

Bel Royal Primary School

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16th December 2022

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we reach the end of a very busy and successful term, I wanted to express a heartfelt thank you for all the support I have had as the new Headteacher of Bel Royal School and to all the children, staff, and parents for making me feel so welcome. I set the challenge of learning all the children's names by Christmas, and I have slowly and steadily got to know all the wonderful faces and personalities throughout the school, who certainly are a credit to you all.

This term we have welcomed some new members into our school community including our very youngest children in Nursery and Reception and some new families that have joined our school community. There were some changes to staffing throughout the school and it has been wonderful to welcome Mrs. Fairhead and Miss Fox onto the Senior Leadership Team and Miss Benn who recently joined us in Year 3. It is with some sadness that we say farewell to Mrs. Howell who will be leaving our ARC team to take up a new teaching role at Grainville School. We do however, welcome Mrs Rosner onto the team who will be joining us in January and brings a wealth of knowledge and experience with her. We also wanted to say congratulations to Mrs Leamon and Mrs Evans (Miss Cooke) on the birth of their new babies and will look forward to seeing them back in school following their parental leave.

We are very lucky at Bel Royal to have wonderful open spaces and rooms that we can utilise to ensure we provide our children with a broad and varied curriculum. Over the first half term, we started to improve some of our areas following a very productive INSET day at the beginning of the year which was a good chance to sort and clear and ensure our environment can be conducive to learning. We have also invested significantly in improving the children's classroom furniture so that all classes now have new chairs and tables as well as adequate storage to ensure resources are of good quality and easily accessible to all. We are in the process of refurbishing and developing our School Library to provide opportunities for children to read for pleasure as well as research or support their learning in other areas of the curriculum. Thank you to those parents who have donated books they no longer need at home as this is helping to replenish our collection. If there are any books that you have at home that our no longer suitable for your children, we would very much welcome them for our library.

As well as developing our physical environment, a driver for me this year is to ensure that all children have access to the technology they need to develop their skills in Computer Science, Digital Literacy and Information Technology. We have therefore recently purchased one to one iPads for all children throughout the school which will allow classes to use IT as a tool in all areas of learning as well as developing our computing curriculum.

Throughout the term we have had so much support from volunteers, such as Music in Action, the ECOF team that read with many children across school, and many other parents and friends of the school. A big thank you to our PTA and parent reps who have worked hard to keep communication going between home and school and for all the time and effort involved in organising the Christmas cards and mugs that I know many of you have purchased. Your support is greatly appreciated.

There are so many things that I could mention in this letter as there have been many achievements, special events, and countless moments to be proud of. It is wonderful to see so many of you engaging with your child's day to day learning through Seesaw as this is the best way for us to have little and often communication with you. It also helps us both to have a small window into children's learning both at school and at home and give feedback to them, which the children greatly benefit from. Thank you to all of you who attended our Christmas performances this year, we were all so pleased that families have been able to come into school to celebrate with us this year.

So, that just leaves me to say have a wonderful Christmas and New Year and we look forward to welcoming you back to school on Thursday 5th January 2023 after what I hope will be a restful time for you all.

Take care,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Anna', written in a cursive style.