



The Bellbird Newsletter

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope you all enjoyed a relaxing and refreshing half-term break – although I must admit, it already feels like a distant memory! I had the absolute pleasure of spending part of the break with our wonderful Year 6 pupils at Caythorpe Court PGL. From climbing towering obstacles to raft building on the water, I fully embraced the adventure (and revealed just how creaky my joints are these days – much to the delight of the children!). It was a joy to see the pupils challenging themselves, supporting one another, and making memories that will last well beyond their time at primary school.

Now, as we step into the final half term of the academic year, we are gearing up for an exciting and busy few weeks. With sports days, the Year 6 production, SATs results, and the summer fair all ahead, there is plenty to look forward to. Let us keep our fingers crossed for a generous helping of sunshine to brighten our days and keep spirits high!

As always, thank you for your continued support.



Y6 Residential – Caythorpe Court

On Monday 2nd June, over 50 Jubilant Yr 6's boarded a coach to Caythorpe Court - memorable moments awaited. Next came hauling our suitcases up countless stairs to our dormitories, where we relaxed in our bunkbeds quickly and later tried to sleep (unsuccessfully) after three fun activities. A full day of fun followed, plus two more activities and packing mayhem on Wednesday.

PGL has a huge range of challenges, from securing harnesses ready for the Vertical Challenge to donning goggles in preparation for rifle shooting to searching the whole site in orienteering. My favourite activities were climbing, because I managed to get to the top of a 10m tower and the Giant Swing which was exhilarating despite the unwelcoming weather.

The instructors were kind and the food was DELICIOUS - some children (me included), didn't want to leave so early!

PGL has taught me to co-operate in a team to face my fears and to prepare myself for the adventures ahead. We all had a brilliant time! – Arthur – Owls

PGL was by far one of the best experiences I've ever had. On Monday 2nd of June, Year 6 went to the Caythorpe Court - situated in Lincolnshire - for 3 days and 2 nights. As the days passed by, each person was faced with various challenges (and DELICIOUS food!) and conquered several fears, whether it was heights or swimming in a lake. The activities included: rock climbing, raft building, the vertical challenge, rifle shooting, archery and many others. The entire trip was filled with laughs, grins and screams. Numerous pupils' stomachs dropped on the giant swing and MANY children fell off the rafts! We'll forever cherish this brilliant adventure and remember everything we did - facing my fears, singing all of the catchy songs, melodies, having campfires and definitely the mouth-watering meals! Neha - Eagles

New Furniture for The Bellbird Primary School

We are incredibly grateful to Birketts Solicitors in Cambridge and Deloitte for their generous donations of much-needed furniture to The Bellbird Primary School.

Thanks to Birketts, we have received 20 high-quality, wood-style cabinets. Deloitte has kindly provided a wonderful selection of larger items, including cupboards, tables, chairs, and sofas — some of which now enhance the welcoming atmosphere of our foyer.

These contributions have made a remarkable difference. Not only have they significantly improved the appearance of our school environment, but they have also enabled us to declutter and make better use of our space. With school budgets tighter than ever, creating a pleasant and functional environment for our pupils and staff can be a real challenge. The generosity of Birketts and Deloitte has helped us overcome this hurdle, and we are truly thankful for their support.

Fathers' Day Celebration – Friday 13th June at 2.30pm

We are delighted to invite all fathers and father figures to a special Fathers' Day celebration on Friday 13th June at 2.30pm. This is a wonderful opportunity for dads, grandfathers, uncles, or another important family member to spend some time in their child's classroom.

During the visit, guests will be able to take part in a craft activity or enjoy sharing books with their child. Light refreshments will be provided, and everyone will be offered a biscuit.

To help ensure the end of the school day runs smoothly, we kindly ask all visitors to leave the classrooms by 3.00pm. This will allow teachers to prepare for a calm and orderly dismissal. Fathers can then collect their children from the usual collection points.

We look forward to welcoming many of you into school for this joyful occasion.

Class Mixing form

We kindly request that the Microsoft Form regarding the selection of learning partners, initially sent on Monday, 2nd June, be completed and returned by Friday, 13th June, instead of the original deadline of Friday 27th June.

Receiving your responses by this earlier date will provide teachers with additional time to manage the complex task of class allocation effectively.

We apologise for any inconvenience this adjustment may cause and sincerely thank you for your support and cooperation.

Jumpers, Jumpers Everywhere!

Our lost property box is overflowing—especially with jumpers! Unfortunately, over 70% of these items are unnamed, making it difficult for us to return them to their rightful owners.

Next week, tables will be set up at the front of the school each day. Please do take a moment to check if any of the jumpers (or other items) belong to your child.

As a gentle reminder, we kindly ask all parents and carers to clearly label their children's clothing. This simple step makes it much easier for us to reunite lost items with their owners.

Thank you, as always, for your support.

The Importance of Good Attendance at School

At The Bellbird Primary School, we are dedicated to supporting every child to reach their full potential—both academically and socially. One of the key factors that contributes to a child's success is regular attendance at school. Children who attend school consistently not only make stronger academic progress, but also develop more secure friendships, build greater self-confidence, and feel a stronger sense of belonging within the school community. While missing the odd day might seem harmless, these absences can quickly add up and create gaps in learning. For instance, a child who misses just one day every two weeks will have lost an entire term's worth of education by the end of their primary school years.

Frequent absence from school can result in:

- Gaps in understanding essential concepts in literacy and numeracy
- Reduced confidence and increased anxiety about catching up
- Challenges in maintaining friendships and feeling part of the class
- Fewer opportunities and reduced outcomes in the long term

We would also like to remind all families that holidays during term time **cannot be authorised**. Such absences significantly disrupt children's learning and undermine the consistency that young pupils need to flourish.

We ask for your continued support in ensuring that your child attends school every day, arrives on time, and is ready to learn. By working together, we can provide all our pupils with the strongest foundation for future success.

If you are experiencing difficulties related to attendance, please speak with Mrs Klimke. We are here to listen, support, and work with you to find positive and constructive solutions.

Cross Country Club – Volunteers Needed!

The Cross-Country Club, led by Mr. Puxley, runs every Friday from 3:20 to 4:20 pm. We warmly welcome parents and carers to get involved — whether by running with the children or helping with supervision. With your support, we'll be able to take the children on fun and adventurous runs beyond the school grounds. If you're interested in volunteering, please speak to me at the school gate or get in touch with the school office.

Summer Sports Day at The Bellbird – Save the Date!

Get ready for a day of fun, excitement, and friendly competition! The Bellbird's much-anticipated **Summer Sports Day** is set to take place on **Tuesday, 10th June**, with **Wednesday, 11th June** as our back-up date in case of bad weather. Exact timings for the day, to be

announced closer to the date. We warmly invite parents and families to come along and cheer on the children as they take part in a variety of events, showcasing their skills, teamwork, and determination. From sprints to relays, and even some classic fun races, there will be plenty to enjoy. And for those who are feeling brave—there might even be a parents' race! So, dust off your trainers and be ready for a little friendly competition of your own. We look forward to seeing you there for what promises to be a fantastic day of sporting spirit and school community fun.

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 Helpers!

At The Bellbird Primary School, we believe that reading is the key to learning – it opens doors to imagination, knowledge, and confidence. That is why we want every child to develop strong reading skills as early as possible.

But with the demands on teacher time increasing, we need your help to give every child the time and attention they deserve when learning to read.

Could you spare just 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 support our young learners as they build this essential skill. Whether you can come in weekly or even just occasionally, your time could make a world of difference.

Why become a reading helper?

- Help children grow in confidence and ability
- Make a direct, positive impact in the classroom
- Be part of the school community in a meaningful way

If you are interested or would like more information, please contact [Teacher/Office Name] at [email/phone number], or drop by the school office.

Together, we can help every child become a confident reader. Thank you!

SEND Coffee Afternoon

Supporting Neurodivergent Children

Transitions – “Warming up for school and cooling down after school.”

Thursday 19th June

Arrival from 1:50pm | Start at 2:00pm

Relax with a coffee and connect with other parents & carers.

Topic: Warming Up for School & Cooling Down After School

Helping neurodivergent or potentially neurodivergent children transition smoothly before and after the school day.

Led by: Jenny Lowey –Senior SEND Specialist Teacher.

Jenny will share practical strategies and ideas during a short presentation, followed by a friendly Q&A session.

RSVP using the Forms link by 17th June. We have space for 14 families. <https://forms.office.com/e/QFibSYeFdh>

National College guide What Parents and Educators Need to Know – Violent Content Online

With around 70% of teens reporting they've seen violent real-life content on social media in the past year, this guide shines a light on a disturbing – and increasingly common – aspect of young people's digital lives. From shocking videos to hate speech, many children do not go looking for this material, it finds them via algorithms or peer sharing.

The guide outlines key concerns, including the mental toll of repeated exposure, shifts in behaviour, and the worrying normalisation of harmful ideologies. It also explains how such content can escalate from screen to street, and why some young people may feel pressured to share or even create violent media themselves.

Key dates for your diary:

Event	Date
Sports Day	Tuesday 10 th or Wednesday 11 th June
Fathers' Day Session	Friday 13 th June 2.30-3.00pm
Early Years Trip – South Angle Farm	Thursday 3 rd July
Year 2 Class Assembly	Tuesday 8 th July @ 9:15am
Y6 Production	Tuesday 8 th and Wednesday 9 th July - timings TBC.
Y6 Leavers' Assembly	Tuesday 22 nd July
Final Day of Summer Term	Tuesday 22 nd July
Staff training (inset) – no childcare provided	Wednesday 23 rd July