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| **Dear Parents and Carers,**  It is hard to believe we are now just five and a half weeks away from the end of the academic year – time is certainly flying by!  This week began with pupil photographs on Monday and the children looked incredibly smart. Before the end of term, these photos will be made available for parents and carers to purchase – more details will follow shortly.  Our Year 6 pupils are currently deep in rehearsals for their end-of-year production, ***What’s The Crime, Mr Wolf?*.** There is a real buzz around school as they prepare, and we are all looking forward to seeing their hard work come to life on stage.  We have also had the absolute pleasure of welcoming our new Early Years pupils during the transition sessions thoughtfully planned by Mrs Lovewell and Miss Meechan. The children have brought such joy and energy with them – it has been lovely getting to know each and every one of them.  Wishing you all a warm and restful weekend.  **Staying Safe and Healthy in the Sun**  As the summer sun continues to shine, we would like to remind families of a few simple steps that will help keep all our pupils safe, healthy and comfortable during the school day.  Please ensure your child comes to school with sun cream already applied. Children are welcome to bring a *named* bottle of sun cream to reapply later in the day, especially if they will be spending extended time outdoors. To avoid allergic reactions, we kindly ask that pupils do not share sun cream with others.  A sun hat and a water bottle are also essential during the warmer weather. We encourage children to refill their water bottles regularly and to make sensible choices about time spent in the sun.  Finally, as part of our PSHE curriculum and the *Looking After Yourself and Body Changes* unit, we are reminding pupils—especially in Years 5 and 6—of the importance of good personal hygiene in the heat. We ask that older pupils wear deodorant to school to support both their own wellbeing and that of their classmates.  Thank you for helping us promote a healthy, respectful, and sun-safe school community  **Y2 Visit to Bury St Edmunds**  On Wednesday our Y2s enjoyed a warm but very historically enlightening trip to Bury St Edmunds. Our pupils write:  My day out in Bury St Edmunds was magical. First of all, we got on a tall double-decker bus that took us to Bury. We saw a big and cold cathedral and some people acted out the story of King Edmund. Next, we saw a wooden sculpture of Edmund tied up. After this, we saw lavender, roses and tulips in the Abbey Gardens. When I saw the Abbey ruins, I learnt that they were made of sharp flint. After lunch, we made wolf masks and they were very colourful. My favourite part was seeing the ruins because it was interesting to see the different shapes. I learnt that Edmund was 15 or 16 when he became King.  (Amelia – Skylarks)  My day at Bury St Edmunds was amazing! My favourite part of the day was seeing the Abbey gardens because I learnt that the Abbey was three times the size of the cathedral. At the end of the day I was sad that the school trip was over. (Charlotte – Goldfinches)  At the end of the day I felt like a history expert and I was sad that the school trip was over (Lydia – Goldfinches)  **Join Us for The Bellbird Primary School Summer Fete!**  We are delighted to invite you to The Bellbird Primary School’s Summer Fete, taking place on Friday 27th June from 5.00pm to 7.30pm. This promises to be a fun-filled evening for the whole family, with stalls, games, food, and entertainment for all ages!  The fete is a fantastic opportunity to come together as a school community and celebrate the summer term in style. Whether you are trying your luck on the tombola, enjoying a tasty treat, or cheering on the children in one of the many activities, there is something for everyone to enjoy.  We would love as many parents and carers as possible to join us—and if you are able to lend a hand, the FABS team would really appreciate your support. Help is always welcome, whether it is setting up, running a stall, or tidying up at the end of the evening. If you are interested in volunteering, please contact Andy Irons, FABS Chair, via the school office. Let us make this a summer fete to remember—fingers crossed for sunshine!  **Year 6 Production – What’s the Crime, Mr Wolf?**  We are delighted to announce this year’s Year 6 production, What’s the Crime, Mr Wolf?, a witty and whimsical courtroom drama set in the heart of Fabletown. Under the watchful eye of Lord Feathers of Eiderdown, the Forest Court brings charges against the infamous Mr Wolf. With a colourful cast of characters, including Johnny Mole (secret agent), the Three Little Pigs, and Red Riding Hood, this clever tale will keep you guessing – are our favourite fairy-tale figures really who they appear to be?  **Performance Dates:** Wednesday 9 July at 6:00pm, Thursday 10 July at 6:00pm **Venue:** Main School Hall **Running Time:** To be confirmed, but approximately 1 hour and 15 minutes  Each family will be allocated **two tickets** for their child’s performance. Once these allocations have been confirmed, additional tickets may be available upon request. Younger siblings will have the opportunity to watch the performance during school hours.  **Please note:** All Year 6 children are required to attend both performances and **must be collected by an adult** at the end of each evening.  Further details regarding costumes and arrival times will be shared in due course. We are very much looking forward to showcasing the talents of our Year 6 pupils in what promises to be a thoroughly entertaining production.  **Teaching Assistant Vacancies – Join Our Team!**  We are excited to announce that we have a number of Teaching Assistant (TA) vacancies available at our school from September 2025. This is a fantastic opportunity to join a dedicated and supportive team, working to make a real difference in the lives of our pupils.  Whether you have experience in the role or are looking to begin a new and rewarding career in education, we would love to hear from you.  To find out more and to apply, please click on the following link: <https://mynewterm.com/jobs/135132/EDV-2025-BPS-28795>  **Application deadline: Thursday 26th June 2025**  We look forward to welcoming new members to our school community!  **School Clubs**  This year we have continued to improve what we offer children beyond the classroom. Please check our website for an updated list of the current clubs we are currently providing. <https://thebellbird.cambs.sch.uk/school-clubs/>  If any parents are interested in leading a club in September please contact Mrs. Collins via the school office. Our lunchtime Y6 led clubs have been particularly popular this year so current Y5s should start thinking if they would like to lead a club in September.  **Music Concert 16th July**  You will have seen from recent correspondence that we are planning to hold a music concert on Wednesday 16th July at 5.30pm. This concert will give our fantastic**KS2 choir** a chance to perform some of their favourite songs from this year. We would also like to invite some of our children who play instruments from across all year groups to perform too, so if your child has a piece of music that they can confidently and competently perform and would like to take part, please complete the form by Friday 27th June. <https://forms.office.com/e/5fyEW0pb1M>  At present we have not had many people sign up and it would be a real shame if the event could not go ahead so please complete the form asap if you would like your child to take part.  **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.  Summer Reading Challenge  **The Summer Reading Challenge 2025**  This year’s Challenge is about nature, the outdoors, storytelling and reading! Children can collect their own sticker booklet to start their Challenge from the library. Libraries will be hosting themed events and activities over the holidays for children and families taking part, with lots of opportunities to find new books and have fun learning about nature. Download an information pack here:  [**https://summerreadingchallenge.org.uk/**](https://summerreadingchallenge.org.uk/)  **Join the Friends at Bellbird School (FABs) and make a difference!**  As our school’s parent-teacher association, we’re a dedicated team of parents and staff committed to organising fundraising events and supporting school activities. Our mission is to unite children, families, and the wider community through exciting events while raising funds for essential resources and learning opportunities. Thanks to our fantastic volunteers, we’ve enhanced the school library, hosted author visits and theatre performances, funded swimming lessons for Years 2, 4, and 6, and installed a new PA system in the school hall. If you’d like to get involved, leave a message for Mr. Andy Irons at the school office or speak with the School Leadership Team at the gate—we would love to welcome you to the team!  **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!  **Join the Fun at Cambridge City Football Club – This weekend!**  Cambridge City Football Club is excited to invite you to a fantastic line-up of community events! From Wednesday 18th to Sunday 22nd June, the club will be buzzing with activities for everyone to enjoy. Highlights include a lively bingo night, a refreshing beer festival, and a brain-teasing quiz night – and that is just the beginning! For full details, please see the attached flyer. Do not miss out on this great opportunity to connect with the community and enjoy a week of entertainment.  **National College guide What Parents and Educators Need to Know – Generative AI**  The remarkable growth of generative AI tools like ChatGPT has opened up exciting new opportunities for young learners. Used wisely, AI can be a powerful ally in boosting creativity, learning and problem-solving skills. However, without proper guidance, young people may stumble into challenges including inaccurate information, data security risks, and a growing reliance on AI over their own critical thinking.  From setting clear usage boundaries to teaching digital hygiene and promoting independent thought, this guide offers parents and educators practical advice on the safe, positive use of AI. With the right understanding and guidance, you can ensure that generative AI becomes a positive influence, rather than a potential pitfall in young people’s digital lives.  **Key dates for your diary:**   |  |  | | --- | --- | | **Event** | **Date** | | **Early Years Trip – South Angle Farm** | Thursday 3rd July | | **Year 2 Class Assembly** | Tuesday 8th July @ 9:15am | | **Y6 Production** | Wednesday 9th and Thursday 10th July - timings TBC. | | **Yr 6 Leavers Party** | Mon 21st July 4.30pm - 6pm Parents volunteers needed, please email us if you can help | | **Y6 Leavers’ Assembly** | Tuesday 22nd July from 2pm on Tuesday 22nd July. 2 adults per child. | | **Final Day of Summer Term** | Tuesday 22nd July | | **Staff training (inset) – no childcare provided** | Wednesday 23rd July |   **Have a good weekend,**  **James Puxley, Headteacher.** |