



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

Bells Farm Primary School
Bells Farm Close, Druids Heath
Birmingham. B14 5YG
Tel: 0121 675 8666
Fax: 0121 675 4138
Headteacher: Mrs B Butterworth



We're now paperless!

Letters & newsletters will now be emailed to parents. Please ensure you have provided your correct email address to the office.

8th July, 2022.

Dear Parents / Carers,

I am still absolutely buzzing following year 2's assembly about the rainforest. It was truly amazing and brought a tear to many people's eyes, including mine! We are all so proud of the children who have worked so hard on this as well as the tremendous efforts they have put into their work this year in the first year of SATs since the start of the pandemic. Thank you to all the family members who attended – it really is brilliant to see our community coming back together!

Reports and results

By now you should have received your children's reports and I hope you have enjoyed seeing a summary of their hard work over the year. Parents and carers of children in reception, years 1, 2 and 6 will also have received notification of how your children performed in the statutory assessments: the Foundation Stage Profile for reception; phonics screening for y1 and end of key stage assessment results (usually known as the SATs) for years 2 and 6.

We will be publishing the percentages of children who achieved expected standards in the early autumn term as soon as we have the go ahead to do so. I can tell you though, that the children have done so well considering the challenges of lockdown, infection and isolation over the past two and a half years. Every single one of the children gave their best, so if they didn't quite reach the standard in an area or subject, please do not feel at all disappointed. End of stage assessments do not define your children. What counts is their resilience and determination in the face of things they have missed out in school and life during the pandemic; their emotional strength and capacity to overcome obstacles; their ability to smile as they come through the door every day; and their amazing talents – whether musical, sporting, artistic or any range of the many things that make a good friend and young citizen. They make us all proud every day.

Sports Days

Thank you again for your support and for your appreciation of simply being able to come along and enjoy the events. We got there in the end, and the



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sun even tried to shine a couple of times! We really will miss Mr Gill's input next year and thank him for the many years of these enjoyable days. He leaves a considerable legacy, which will be taken on by our new PE teacher, Mr Evans. Mr Evans comes to us with a wealth of experience in both PE teaching and leadership as well as classroom teaching, and we look forward to welcoming him in September.

Staffing for next year

As you know, the children have had transition time with their new teachers and teaching assistants today. I can now confirm the full classroom staffing for next year:

Class	Teacher (s)	Teaching assistant(s)
R	Miss Coghlan	Mrs Sargeant; Mrs Horsley; Miss Potter
1	Mrs Ville (new member of staff)	Miss Jones
2	Miss Reeve (new member of staff)	Mrs Parton-Harris
3	Mrs Moore and Mrs Parry	Miss Knapman; Miss Dainter
4	Mr Lo	Mrs Sabir
5	Mrs Calbreath	Miss Johnson
6	Miss Edwards	Mr Crooks

Y4 guitar assembly

Make sure it's on your calendars if you can make it, parents and carers of year 4. The guitar assembly on **Friday 15th July at 9.00 am**, to which all year 4 parents and carers are invited.

Y6 reminders

Party

We will send another reminder closer to the time, but just to let you know that the party on **Wednesday 20th July will be from 4.30 pm - 6.00 pm.**



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The children can leave school early on this day – from lunchtime onwards depending on yourselves. If you normally pick your child up, please come to the front entrance. Only children with permission letters can walk home on their own so if you want them to do this, please ensure you provide written permission if you haven't already done so. If it is not possible for your child to go home early, then you can either pick them up at normal time and return later. We are also happy for them to stay in school if none of the above options are possible, and they can get ready at school.

Final assembly

Bring your tissues with you – the Y6 assembly will be at **9.00 am on Thursday 21st July**. It will be a long one – very likely to go past the usual half hour, so if you do need to leave early for work, please feel free to do so. Please try and make sure that there is someone there for your child – it is a very special occasion.

Signing shirts

As you probably know this has always been something year 6 love to do and we are happy to accommodate. Please let us know individually if you don't want this to happen – I don't want it to come as a surprise to you when they get home!

Arts week

The work by the children will take place during lesson times as planned next week. However, we have had to change the day of the exhibition of their work outside to **Monday 18th July straight after school**, to accommodate the **Summer Fayre on Friday 15th July**.

Summer fayre

Please continue to send in donations of any good quality items. We have decide to have a raffle rather than a tombola for a range of prizes. More details to follow. The summer fayre will run from after school time until 5.00 pm. Please bring lots of change! As I informed you yesterday we unfortunately have to cancel after school club on this date only.



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School timings next year

Due to the government's requirement for all schools to have a minimum of 32.5 hours a week for children to be in school, we have to extend our school day by 15 minutes. So from September, pick up time will be **3.30 pm** for all classes. We will remind you about this closer to the time.

Staff training days and term dates next year

As in other years, there will 5 days throughout the year on which the school will be closed for staff training. The dates will be:

Monday 5th September
Tuesday 6th September
Wednesday 7th September
Tuesday 3rd January
Monday 5th June

Taking this into account, our term dates will be:

Autumn Term 2022

Term Starts: Thursday 8th September 2022
Half Term: Monday 24 October 2022 to Friday 28 October 2022
Term Ends: Friday 16 December 2022

Spring Term 2023

Term Starts: Wednesday 4th January 2023
Half Term: Monday 20 February 2023 to Friday 24 February 2023
Term Ends: Friday 31 March 2023

Summer Term 2023

Term Starts: Monday 17 April 2023
Half Term: Monday 29 May 2023 to Monday 4 June 2023
Term Ends: Tuesday 25 July 2023



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Please take these dates into account when booking holidays next year as term time holiday bookings will not be authorised and will be subject to a fine. Believe me, I am frustrated as you are with the difference in cost of holidays, but we are still required to put these measures in place.

So that's all for now – quite a long one but I want to make sure you have good notice of events and timings. Have a great weekend and we'll see you on Monday.

Kind regards,

Barbara Butterworth