



# Bellfield Infant School News

8th September 2017

Tel: 0121 464 4855

Website: [www.bellfieldinfants.co.uk](http://www.bellfieldinfants.co.uk)

## Welcome

*I hope everyone had a lovely Summer Holiday and welcome back to school! We have had a lot of new children starting school in our Nursery and Reception classes and I am so proud of the way they have settled in without any fuss and are so excited to be here.*

*Mrs Simm  
Head teacher*

All our children look really smart in their uniforms and black shoes and hopefully they will maintain this look for the year ahead. Please can you make sure that your child's clothing is named clearly as PE changing times can be very fraught when the children are claiming one another's jumpers, t-shirts, pumps and shoes!

We would like to welcome our three new teachers, Miss Hadley in Year 2, Miss Evans in Year 1 and Mrs Delves in Reception; and our new Lunch Time Supervisor, Mrs O'Sullivan. We wish them all a long and happy time at Bellfield Infant School.

Monday and Tuesday were two teacher days which were very useful. On Monday all staff went through the diary for the next academic year and we looked carefully at our policies to make sure everyone knows what is expected of them this academic year. In the afternoon we had our annual safeguarding training. On Tuesday morning staff had time to prepare their classrooms and in the afternoon they had training on our tracking system which we use to monitor the progress of every child.

Download our free school app on your mobile phone via your App store!

Although our KS1 results were good we still feel that we could do even better so we have decided to bring in a new system of teaching reading, writing and phonics, it's called 'Read, Write, Inc.' and has a very good reputation for raising standards. As a consequence we need training to ensure that we deliver it effectively and as there were no week day training left all staff agreed to attend training on Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> September which shows how committed they are to our pupils' success. We are holding Parent Workshops in October to explain to you what we will be doing and how you can support your children at home - please see the 'Dates for your Diary' on the reverse of this letter to see when you need to attend.

We are also introducing an exciting initiative this year for every child in Reception to Year 2; every child will receive a 'Passport' which will record the following;

- Reading at home everyday
- PE Kit in school
- Full uniform, including shoes
- Behaviour
- Arriving for school on time
- Completed homework on time

If a child manages to keep a clear record on these things for a whole term then they will be rewarded with something special or a treat in recognition. We are having Parent Meetings next week to explain how we use the Passport and how you can help your child be successful in this initiative. The meetings are as follows;

Year 1 and 2 - Thursday 14th September 9:10am  
Reception - Friday 15th September 9:10am

[To report your child's absence from School](#)

Call 0121 464 4855/4857 or Text 07900 351 202 after 8:00am. Please leave Child's name, Class and Reason for absence.

As the new academic year begins we would like to see an improvement in school attendance. Ms Dyhouse monitors pupil attendance and will write to or contact parents who's child's attendance is a concern. Frequent absence can add up to a considerable amount of lost learning and can seriously disadvantage your child in adult life.

If your child's level of absence is of serious concern you will receive another letter advising you about improving attendance. After this, any further unauthorised absence may result in the School and the Local Authority taking legal action.

Absence disrupts the education of the individual pupil and the whole class. Are you aware that children who do not attend regularly:

- do not achieve well in exams
- find it difficult to maintain friendships
- are more likely to become involved in crime
- miss out on opportunities in further education and the world of work?

Attendance during one school year	equals this number of days absent	which is approximately this many weeks absent	which means this number of lessons missed
95%	9 days	2 weeks	50 lessons
90%	19 days	4 weeks	100 lessons
85%	29 days	6 weeks	150 lessons
80%	38 days	8 weeks	200 lessons

Timekeeping is also really important and we all know that occasionally we can be late for school due to unforeseeable reasons which is acceptable. However, regular lateness disrupts the class and it teaches your child that it's ok to be late. As they get older this can get them into trouble at school especially in senior school! Being late also adds up to a loss of learning which affects your child's achievement so please make sure your child arrives for school on time.

We would like to thank parents who make sure their child is attending school regularly and on time and therefore benefiting fully from their educational opportunity.

## Parents of Bellfield

'Parents of Bellfield' organise events to raise money for School Fund which pays for treats and contributes towards School trips.

**There will be a meeting next Friday at 9:15am.**

All Parents or Carers are welcome to come; you don't need a personal invite. The members are a really friendly group so if you haven't been before come along, you will be made very welcome!

We will still have our Awards assembly every Monday morning (starting Monday 11th September) which celebrates achievements from the previous week. If you are invited to the assembly we ask parents to wait on the ramp in the playground rather than having to walk all around the building to come in the front entrance. This will be the same for any other Parent events that we hold in the mornings throughout the year.

As you all know due to necessary security improvements we have installed new gates with camera and we buzz you through. There have been a few teething problems with them that we can only apologise about but hopefully these have been resolved now.

Can I remind parents that 'Jo Jo' bows are not part of our uniform and therefore should not be worn in school. Can we also request that long hair is tied back to avoid it getting put in paint, glue or dinner!

## Dates for your Diary

**Thursday 14/09/2017** - Year 1 & Year 2 Meeting with Parents 9:10am

**Friday 15/09/2017** - Reception Meeting with Parents 9:10am

**Tuesday 03/10/2017** - Flu Vaccinations

**Tuesday 03/10/2017** - Nursery - Read, Write, Inc.

Parent Workshop 9:10am

**Thursday 05/10/2017** - Reception - Read, Write, Inc.

Parent Workshop 9:10am

**Friday 06/10/2017** - Year 1 - Read, Write, Inc.

Parent Workshop 9:10am

**Tuesday 10/10/2017** - Year 2 - Read, Write, Inc.

Parent Workshop 9:10am

**Wednesday 11/10/2017** - School Photographer

**Friday 13/10/2017** - 60th Birthday Celebration of our school

**Friday 20/10/2017** - School Closed for Teacher Training

**23/10/2017 - 27/10/2017** - School Closed for Half term