or grey school trousers or shorts; black or grey skirt or pinafore
Black shoes and plain coloured socks or tights (black, grey or white)
Blue gingham dress (for summer)

Sports Clothing (PE Kit)

Blue T-shirt – preferably printed with the school name
Plain black or navy-blue shorts (above the knee)
Tracksuit (plain black, navy blue or dark grey) for outdoor PE in colder weather
Plimsolls or trainers (ideally black) for outdoor PE
Clothing with the school logo is optional, but preferred for sweatshirts and cardigans.

If your child has any physical difficulties or sensory sensitivities connected to wearing elements of the school uniform, please do let us know. We are committed to working with families to ensure that all children feel comfortable and included. We greatly appreciate your cooperation in helping all children come to school dressed appropriately, ready to learn, and proud to represent The Bellbird Primary School.

Bring in 2 Carrier Bags – Friday 18th July

As we approach the end of term, we will be sending home all of your child's exercise books and work from this year. To help with this, we kindly ask that all children bring in two carrier bags on Friday 18th July. These bags will make it easier for your child to carry everything home safely and keep all their wonderful work protected. Thank you for your support!

Calling All Parents – We Need Reading Volunteers!

At The Bellbird Primary School, we believe that reading is the foundation of all learning – it unlocks imagination, knowledge, and confidence. This is why we are committed to helping every child develop strong reading skills as early as possible.

However, with increasing demands on teachers' time, we need your support to ensure each child receives the attention they need while learning to read. Could you spare an hour or two each week to listen to children read?

You do not need any special training – just a love of books and a willingness to encourage our young learners as they develop this vital skill. Whether you are able to come in weekly or only from time to time, your involvement could make a significant difference.

Why volunteer as a reading helper?

Support children as they gain confidence and improve their reading ability

Make a meaningful and positive contribution in the classroom

Become a valued part of the school community

If you are interested or would like further information, please contact [Teacher/Office Name] at [email address/telephone number], or visit the school office.

Together, we can help every child become a confident and capable reader. Thank you for your support!

National College guide What Parents and Educators Need to Know – Apple Ipad

iPads are a familiar fixture in many households and classrooms, offering access to educational tools, entertainment, and the internet in one sleek package; however, with great versatility comes notable risk. From accidental spending and data privacy breaches to excessive screen time, there's plenty for parents and educators to consider before handing over the device. While Apple offers built-in safeguards such as 'Screen Time' and 'Family Sharing', these features must be correctly set up and actively managed to be effective. See guide attached

Key dates for your diary:

Event	Date
Pupil Books Return	Friday 18 th July
Yr 6 Leavers Party	Mon 21st July 4.30pm - 6pm Parents volunteers needed, please email us if you can help
Y6 Leavers' Assembly	Tuesday 22 nd July from 2pm on Tuesday 22nd July. 2 adults per child.
Final Day of Summer Term	Tuesday 22 nd July
Staff training (inset) – no childcare provided	Wednesday 23 rd July

Have a good weekend,

James Puxley, Headteacher.