



*"Nurturing Hearts
and Minds"*

Belthorn Academy Primary School

Headteacher: Mrs Helen Rowan

Friday Newsletter

Week Ending: 26th February 2021

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

★ Year 1 – Jai

★ Year 3 – Ibrahim

★ Year 5 – Ruben

★ Reception – Qasim

★ Year 2 – Dair

★ Year 4 – Sebastien

★ Year 6 – Amelia

Welcome to this week's newsletter...

This week has brought the news that many of have been waiting for and I am sure that most families will be looking forward to March 8th when school can welcome back all its pupils. We are certainly looking forward to it; as I have said before, schools are not the same without all the children in them and I know the teachers are looking forward to face to face teaching rather than spending time sitting at a screen. Hopefully all parents will have received and read the letter outlining arrangements – they are largely the same as in the Autumn Term with a few tweaks. Please do read this letter and keep it handy to refer to for times and other practicalities – most importantly – please keep belongings to a minimum – no bulky rucksacks/bags, as these will be stored in the classroom at least until the Easter holidays. We will send a text message out regarding PE bags, but please don't send them in on the 8th. You will however need a carrier bag if your child is in years 2-6 to place any locker items in which will be brought home.



It is World Book Day on 4th March, but in true Belthorn style, we won't be celebrating it on that day. We have decided that we would like to focus on this when all the children return back to school – therefore **Friday 12th March** will be the day when we turn our attention to literacy.

Your child is very welcome to come dressed as a book character – with prizes for the most creative ideas. However, we do not expect families to buy new costumes for this and so PJ's and a favourite bedtime story is another option. We will be doing some literacy focused activities on the 4th March as well as on the 12th and we will keep you posted of any activities you can get involved in at home.

Parents
Evening

Thank you to all parents who made appointments for Parents Evening this week. It has been a busy time for staff, and we hope you found the calls useful.



Mrs Sutcliff came into school for a keeping in touch day this week, and she will be spending Tuesday with us as well. She will return to full time work the week beginning 8th March alongside Miss Weir and this will be Miss Weir's final week with us. I am sure you will agree that Miss Weir has been a fabulous addition to our team; we will miss her and wish her good luck in her future career. I am so pleased that all the class will return to say a proper goodbye and good luck, and I know that Miss Weir is looking forward to spending time with all the children before she leaves.



Routines

I am guessing that some families who have been at home may have been a little more relaxed about bedtimes and getting up early for school. This may not be the case, and I know many children are naturally up with the lark, but I do anticipate many tired children on their return to full time schooling. Therefore, it might be worth trying to get back into school routines this next week so that it isn't too big a shock to the system for all concerned.

A reminder that if you need breakfast club or after school club from the 8th March, please book in on line.

If you need to change your lunchtime preferences from packed lunch to school dinner please email office@belthornacademy.co.uk this coming week so that we can order the right amount of catering supplies.

And finally

Keep up the good work re Showbie and Zoom lessons. We know the longer it goes on, the harder it seems, but there is only 1 more week and then we can begin the task of trying to catch everyone up. We will be looking at our curriculum and fitting in interventions where necessary – more details about all of this will be provided once the children have returned.

We will also be focusing on building the class team ethos again, as we saw after a longer period of absence last time, this is what the children needed. I am sure, with our fantastic team of teaching staff that we will strike the right balance between learning and well-being. As I said at the start of this newsletter, we are really looking forward to having full classes back in and getting 'stuck in' to our curriculum.

Have a fabulous weekend – it looks like the weather is going to be dry and bright.

Mrs Rowan and all the Belthorn staff.