



Enjoying our learning...
...aiming for excellence.

Bells Farm Primary School
Bells Farm Close, Druids Heath
Birmingham B14 5YG
Tel: 0121 675 8666
Headteacher: Miss T Williams

Value word for March: Happiness
Behaviour for Learning focus: Listening

Dear Parent / Carer,

Attendance

Here are our attendance figures for each class:

Swans – 94%

Puffins – 94%

Toucans – 95%

Bluebirds – 95%

Robins – 98%

Kestrels – 94%

Eagles – 99%

Well done to Eagles! **99%** won them the roll on Classopoly.

Star Assembly

Star assembly is always a happy occasion and I really enjoyed seeing the children, families and staff this morning celebrating these wonderful children:

Y6 – Jannat and Shriya

Y5 – Shenyar and Isabel

Y4 – Elena and Summer

Y3 – Annie and K'mya

Y2 – Tommy and Tina

Y1 – Sureyah and Rahaf

Reception – Connie and Mya

Star of the School – Matt (Y3)

Well done to all of these fantastic children for setting excellent examples of our learning behaviours.

Watching and Browsing Online - Internet Matters

According to Ofcom, 90% of children are watching online videos and browsing the internet regularly. Children may love to stream videos and look up information, it's a fun way to learn and relax after all but they must be guided. The e-space is filled with inappropriate content and dangerous material. It is important that home and school are able to work together to steer

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children towards the right places when they are online.

Internet Matters has published a guide dedicated to supporting adults in setting digital boundaries for children, so that they can make smart choices and build healthy online habits. In the Internet Matters guide you'll find practical tips on managing content access, the use of safety controls, advice on setting boundaries and ways to educate children on how to stay secure online. Please follow the link: <https://www.internetmatters.org/advice/by-activity/watching-and-browsing-online-a-parents-guide/>

World Book Day Celebrations

What a wonderful week we have had! We have enjoyed a range of special reading activities this week including Whole School ERIC and our special dance workshop on World Book Day. The children were treated to a visit from 'West End in Schools' who did a 40 minute dance workshop with each class culminating in a whole school performance at the end of the day. It was amazing to see how quickly the children had learned their dances and how confidently they performed! You can see pictures and videos of our performance on the school website.

Health Information

This week schools were provided with the following information to share with parents:

We are seeing extremely high levels of norovirus, with numbers far above the five-year average for this time of year. If you've caught the virus, take steps to avoid passing the infection on. If you have diarrhoea or vomiting, do not return to work, school or nursery until 48 hours after your symptoms have stopped and don't prepare food for others in that time either. If you are unwell, avoid visiting people in hospitals and care homes to prevent passing on the infection in these settings. Washing your hands with soap and warm water and using bleach-based products to clean surfaces will also help stop infections from spreading. Alcohol gels do not kill norovirus so don't rely on these alone.

Staying healthy and taking simple steps to reduce the spread of illness will ensure children and their families experience less disruption at this time of year. Each winter, we see an increase in acute respiratory and gastro-intestinal illnesses, however it only takes small measures to reduce the spread of most of these infections. By following advice on good hygiene habits, knowing when to keep your child off school and taking up the opportunity to get vaccinated when offered, parents are protecting their children and the wider school community.

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Bulls in the City

We are incredibly proud to announce that we have now reached our £1000 target. A huge thank you to every one who has donated so far, it really will make such a difference. If you have yet to donate, our Just Giving page is still open and will not close until after our Bull Run event has taken place.

On the playground, Mrs Moore has been running a 'Guess the name of the bull' competition. If your child would like to have a go at this competition, please bring £1 in at the end of the day to play. The winners will receive one of three bulls that have been made.

Wraparound Care Reminders

You will find attached to this letter a copy of the agreement that all parents who use Wraparound Care should have signed to agree to. Over the next few weeks, we will be updating our records and ensuring we have this signed agreement in place with all parents who use breakfast club and after school club. You will find our full policy for breakfast club and after school club on our school website here: [Policies – Bells Farm Primary School](#)

As part of the agreement I would like to remind you that you should be cancelling any places have booked with enough notice for someone else to take the space - this means 48 hours in advance. This is to ensure we have the correct ratios of staff and enough notice for food. If you do not cancel in advance and your child does not attend, then you will still be charged for this session unless there are exceptional circumstances which you can discuss with myself or at the front office. Changes to your bookings can be made very easily via the school app by clicking on the book booking and swiping.

Term Time Holidays

I would like to remind you that we are following the new guidance set out by the Department for Education called 'Working together to improve School Attendance'. As part of this guidance, you are already aware that I am unable to authorise any term time holidays unless there are truly exceptional circumstances.

However, I would like to remind you that you must inform us if your child is going on holiday. It is important we maintain positive home school relationships and taking your child away without informing us, can cause bigger issues than you may think. We would therefore ask again that you always inform us if you are taking a term time holiday, even though you know it will likely be refused and you may be fined for doing so.

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If you know you have a holiday booked, please collect and fill in the form available in the school office. Thank you.

Safeguarding

Please remember that if you are collecting your child from after-school club, you must close the gates behind you to ensure our school site is safe. I understand it is a pain to put in the code but the safety of all children in school is paramount so your support with this is much appreciated.

Also attached this letter today you will find a copy of our arrivals and collections policy. This has now been updated to reflect recent changes we have made in school with the collection of our year one children. If you are a Reception parent or have been new to us this academic year, please do take some time to read and understand this policy.

Reminders

- Please remember your child should not be scooting or cycling through the school playground.
- It is preferable that your child's PE kit remains in school for the half term. If you prefer to take it home weekly please ensure it is returned as it does cause issues when children do not have the correct PE kit.
- Please remember to book your child's lunch via the school app.

Kind regards,

Miss Williams
Headteacher

Dates for your Diary

* Please note – changes and additions are highlighted

Date	Event	Details
Monday 10 th March	Y6 Book Breakfast	Letter to follow
Friday 14 th March	Bull Run	Letter sent
Monday 17 th March	Book Fair Y1 Book Breakfast	Details to follow Letter to follow

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Friday 21 st March	King Edward's School visiting for music performance Red Nose Day	In school Wear red for a £1 donation Red Nose Day Biscuit Sale
Monday 24 th March	Mothers' Day Sale	Details to follow
Monday 24 th March	Y5 Book Breakfast	Letter to follow
Wednesday 26 th March	Y3 Class Assembly	Letter sent
Tuesday 1 st April	Y6 SATs parent meeting	Details above
Friday 4 th April	Donut sale	Details to follow
Monday 7 th April	Year 4 Class Assembly	In school hall 9:05
Wednesday 9 th April	Parents' Evening	Letter to follow
Friday 11 th April	Egg Technology Bells Farm's Got Talent No After School Club or Homework Club	Details to follow Details to follow
Monday 28 th April	Teacher Training Day	School is closed
Tuesday 29 th April	Children return to school	

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