



**SAFEGUARDING NOTICE:** Safeguarding is of the utmost importance to us. If you have any concerns that a child is being harmed or is at risk of harm, or if you receive a disclosure, you must inform a staff member immediately.

# Newsletter

Enjoying our learning... aiming for excellence.

January 2019  
Issue 38  
Half Termly



Read Online: [www.bellsfrm.bham.sch.uk](http://www.bellsfrm.bham.sch.uk)  
Download our mobile app  
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We've done it again!  
Online Safety success!

See details on our website!



Year 3 Ancient Egypt workshop

See photos on our website!

## Welcome from the Headteacher

Welcome to the first newsletter of 2019! I hope that it has been a happy and hopeful start to the new year for you. It can be a difficult time for many people, so please remember that we are here to support you to support your children in any way we can, and the door is always open.

One of the things which always hits us at this time of year are the dreaded bugs and illnesses – often made worse by being affected yourselves and continuing to be the house nurse! Thank you for continuing to keep us informed about your child's absences.

### Online Safety Award

We're really pleased and proud to be recognised once again for our online safety work. We have been awarded a national accreditation by SWGFL for continued progressive outstanding work in school and outside of school. Bells Farm met the benchmark level for every aspect of the application. Together we keep children safe – thank you for all your support in helping us to make this happen.

### Parents' Evening Online Booking

The main events going on in school are

detailed below. As you know we are trialling the new booking system for parents' evening bookings. Please contact the office if you have any issues or problems with this.

### Lost property

We managed to reunite much of the lost property with the right owners last term. Please check that you child has everything they started out from home with as you collect them – it makes the job of locating items of uniform so much easier. Very few items of the lost property were labelled – simply writing your child's initials and year group on the clothing label is sufficient.



### Term time holidays/ attendance

We know that it is frustrating that it is so much more expensive to take your children on holiday during school holiday time. However, unless there are exceptional circumstances, the

school cannot authorise a request for term time holidays. This has an impact on your child's learning, and in some cases has led to children being classed as "persistent absentees" – children with attendance below 90%. It is your legal duty to ensure that, barring illness or other authorised and essential reasons for absence, that your children are in school on time every day. Lateness also contributes to absence figures as our registers close after 9 am –

this is a legal duty for us to ensure that the school is held to account by the Department for Education. Again, if you are experiencing any difficulties or having any concerns, please come and see me, so that you get the support you need. Thank you for your understanding.

## How we categorise attendance

99% - 100%	Outstanding
97% - 98.9%	Excellent
95% - 96.9%	Good (expected)
92% - 94.9%	Needs to improve
90% - 91.9%	Poor
Below 90%	A major cause for concern

## Year 4 swimming

Year 4 are extremely lucky because they have been given the opportunity to go swimming again this year!

The children will be going to Cocks Moors Woods Leisure Centre every day for 2 whole weeks, which will enable the children to begin to learn how to swim in a short amount of time without forgetting anything they have been taught. This will take place towards Easter on the weeks commencing 25th March and 1st April.



## Parent / Carer Workshops

Are you the parent of a child with special educational needs? Do you want to meet with other parents and learn about national and local services and what they can offer? We warmly invite you to a series of workshops that have been written and led by trainers who are parent/carers of a child with additional needs themselves.

These workshops are for parent/carers of children and young people of any age. They are an attempt to support parent/carers through times of change and at whatever stage of the journey participants may find themselves. Contact Stephanie.Edwards@birmingham.gov.uk or phone 07827 082750

## School Planner

Date	Event
Monday 4th February	Safer Internet week begins
Tuesday 5th February	Online Safety Parent Workshop - 9.15am
Wednesday 6th February	Reception height/weight/hearing checks
Wednesday 13th February	Y2 SATs meeting 2.30 pm
Thursday 14th February	Parents' evening (book your appointment online now)
<b>HALF TERM - 18th – 22nd February</b>	
Monday 25th February	Staff training day: SCHOOL CLOSED
Tuesday 26th February	Children return to school
Thursday 7th March	Class photos
Friday 8th March	World Book Day – children to dress as favourite book characters
Monday 18th March	Book fair week
Wednesday 27th March	Y3 Mother's Day assembly
Wednesday 10th April	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Y4 Spring assembly</li> <li>• Y1 Botanical Gardens trip</li> </ul>
Friday 12th April	Last day of term
<b>EASTER HOLIDAY - 15th - 26th April</b>	
Monday 29th April	Children return to school

## New uniform provider

Parents can now purchase school uniform from our new provider MyClothing by visiting their website here [www.myclothing.com](http://www.myclothing.com) If you need any help with ordering, please come and speak to Mrs Hatfield in the school office.

## Bells Farm win gymnastics silver

Amelia in Year 3 won a silver medal in a recent Kings Heath Sports Partnership Gymnastics Competition. During the day two teams from Year 3 and 4 competed, and later in that day, two teams from Year 5 and 6 competed. In total 23 children competed during the day. More photos on our website.



## SATs preparation

In Year 6, we are building up to SATs but it is unlikely that your children will notice any difference within their lessons or the school day. The children are working hard and with continued focus we are confident that they will all be able to show the amazing progress they have made in their time at Bells Farm.



## Whole School Attendance

**96.7%**  
Target 96%

## Current Value Word **APPRECIATION**

## After School Clubs

**3.15pm- 4.15pm**

<b>Mon</b>	Football - Year 5-6 Art Club - Year 3-6
<b>Tues</b>	Computing - Year 3-6 Choir - Year 4-6 Lego - Year 3-6 Film Club - Year 4-6 Cricket - Year 5-6
<b>Wed</b>	Basketball - Year 4-6 Football - Year 3-4 French Club - Year 2-3
<b>Thurs</b>	Outdoor Club - Year 5-6 Lego - Year 4-6 Activity Club - Year 1-2 Multiskills - Year 1-2
<b>Friday</b>	Drama - Year 4-6

## Value Words This Term

**Appreciation**  
**Caring**  
**Honesty**  
**Friendship**

## Safeguarding

Our school's child protection officers (Designated Safeguarding Leads) are:

- Miss McClelland
- Mrs Butterworth
- Mrs Knipe
- Miss Hackett
- Mrs Johnson
- Mr Johnston
- Mr Baddhan

