



*"Nurturing Hearts
and Minds"*

Belthorn Academy Primary School

Headteacher: Mrs Helen Rowan

Friday Newsletter

Week Ending: 24th March 2020



★★★ This week's BADGE WINNERS... ★★★

★ Little Bells – Evie W

★ Year 1 – Mia

★ Year 3 – Alfie F

★ Year 5 – Tristan

★ Reception – Ava

★ Year 2 – Haashim

★ Year 4 – Sam

★ Year 6 – Matthew K

Welcome to this week's newsletter...

I hope everyone is keeping safe and well, as we come to the end of 5th week of being at home. A huge thank you to all our parents and carers – the teachers have all reported that lots of you deserve the star of the week for all the hard work you are putting into supporting your children at home. I know this isn't always easy, but we very much appreciate it.

Miss Egan and Mr Furness held the fort in school over the Easter break to enable the rest of the staff to have some time off. Many thanks to them – It was nice to spend some time away from the computer for me and enjoy some time with my now adult children who have returned home and are eating so much food.

This week we have posted the Good Work Assembly on class 'Showbies'. This is definitely a work in progress and hopefully will improve as I get used to doing this and we have input from people a lot better at technology. Eddy the Beagle may also be banned from assembly time as he really wasn't behaving very well.

This week in school we have had between 2 and 8 pupils coming in to join us. Mrs Potter and Miss Ashworth have joined me in supporting the children. I have also been looking at what has been going on with virtual learning and I am so impressed with the many creative ways children and families are engaging with their school work.

Don't forget you can contact school via the office@belthornacademy.co.uk email address if you want to ask questions or need some support.



A big welcome to our new and returning families who will be joining us in September. Places were allocated in the Easter holidays and we have been in touch with all the families who will be joining us in September. More news about induction and welcome evenings will follow. These may well have to be virtual meetings, but we will find a way to be in touch. We do have a couple of spare places, so if you know of any families who would be interested in joining us, please pass on our details. Thank you.



Staffing news. Mrs Sutcliff will start her maternity leave during the second half of the summer term – she will keep working from home until that time if schools remain closed. Mrs Drugan will then take over teaching the Reception class and will welcome the new starters in September. We feel this will provide a familiar face for the children and really help with transition, as well as providing excellent teaching for the children in the class. In

September, Mrs Hall will fill Mrs Drugan's place in Little Bells and again we think this appointment will provide consistency and quality teaching. Mrs Drugan will be the EYFS leader and we are sure that the Early Years' unit will run as smoothly as ever.

If you know of anyone who has a child who is three before September, who would like a place in our Pre-School – please spread the word.



As well as all the work class teachers are setting for children to complete at home, there are many websites and apps to support your child. Miss Trafford sent out a message yesterday via the 'Showbie' app which provides details of many maths apps which she thinks will be useful.

Please also try out the Sir Linkalot spelling programme which we bought into just before school closure. Details below with access codes:

Tablets - once you have downloaded the app from an online store, please tap on the log icon (for 'Log in') at the top right, clicking on "Sir Linkalot's Code (schools only)". Type 'Belthorn' in the username and the following password AAWCE455G6. You can also view it on a **laptop or PC**. Type in the browser itself (not a search engine)...app.sirlinkalot.org and follow the above instructions.

And finally

As I have said on previous newsletters – the work is set to provide a structure and consistency to your child's learning and often follows a sequence. We know there are good days and bad days at home and everyone is in different circumstances, however, if we notice that we haven't had contact from families during a week, we will be making contact to check everything is ok. We know some families are doing alternative things but we just want to make sure everyone is safe and well.

Have a lovely weekend – hope you can enjoy a little bit of sunshine.

Mrs Rowan and the Belthorn Team