



# Belleville Wix Academy

## 24<sup>th</sup> September Newsletter

Every Monday we hold our Celebration Assemblies to acknowledge the effort the pupils have put into being the best learners they can be. Congratulations to the following Excellent Learners who demonstrated they could listen well in their lessons. Certificates are sent out via email to the pupils.

<b><u>Excellent Learners</u></b>			
<b>Listen well</b>			
Thomas	RW	Maddie	3S
Antonin	RB	Seb	3M
Hector	Y1	Clea	3B
Mila	1B	Alexia	Y4
Alfie	2G	Eliza	Y5
Vivienne	2M	Callum	Y6

## Phonics

It has been a fantastic week for pupils in our Reception class. They have started their phonics lessons and have learnt four new sounds already. The pupils have started to use these new sounds in words, captions and even short sentences. RW are definitely Phonics superstars!



Pupils in 1B have really enjoyed learning about the sense of smell in their science lesson. They loved deciding if they liked or disliked the smell of the unknown object in the different smelling pots.



Year 2 pupils enjoyed the opportunity to handle and explore artefacts this week in History as part of their Great Fire of London topic. They thought about how and what we can find out about the fire by looking at different sources that help us learn about the past.



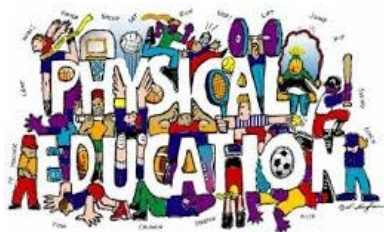
The highlight of 3M's learning this week was using their excellent enquiry skills to analyse and compare a range of weather data from UK cities. Miss Mirfakhraie was very impressed with their engagement and dedication to completing the task accurately.



Pupils in Year 5 have been developing their resilience in Science by working with their partners to create a balloon powered car. They have investigated how the air from a balloon could help a cardboard car to move. Sounds like great fun as well.

## **Specialist Teaching at BWA**

We strive to provide the best provision we can for every pupil at BWA. Securing specialists to teach our pupils is one strategy we use.



### **PE with Mr Bartlett**

EYFS and KS1 classes are starting the year by developing their Fundamental Movement Skills which are the building blocks of physical literacy. In various inclusive, engaging games scenarios, pupils will improve their locomotor (e.g. running and skipping), non-locomotor (e.g. balancing) and manipulative (e.g. throwing, catching and kicking) skills. This will allow them to work towards applying these skills in various sports and activities as they develop further.

KS2 classes are taking part in Outdoor Adventurous Activities. Such activities involve working effectively with others to find solutions to challenges and problems. Cooperation games place an emphasis on team building, communication and trust which are essential life skills and for successful engagement in sport. 5B took tell me this was one of their favourite lessons this week.



### **French with Miss Williams**

This week all the pupils at BWA had their first French lessons with Miss Williams. She was so impressed by the effort and enthusiasm of all the pupils. The Nursery children learnt how to sing Brille, Brille Petite Etoile whilst the older pupils explored new topics and practised their excellent pronunciation. Year 3 enjoyed finding out a little more about French geography and everyone practised their greetings in French. Bravo tout le monde!



### **Music with Miss Hurford**

In music this week pupils have been focusing on dividing the pulse into halves, quarters and thirds as well as expressing longer notes. Some younger pupils have been learning to sing nursery rhymes in a Jazzy style, others have been composing using our Ukuleles by working in small groups and creating 2 bar Ostinatos. Our older pupils have been learning their chromatic scale on the Guitar and working on reading music and playing in time together. Everyone has had the opportunity to listen to Mozart's Rondo Alla Turca and enjoyed discussing the dynamics - fast and slow, smooth and detached!



### **National Fitness Day**

To celebrate National Fitness Day on Wednesday 22nd September 2021 pupils at BWA took part in a 10 @ 10. Ten minutes of exercise at 10am. Mr Bartlett led some classes through 10 minutes of fun exercise, whilst other classes took part inside. This was a great opportunity to highlight how easy it is to exercise every day as well as the importance that regular physical activity plays in leading a healthy lifestyle. All the pupils left the 10 minutes smiling, feeling energised and more positive to tackle the rest of the day!



### Curriculum Evenings

Sincere thanks to everyone who attended the curriculum presentations this week and last. There are a few more at the start of next week. I hope that you found them informative. Parents and carers in the English stream who were unable to attend and would like the recording should contact the school office through the admin email address.

Working in partnership with you is essential to ensure your child is happy at school and that they flourish. If there is ever anything you would like to talk through with us, please don't hesitate to get in contact with us. I shared the communications sheet with you before and this is also on the school website.

We plan to hold Parent Teacher meetings for the English stream before the end of this half term (week beginning 18<sup>th</sup> October) and after half term for the bilingual stream. More information will be sent out to you in a few weeks.



### COVID19 Update

This week we have been informed of 5 cases of pupils having COVID19 on our shared site with EdW. I would kindly ask that all families do complete the Lateral Flow tests twice a week, keep socially distance in the line for drop off and collection as well as adults wearing a mask. Our school procedures are in place because we want to ensure our education provision for every pupil is disrupted as little as possible.



### Individual and Sibling Photographs

We are delighted to confirm that we will be welcoming the photographer into school to take individual and sibling photographs on 20<sup>th</sup> October. All pupils must be in their full school uniform on this day- if your child has PE on this day, they should bring in their PE kit.



### School Streets

Thank you to everyone who has been able to help us manage the barriers to ensure drivers are aware we have a School Street in operation. We all benefit from a very calm start and end to the day as very few vehicles travel on the road outside the school.

To ensure we maintain this calm start, again I kindly ask for more support. **If there are days when we do not have any volunteers then we may need to leave the School Street without a barrier and rely on the signage that is there to inform drivers of the School Street.** This is something we do want to avoid and hope that more parents and carers can donate some time to help. **On the days barriers are not used as we do not have volunteers to operate the barriers, we ask that you be extra vigilant.** Please remember, a School Street is still a road and we have to apply all the usual caution and checks on our School Street as we would when using any other road. Please use the comparatively safe environment of a School Street as an

opportunity to build up these caution and check habits with your child. Remember, STOP, LOOK, LISTEN and THINK.

If you are available to help out, please get in touch with the school office so that we can provide you with more information. Or sign up on this link.

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1m9OJUfPzfzscwiHjlnP-vJ8mMK-hsaUEmSCjLJ2UtU/edit>



### **PTA AGM**

Everyone is invited to attend our PTA AGM on Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> September at 8pm. This will be a virtual meeting. If you wish to attend, please email Charlotte Rutter, our current Chair, at [bwa.pta@gmail.com](mailto:bwa.pta@gmail.com), and we will send you the meeting details/link.

At the AGM we will hear about the PTA activities over the past year, which have been phenomenal. There will also be updates on the committee. This year there are changes of roles that need to be voted in and agreed upon as some of our great PTA members are stepping down - the current Chair, Deputy Chair and Secretary. These are key roles in our PTA so we do hope that we can fill these roles as we continue to build on the success of the last few years. It is a very rewarding experience to be part of our flourishing PTA. If you would like further information on being part of and/or joining the PTA, do email them on the address above.

At the end of this newsletter I have shared information send to me by a parent to share with the school community. I hope you find it helpful.

As we enjoy what may be the last mini heatwave of 2021, I wish you all the most wonderful weekend.

**Miss Henry**

ALICIA EATON

*THINK WELL - LIVE BETTER*



## Back to School: Getting to grips with homework

Hello again,

Children as young as four years old are now routinely given school homework to complete on a nightly basis and it can add up to a lot of pressure both on parents and the child. None of us wants our child to lag behind their peers (never mind the rest of the world) but the more we worry about this, the more stressful the situation can become. It's a recipe for homework disaster. Here are my tips for ending homework battles and getting a plan in place:

### **Develop a regular routine:**

Work out the best time of day and also the best place for it. Some children are unable to focus until they've had something to eat and drink and a bit of time to unwind. For others, it's best to knuckle down straight away and chill later. By definition, a routine is something that is done routinely - it needs to be pretty much the same every day. And every week thereafter.

### **Be consistent:**

Children who don't have anywhere in particular for homework doing it on the kitchen table one night, then on the floor in front of the TV the next and maybe up in the bedroom the night after that, will not do as well as those who have a dedicated space. Likewise, doing it before the evening meal one night and after it the next, will make it harder for homework seem like a natural, automatic part of the day. There will be fewer objections to doing it if your child knows what to expect and when.

### **Eliminate distractions:**

Pets, TV, phones and siblings can all hamper your child's concentration. Don't be afraid to put rules in place such as keeping mobile phones away from the homework table. But do be aware that a child that constantly jumps up and keeps running back to check their phone, is not simply being 'naughty', but more likely to be struggling to do the homework and in need of extra help. Rather than punishing them for the unwanted behaviour, take a closer look at what's preventing them from completing it.

Don't overlook the fact that your child might be:

- Hungry
- Thirsty
- Hot
- Cold

Or maybe they need some time to re-connect with you, their siblings or the family pet after a busy day at school. Address these needs first and you'll find homework sessions will run more smoothly.

### **What kind of learner is your child?**

We use all our senses to absorb information from our environment and our senses form the basis of our learning preference or style. Take a few moments to observe your child to figure which methods suit them best as this may help to avoid a whole lot of homework angst.

Your child may favour any of the following learning styles:

**Visual.** These children prefer to learn by seeing information. They like reading, pictures or diagrams, flashcards, demonstrations and watching videos. Colour coding and chunking down information that needs to be learned off by heart, such as a foreign language, will help them. One day they'll learn the 'red paragraph' and the next day the 'green one'.

**Auditory.** Some kids prefer to learn by hearing or saying it. They enjoy listening to audio downloads, lectures, debates, discussions and verbal instructions. They may ask you to repeat a set of instructions over and over again: they like hearing it being said. Some children like this may learn well by telling you things about the subject they are studying, or "teaching" you.

**Kinesthetic.** Children with this preference learn best by getting a 'feel' for it. They enjoy physical involvement, hands-on work, moving around and touching.

### **Top Tip:**

If your child struggles to sit still and look down at their work, buy a few rolls of plain lining wallpaper and stick large pieces to a wall with some tape or pins. Now you have a

blank canvas and using some pencils or felt-tipped pens, (taking care to make sure the pens do not mark the wall behind it!) your child can test their ideas out and see if the answer comes more easily. Don't be surprised if they need to stand back on the other side of the room to think about things before writing anything down.

This is an ideal activity for children who fidget a lot - big brushstrokes and lots of movement will suit them better. Once they've figured out their answers, they'll be happy to sit back down and 'copy' the answers across.

My special offer to you is **25% BACK-TO-SCHOOL** discount on books, courses and downloads in the online shop. Take a look now.



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