

BELLS FARM PRIMARY NEWSLETTER



May 2015
Issue 14
Monthly

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VALUE WORD THIS MONTH
RESPONSIBILITY



Enjoying our learning...
...aiming for excellence.

Special and Unique

Welcome from the Headteacher

Welcome to the May edition of the newsletter. Well, after a short week last week, we are finally immersed in tests and more tests! The hard work shown by Year 6 (and their teachers!) will be paying off this week as they come in early every day, enjoy breakfast together and complete their SATs test papers. Good luck to everyone!

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SPECIAL CHILDREN: Year 6 have been practising for their SATs

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Y3 and Y4 take part in tennis tournament

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Year 2's rainforest topic



Our new topic all about the rainforest is now underway. The children are thoroughly enjoying finding out fascinating facts about rainforests from all around the world. We are particularly focusing on the Amazon Rainforest in Brazil, South America. Did you know the Amazon is the largest rainforest in the world? It is home to around 2 and a half million different insect species as well as over 40000 plant species.

In our Science lessons we have been learning all about growing plants. We are currently experimenting with the conditions plants need to grow well. Check our blog to find out our results. We are also trying to grow our own rainforest plants in a special biosphere. We are having to give them water regularly and put them in the warmest place in our classroom. We hope they grow well... but not as large as they grow in the rainforests!

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Year 2 have also been completing assessments in groups, which will carry on throughout the month and into June. They have worked extremely hard all year and have made terrific progress. We know that they will be showing themselves to be ready to enter key stage 2 next year. Likewise, Year 1 will be doing their Phonics test in June, and I know that all of the teachers and teaching assistants who have been supporting them to improve their phonic knowledge every morning and throughout their Literacy lessons are so pleased with how well they have been developing these important skills. A big thank you to all of you for supporting your children at home, with their homework including the important learning of tables, number bonds, and of course, reading.

Staffing

We are in the process of sorting out staffing for next year, and we will let you know as soon as we can who your children's new teacher and teaching assistant will be. We are very pleased to be welcoming our new Deputy Head Mrs McClelland, and two new teachers to key stage 2 – Mr Johnston and Miss Procter to strengthen the key stage two team further. The transition day for all classes will be 1st July, when all the children will have a chance to spend the day with their new teachers and teaching assistants. It seems a long way off now, but these days seem to be speeding by!

Sustainable school status

Bells Farm are working towards achieving sustainable school status. Members of the school council are working with Miss Maynard to help look at the ways in which we can become a more sustainable school. We are looking at ways of saving electricity, water and heat. The council members are

reading our meters with Miss Maynard each week to see how much water and electricity we are using. They have also gone around the school adding stickers to light switches to indicate which ones can be left on or switched off. We will be letting you know more details soon.

Change for change

A huge thank you to all the children and families for contributing your spare change to our 'change for change' campaign. Mrs Scott counted all the pennies and we have raised over £222. This is fantastic and will go a huge way to help support people in making a difference to their lives. Well done Bells Farm!!



Total raised
£222
Thank you

PARENT VOLUNTEERS

Easter raffle

The Easter raffle that the parent volunteers sold tickets for raised £96.00 and the eco collection raised £52.35. Thank you to everyone for their help and support. Monies raised goes to our school fund.

School uniform sale

Nearly new school uniform sale is on Thursday 14th May 3 o'clock

in the playground weather permitting.

Macmillan Coffee morning

That time of the year is coming again when we hold our Cake and Coffee morning to support Macmillan Cancer Support. We would welcome homemade or bought donations of cakes or biscuits.

On Friday 19th June it will be a non-uniform day with a £1

donation to support Macmillan and there will be cakes on sale for the children at playtime for 20p. More information with dates coming soon!

COME
ALONG
AND BRING
A SMILE



Reminders from the office

- ◆ If your child is absent please ensure you inform the office before 9am.
- ◆ All monies sent to the office must be in an envelope, marked with your child's name, class and what it is for.
- ◆ Dinner money should be paid on a Monday morning.

Sainsbury's

Swans Reception class would like to thank Samantha Carne and the team at Sainsbury's Selly Oak for the fantastic donation of fresh vegetables for their healthy eating topic.

Reception Swans Class News

Healthy eating and a trip to Sainsbury's

The Swans have a very exciting term ahead. The children will be learning all about healthy eating this half term and trips to Sainsbury's are planned to buy healthy ingredients for some yummy cookery sessions and next half term, as part of our topic, wings, wheels and other things, the children will be going on a bus, riding a monorail and visiting Birmingham Airport! Details and dates are to follow.



Year 4 Robins Class News

Roman Legacy and a parent workshop

This term the Robins have been learning all about the Romans in Britain. We were so lucky to have been visited by the Mad Professor, Professor McGinty. He took us back in time to the land of the pointy doo-doo sheds. This is his name for Celtic huts, as they were stuck together using animal poo! The Celts lived in Britain before the Romans invaded. We learned about all of the things that the Romans brought to Britain. We have really enjoyed our new topic and can't wait to continue learning about it after half term.



Parent Workshop

A heads up for Robin parents: We will be having a parent workshop during the first week back. The Robins have designed Roman mosaics and would like their

parents and carers to join us in creating them with mosaic tiles. This will likely be Friday 5th June at 1.30 until 3.00p.m. Confirmation will be sent in the form of a Roman Invitation this week.

Year 3 Bluebirds Class News

Learning about St George's Day

The whole school took part in various St George's day celebrations, see our website and blogs for more details. In Year 3 we watched a video about this historic story, then performed a role play. The children then wrote about St George's day on a sheet that had St George's face cut out replacing it with their own. A really fun and engaging lesson.

"I really liked the role play", **Wana**.
"A great story, I liked it", **Aisha**.



Year 5 Kestrels Class News



Turves Green visits

Year 5 were really lucky to visit, or be visited by, Turves Green Boys and Girls School.

The boys had the opportunity to experience secondary school life in a woodwork workshop. They built toy cars, and their boxes, then raced them to see who built the best ones. They even got a chance to look at lasers and how they are used to cut the parts for a car.

"It was an amazing experience because we got to make a car!"
Jacey Year 5

"I liked the lasers the best because lasers are cool!" **Samuel Year 5**

"We had a race with other schools, I lost but it was still exciting."
Arjun Year 5

"Some of the boys tightened up the screw in the wheels so they didn't move so much and others didn't so they were quite loose. It was interesting to see which way was the more effective way of doing it." Mrs Bosworth.
The girls didn't need to leave the

school to have their workshop – the teachers came to School. They had a drama filled morning where they got to express themselves in a new way, by acting.

"I got to be a super hero!" **Megan Year 5**

"We all acted like drama queens!"
Paige Year 5

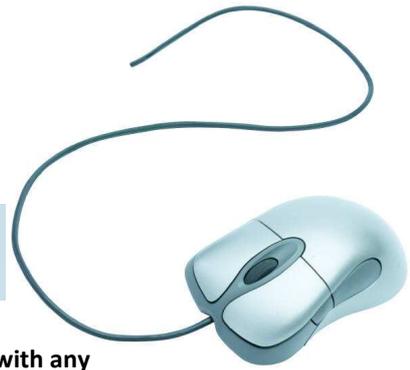
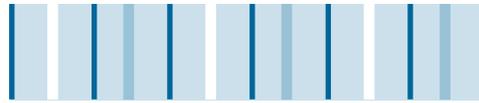
"We got to play games." **Shadan Year 5**



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CLUBS REMINDER
IT / Computing—3pm Tuesdays
Mathletics —8.30am Tues & Wed

Bells Farm IT update



On this page we will keep you up-to-date with any ICT news from our school, and highlight any general ICT and e-Safety issues that may affect you or your child.

Understanding social media

Do you know what each of these icons are? It's important so you're familiar with the social media site!

It seems that almost every week there is a new app or website that children are using to IM (instant message) each other and it can be hard to keep up. It's important for parents to know how these work, and how old your child should be to use them, usually 13 or over, to help avoid cyberbullying and sexting.

At Bells Farm we have regular assemblies and lessons about e-Safety and specifically social media. We encourage children to have a dialogue with parents as much as possible about anything they do on the internet. It's very important that the dialogue is two way, parents/carers should discuss with their child about what is and is not appropriate to share online and the dangers of cyberbullying. There are also some basic rules to talk to your child about such as not using your real name on your profile when it is available publicly, never adding your location to your messages or photos, and never accept a follower or friend who you don't actually know in real life.




Snapchat

Snapchat is a free app where you can take a picture or video and send it to your friends. Children like it because the image isn't permanent and the image self-destructs after a stated time.



Whatsapp

WhatsApp lets users send text messages, videos, photos, and short audio messages to one or many people with no message limits or fees

**Digital Safety
Parent Workshop
Social Media
Coming in July**

Our school motto for online safety

Click Clever, Click Safe!

Our school is working hard to achieve the national e-Safety accreditation, which acknowledges that our school has the correct things in place to ensure everyone is safe on the internet at Bells Farm.

Digital Council

Our Digital Council has a wide representation of the school community to ensure everyone has a voice on the status of e-Safety aspects at Bells Farm.

The members are:

- 1. Mr Baddhan**
e-Safety Co-ordinator
- 2. Mrs Butterworth**
Head Teacher
- 3. Mrs Hughes**
Safeguarding Governor
- 4. Samuel and Holly**
Year 5 children
- 5. Dominic and Kira**
Year 6 children



We're on our way!

We're on our way to the national e-Safety accreditation, we have achieved two out of three marks already but need the whole school community involved to achieve the final mark!

We can't do it on our own! We need everyone involved!



For our school to get the national e-Safety mark, we need the whole school community involved. Whether that is children learning about e-Safety, Governors understanding e-Safety policies or parents attending e-Safety workshops, we need to show that we all care for our children!

It's fundamental for our children's futures that we all take

a heartfelt interest in anything our school does about e-Safety. As parents/carers, we want you to support the school by helping your discuss online safety and always try to attend parent workshops held in school.

Ofsted recognise when the school community work together on important issues like online safety because it impacts us all.

Year 6 Eagles Class News

General elections and writing manifestos

Year 6 have had a week of learning all about the election and have taken part in a series of activities. Earlier in the week they looked at the various election literature received prior to an election, and highlighted key language used. They were put into 'Political Parties' and decided what their main policies would be. They chose to improve various areas such as: Education, Transport and the NHS. Their ideas were amazing, they had really thought about what issues were important to them, and



produced some excellent manifestos to support their beliefs. When SATs are over we are going to rec-

ord the children delivering their manifestos so look out for the videos on the website.



Emphatic football win!



On 28th April the boys football team played against Tiverton at home the final score was 6-1 to Bells Farm Jamie scored a hat trick Jacob, Levi and Jacey

all scored one goal each. The team played fantastically together. Lots of parents came to support the team – thank you for your support!

Tennis tournament



On Wednesday 6th May, four children took part in a tennis tournament at Billesley tennis centre. They were: Hazel and Leo - Year 3 Willow and Reece - Year 4 Each child played 6 matches

against other schools. We came 4th overall. Well done everyone! Hazel Reece and Leo also won an award for showing self-belief which is one of the School games sports values.

Term Planner

Date	Events
Friday 15th May	The animal man visits Nursery, Reception and Year 1
Tuesday 19 th May	Full Governing Body meeting
25th - 29th June	Half term
Wednesday 3rd June	Circus Jim visits Year 3 
Thursday 4th June	Y6 swimming
Monday 8th June	Y5 bike ability all week
Wednesday 10th June	IT Awards 2015—9am
Thursday 11th June	Y6 swimming
Monday 15th June	Y5 visit Toby Carvery
Thursday 18th June	Y6 swimming
Friday 19th June	Macmillan Coffee Morning
Tuesday 23rd June	Y2 Twycross Zoo trip 
Thursday 25th June	- Reception visit Birmingham airport - Year 6 swimming
Monday 29th June	Reception 2015 parents meetings 6-7pm
Tuesday 30th June	KS2 Sports Day
Wednesday 1st July	Transition Day
Tuesday 7 th July	Full Governing Body meeting
Thursday 2nd July	- KS1 Sports Day - Year 6 swimming
Thursday 9th July	Parents Evening
Friday 10th July	Behaviour awards assembly 9am
Thursday 16th July	- Year 6 leavers assembly 9am - Year 6 leaver's party
Friday 17 th July	Last day of term

After School Clubs

3.00pm- 4.00pm	
Monday	Basketball Club: Year 4-6 Forest School: Year 4-6
Tuesday	Mathletics Breakfast (8.30am): Year 5-6 IT & Computing: Year 3-6 Film Club: Year 1-2 Homework Club: Year 3-6 Library Year 3-6 Art Club: Year 3-6 Football: Year 3-4
Wednesday	Mathletics Breakfast (8.30am): Year 5-6 Hockey: Year 4-6 Fun and Fit: Year 4-6
Thursday	Film Club: Year 4-6 Dance / Cheerleading: Year 1-3 Multiskills: Year 1-3
Friday	Football: Year 5-6 Dance: Year 4-6



Value Words

This Term

- Friendship**
- Responsibility**
- Courage**
- Togetherness**

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