

Newsletter 5, December 2011

Dear Parents and Guardians,



You may have noticed that it has been a very busy couple of weeks at Bell Farm. Last week we had our Ofsted inspection followed by a maths curriculum evening, and this week we've had a meeting for prospective Reception class parents for 2012. During our inspection we also heard that Surrey County Council had completed the consultations and agreed that we are to become a primary school from September 2012.

Our Ofsted report has still to be published but I am sure it will be on the Ofsted web site soon. As soon as we receive the final version we will print it and send a copy to every family.

Having said the last two weeks were busy, the run up to Christmas in a school is very lively indeed. If you come into the school at the moment you will hear the choir rehearsing carols and songs for the Christmas production, Y5 dancers and actors practicing, children and adults making and painting props, Y6 rehearsing for their nativity assembly and the office organising tickets. Whilst all this is going on the teachers are bringing together all their assessments and preparing for parents evenings.

During parents evening we will have a special display about the new primary school building work. We have only agreed the floor plan outline, but I think it will give you a good idea of how we will be proceeding. The architects from Hampshire County Council (contracted by Surrey) and our governors will be there to talk to you. There will also be an opportunity for you to give written feedback and ideas to the school.

Finally may I wish you all an enjoyable Christmas and a peaceful New Year.

Best wishes

Valerie Blackwell
Headteacher

Following the recent request for Parent Governor nominations, I am pleased to confirm that Mick Gadd (Year 4 parent) and Shauna McVeigh (Year 3 parent) have been appointed as Parent Governors.

School Dinners

The cost of school dinners remains at £2.00 per day or £10 per week. If you would prefer to pay up to half term, the cost will be £56.00.

Walton Festival of Light



It was fantastic to see so many Bell Farm families at the Lantern Procession on Saturday 19th November. The lanterns and light sculptures were quite magical. We definitely had the biggest

school contingent in the parade and had great fun. Thank you so much to Mrs Lian for organising our part of the event, and to all the pupils, parents, staff and friends who came along.

Letters you may have missed...

14th November	Library Protest Information Lantern Parade
17 th November	Y3 Free Fun Activity flyer
18 th November	Bell Farm School Orchestra
21 st November	Ofsted Parent's questionnaire
24 th November	Industrial Action
25 th November	Parent Consultations
28 th November	Christmas Play arrival times Maths Masterclass (Y6)
1 st December	Christmas Production afterschool helpers
2 nd December	Christmas Production tickets

Midday Supervisor vacancy

A vacancy has arisen in school for a midday supervisor. This is for one hour a day at lunchtime, 5 days a week, term time only. If you are interested in applying for this role please collect an application pack from the school office. Appointment to this role will be subject to an enhanced Criminal Records Disclosure.

January Curriculum Meetings

What is your child going to learn in school during the Spring and Summer term? Come and find out at the year group curriculum meeting. These meetings were new in the Autumn term and very well received by parents. This term, we are moving them all to 6pm and they will last for 45 minutes. Children are welcome to come with you and listen quietly.

Y3	Monday 9 th January
Y4	Wednesday 11 th January
Y5	Thursday 12 th January
Y6	Tuesday 10 th January



Thank you to Squires for providing our school Christmas tree free of charge. It is greatly appreciated by all the children.

Second Hand Uniform Sale

The next 2nd hand school uniform sale will take place after school on Friday 6th January.

If you have any good quality items of uniform you no longer need and would be willing to donate, please send them into the School office before the end of term.

All proceeds from the sale go straight to The Friends of Bell Farm, thank you!

Kind regards
Nancy Scott (parent)

Office opening times

Just in case you didn't know, the school office is open from **8.35am** every morning, please wait for the gates to open at 8.35am before coming into the office for things like dinner money, pens, trip information etc.

However, if there is an emergency or you need to speak to somebody in early morning club, then please don't hesitate to come in earlier.

Music update

The children recently experienced a fantastic demonstration from a qualified violin instructor – Robert Martin – who was able to make his violin recite the nursery rhyme 'Mary, Mary'. If you think your child would be interested in having paid violin lessons in school, please see Mr Arnell or contact Robert direct at rs.martin@fsmail.net



Work is still going on behind the scenes to get ready for our first **Bell Farm orchestra** in January. The sessions will be free but we ask for a voluntary contribution of £20 for a whole terms worth of orchestra tuition and practice. If your child plays a musical instrument and didn't register their interest, please see Mr Arnell or send a note via the school office. More news on practice days and times soon....

Netball Club

Due parents evening and the Christmas play all taking place on a Wednesday, Netball club is now finished until next term.

Football Club

Football Club is now finished until January 2012.

Programme design winners

Congratulations to Tom Polley in 3HD and Alicja Cieslik 6OG who have designed the winning front covers for our Christmas show programmes

Painless Fund Raising

This is on the Friends newsletter last week. Staff tried it over the week-end when ordering Christmas presents on line - it was easy and it worked. Well worth a try as it raises money for the school with minimal effort and no cost to yourself! Go to

www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/friendsofbellfarmjuniorschool to register and shop with over 2000 well known retailers like Amazon, Argos, M&S, John Lewis, Boden, PC World and many more. Whenever you buy something, the retailer makes a donation to us.!

Bicycle helmets

Please remember that we really do want to keep all our children safe and that they need to wear a cycle helmet if they are cycling to and from school.

The Autumn term parents evenings are on Wednesday 7th and Thursday 8th December. Don't miss the chance to see your child's work and talk to their teacher. If your child has an IEP, these should be coming home the day before so that you have a chance to read them before the meeting.

There will also be an opportunity to view the initial plans for the development of Bell Farm Primary School. Governors and County Council architects will be available to answer questions and there will be a questionnaire for you to complete if you wish.

Term ends at 2.20pm on Tuesday 20th December and starts at 8.45am on Wednesday 4th January 2012.

Everybody at Bell Farm school wishes you a Happy Christmas and a peaceful New Year.



Bell Farm Diary		
Wednesday 7 th December	All parents	6-8pm Parents evening
Thursday 8 th December	All parents	4-6pm Parents evening
Friday 9 th December	Y6	Sculpture in school
Wednesday 14 th December		7pm School Christmas play performances
Thursday 15 th December		7pm School Christmas play performances
	All pupils & staff	School Christmas lunch (must be booked by Wednesday 16 th November)
Friday 16 th December	Choir	2pm singing at Sutton Lodge & Clare House
Monday 19 th December	children	Christmas disco. Y3 & 4 from 1.30pm to 3.00pm Y5 & 6 from 3.45pm to 5.15pm
Tuesday 20th December		Last day of autumn term, 2.20pm finish
Wednesday 21st 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
Thursday 26 th January		Bell Farm Friends meeting
Thursday 2 nd February		UNICEF Rights Respecting school day
Friday 3 rd February	All Welcome	Friends Family Bingo, 7pm
Wednesday 8 th February	All	Safer Internet Day
Monday 13th February		Half term
Monday 20th February		School Inservice day (3) - school closed to children
Wednesday 29 th February	Y4 parents	Sayers Croft meeting for parents
Wednesday 7 th March	Governors	Governing body meeting
Monday 12 th March to 14 th March	Y4	Y4 residential trip to Sayers Croft
Friday 30th March		Last day of Spring term, 2.20pm finish
Monday 2nd 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
Monday 23 rd April to Friday 27 th April	Y5	Y5 residential trip to Marchants Hill
Thursday 3rd 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 22 nd May	All	Image Theatre
Tuesday 29 th May	Choir	Royal Albert Hall Concert
Monday 4th 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 20th July		Last day of summer term, 2.20pm finish
Monday 23rd July		Summer holiday begins

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

