



*"Nurturing Hearts
and Minds"*

Belthorn Academy Primary School

Headteacher: Mrs Helen Rowan

Friday Newsletter

Week Ending: 12th June 2020

★ ★ This week's **BADGE WINNERS**... ★ ★

★ Little Bells – James B

★ Reception – Lydia

★ Year 1 – Evie P

★ Year 2 – George

★ Year 3 – Harry S

★ Year 4 – Alina

★ Year 5 – Lola

★ Year 6 – Jayden D

Welcome to this week's newsletter.....

We have been busier in school this week and have separated into two Key Worker groups. We have seen the return of all our Teaching Assistants and they are working hard to support children on Showbie as well as keeping the children engaged with other activities and playing outside when possible. With the increase in children, Mr Griffiths has also increased the cleaning staff in school.

We are keeping a close eye on all the advice and we are really hoping to open on Monday 22nd June to children in Reception and Little Bells. Children in Year 1 will be invited back following their successful induction. We are hopeful that we will be able to invite Year 6 back into school at some point in July – this will be to take part in end of year activities and have a chance to see their classmates before moving on to secondary school. Some of the secondary schools have been in touch to say that they are making changes to their transition programmes, so I would encourage any Year 6 parents to keep checking emails (and clutter/junk folders) for communication from them.

We have very detailed guidance about what we can and can't do regarding re-opening and one of the guidelines is that we can't go above 15 children in a 'Bubble' at the moment, therefore it makes re-opening a very carefully planned for event. As you know, we don't have spare classrooms and so each year group takes up at least 2 rooms, and we have to have classrooms for Key Worker children too. We really do want to get the children back into school – school is a place for children and we are missing the life they bring to the building.



Thank you to those key workers who have now given me their monthly rota's; this is very helpful when planning ahead. It has worked much better this week having 2 groups. Because of staffing, we are going to amend our

beginning of the day drop off point for the KS1 children – please drop off at the hall door again whichever group the children are in, so that we can ensure an adult is on site. Once wider re-opening begins we will have to re-think this procedure. **Times remain the same: 8am – 3.30pm, with an earlier finish at 1pm on Fridays.**



We haven't had many contributions from home for the last few weeks for our good work slideshow. Please keep emailing in your good work so that it can feature in the gallery weekly assembly. Email them to belthorn.homelearning@gmail.com

The good work assembly is posted on the school website and also on Showbie and Facebook. Sometimes it is later on in the day as editing is quite a challenge.

This week you can see some brilliant art work from the younger children and some bird feeders which the older children made.



Thank you for all you are doing with your children at home. At our weekly meeting this morning, teaching staff were saying how pleased they were with all the efforts from children and parents who are regular logging on to Showbie and completing the work. One thing we did pick up on was that children are using electronic means to write a lot more than usual. We are worried that when children return to school, handwriting will have declined, so we are asking that writing tasks are completed on lined paper when possible and uploaded to showbie, and that regular handwriting takes place. Children have worked so hard this year to improve their presentation, we don't want to lose all that progress.

And finally

Please contact us if you have an enquiry via office@belthornacademy.co.uk and we will do our best to help. We hope everyone is keeping well. We know it is really difficult and we are missing you all.

Take care.

Mrs Rowan and all the Belthorn Staff