



Newsletter 4, November 2011

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Does maths make you nervous? Then you are not alone, research regularly shows that many people will readily admit to not being very good at maths. At Bell Farm we are out to break that cycle by having an exciting and often fun maths curriculum. Why not come and find out more about it at our maths evening on November 24th. I promise you that nobody will be asked any difficult questions!

I would like to welcome Miss Sharma, who is a new teaching assistant based in Year 4. I am sure she will enjoy working with our fantastic children.

I would also like to welcome our new School Secretary, Mrs Overton. Please say hello to her in the office.

Don't forget to remind your children that the library is open every Friday lunchtime. They can sit and read for 10 minutes or the whole of the lunch break and they can change their library books.

Best wishes

Valerie Blackwell
Headteacher

Please be aware that the industrial action taking place across much of local government on November 30th will probably affect Bell Farm. More details to follow.

Please note change of date below from initial notification due to potential local authority unions strike

Do you have a child who will be five between September 2012 and August 2013?

Bell Farm is opening a brand new Reception Class in September 2012

Come and find out more at a meeting for parents of prospective pupils on

Tuesday, November 29th

7pm to 8pm

This meeting is dependent on a successful outcome to the public consultation now taking place.

Class assembly dates for the rest of this term

23.11.11 5LP

29.11.11 4CD (changed date)

All class assemblies take place at 9am

Christmas Dinner

If your child would like to take up the offer of Christmas Dinner you must place your order by **Wednesday 16th November**. Unfortunately, we cannot arrange for the Christmas meal after this date.

Ceramic Lanterns

This might not be the best photograph we have ever taken but it's not surprising as it's a picture of our ceramic lanterns on display in St Mary's churchyard on All Souls Day.



Dangerous Parking

It has been brought to the attention of the school that a small number of parents are parking and stopping in places that could make it dangerous for children. Please think very carefully about where you park or stop your car.

For the safety of **all** our children Miss Blackwell will not hesitate in forwarding any information about dangerously parked cars to the police.

Letters you may have missed...

9/11/11 Parent Governor letter
11/11/11 Christmas production - backstage letter
11/11/11 Christmas production - make up letter
11/11/11 Christmas production - Ushers 1
11/11/11 Christmas production - Ushers 2
11/11/11 Mathematics evening flyer to all year groups
11/11/11 Year 6 - Romeo and Juliet permission letter

Mathematics Evening at Bell Farm

Thursday, November 24th

7 to 8pm

The purpose of the evening is to:

- * Help you feel more confident in your knowledge of key calculation strategies taught;
- * Give you some ideas on how to help your child at home

Year 4 Visit Hampton Court

Year 4 had an exciting learning day on Tuesday 8th November at our local Hampton Court Palace, where the children were able to bring their Tudor learning to life. We took part in workshops, met Henry VIII himself, experienced the Tudor kitchens and the roaring log burning fire and saw lots of Tudor Art. A fantastic trip where all children were a credit to our school - well done year 4.



Year 4 meeting Henry VIII!

Heathside challenge

On Thursday we went to Heathside school for a Design and technology challenge, which involved tropical birds or insects travelling along a zip wire, picking up two very small triangles and bursting a balloon at the end.

Within the task we were judged on speed of bursting the balloon, picking up triangles, design and appearance. Group B designed an insect called the Harlequin. In the meantime group A designed a tropical bird called the Flamin' Firebird. The Flamin' Firebird was a huge, heavy bird but the



Harlequin was a small, light insect.

Group A's insect zoomed down the zip-wire, it picked up one triangle and burst the balloon. Group B didn't pick up any triangles and fell off near the end. When the results were announced, **group A came second, only one point behind the winners.** The school received £50 in prize money. We really enjoyed ourselves!

Group A were Remi, Sam, Aiden and Rhys and group B were James, Oliver and Ethan

Netball match report

On the 9th November the Y6 A team played a match against Cardinal Newman. In the first quarter Sophie scored an amazing goal. Straight after Cardinal Newman tried to score but sadly they didn't. Following on from that, Alice scored a goal which made it 2-0 to Bell Farm. In the 2nd quarter Charlee scored a brilliant goal; it came to the 3rd quarter when Charlee scored another awesome goal. In the last quarter Bell

Farm had several attempts, but we did not score again. The final score was 4-0 to Bell Farm. The B team also had an extremely successful match, in which they doubled the A teams score to score 8 goals to 0! We would like to say a massive thank you to Miss Walker and Miss Smith for being a cool coach and umpire.

By Amelia, Danielle and Sophie in Year 6

The school would also like to thank the Friends of Bell Farm for supplying the super smart new kits that everybody is wearing. Perhaps that's why they won?

Special Remembrance Day Assembly

Pupils, governors and staff took part in a special Remembrance Day assembly on Friday morning. The children heard the air raid warning siren in their classroom and then filed into the hall as if they were going into an air raid shelter. Children from 4DS told everybody about the experiences that family members had of war, children read their own poems and each class presented a poppy wreath that they had made.



Pupils and governors after the special assembly

This is the poem written and read by Sam Whelan of 6NH in the assembly

In Blood Stained Fields

In blood-stained fields soldiers lay,
Poppies grow night and day.
And although their bodies will go away,
All their souls will never fade.

The sounds of war: the crying and screaming,
Everyone hoped that they were dreaming.
Lights off during the blitz,
England suffered many hits.

Everyone lost pets, family and friends,
Many thought it would have no end.
Barbed wire coils round and round,
No one would ever sleep sound.

In blood-stained fields soldiers lay,
Poppies grow night and day
And although their bodies will go away,
All their souls will never fade.

In blood-stained fields the Royal Legion pray
To help those who'll never betray.
We stand in silence on the 11th of November
To thank those we'll always remember.

By Sam Whelan 6NH

Bell Farm Diary		
Monday 14 th to 25 th November	All	Anti bullying week
Thursday 17 th November		Governing body meeting
Friday 18 th November	All	Friends Family Bingo 7pm
Thursday 24 th November	All parents	7pm Maths evening
	Choir	7.15pm Performing at Squires Garden Centre
Tuesday 29 th November	4CD	Changed date for class assembly
Tuesday 29 th November	Reception class parents 2012	7pm Parents meeting for Reception class 2012
Wednesday 7 th December	All parents	6-8pm Parents evening
Thursday 8 th December	All parents	4-6pm Parents evening
Wednesday 14 th December		7pm School Christmas play performances
Thursday 15 th December		7pm School Christmas play performances
	All pupils & staff	School Christmas lunch (don't forget to book by November 16 th)
Friday 16 th December	Choir	2pm singing at Sutton Lodge
Monday 19 th December	children	Christmas disco. Y3 & 4 from 1.30pm to 3.00pm Y5 & 6 from 3.45pm to 5.15pm
Tuesday 20 th December		Last day of autumn term, 2.20pm finish
Wednesday 21 st December		Christmas holiday starts
Wednesday 4 th January 2012		Spring term starts, children in school
Monday 9 th January	Y3 parents	6pm – 6.45pm Curriculum meeting
Tuesday 10 th January	Y6 parents	6pm – 6.45pm Curriculum meeting
Wednesday 11 th January	Y4 parents	6pm – 6.45pm Curriculum meeting
Thursday 12 th January	Y5 parents	6pm – 6.45pm Curriculum meeting
Wednesday, 8 th February	All	Safer Internet Day
Thursday 26 th January		Bell Farm Friends meeting
Thursday 2 nd February		UNICEF Rights Respecting school day
Monday 13 th February		Half term
Monday 20th February		School Inservice day(3) - school closed to children
Monday 12 th March to 14 th March	Y4	Y4 residential trip to Sayers Croft
Friday 30 th March		Last day of Spring term
Monday 2 nd April		Easter holiday begins
Monday 16th April		School Inservice day(4) - school closed to children
Tuesday 17 th April		Summer term starts, children in school
Thursday 3 rd May		Election day and inservice day (5) – school closed to children
Saturday 12 th May		May Fair
Monday 14th May		SATs week for Y6
Tuesday, May 29 th	Choir	Royal Albert Hall Concert
Monday 4 th June		Half term
Monday 25 th June to Friday 29 th June	Y6	Y6 residential to the Isle of Wight
Thursday 19 th July	Y6 parents	9.30am Y6 Leavers assembly
Friday 20 th July		Last day of summer term

Don't forget to look on the school web site for the calendar