

# Bel Royal Primary School

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24<sup>th</sup> May 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we come to the end of the May half term, I would like to take this opportunity to reflect on the past weeks and share some upcoming events with you.

First, I want to say a huge well done to all our children for their hard work and dedication this term. It has been wonderful to see their enthusiasm and progress in all areas of their learning. Our classrooms have been buzzing with activity, and the commitment shown by both children and staff is truly inspiring.

A special well done to all our Year 6 pupils who exemplified our Core Values this week with such a positive, 'can do' attitude whilst completing a week of Key Stage 2 Assessments. We understand that assessments can sometimes be a stressful time and we are proud of the hard work and dedication our children have shown, and we are confident that have done their very best.

## Highlights of the Term so far...

**School Trips and Excursions:** Our children have enjoyed several educational trips, including visits led by Jersey Heritage, GROW, Arthouse Jersey and National Trust for Jersey. These experiences have enriched their curriculum experience and provided valuable real life learning opportunities to develop skills and knowledge.



**Sports Achievements:** Our school has benefited from various specialists coming into school to support our PE sessions this half term.



Year 5 children have been undertaking a course in cycle competence. Children took to the roads to learn road safety, signalling and understanding other road users. We are encouraging children to cycle to school and there is plenty of room for children to park their bikes using our new cycle racks.

Children have been enjoying new drills in basketball club this term. We have worked on improving dribbling shooting, passing, and collaborating as a team.

Special congratulations to the children who took part in the Primary Schools Tag Rugby Festival and the children who are enjoying representing Bel Royal in the summer Kwik-Cricket league, playing against schools from across the Island. It has been a successful start for the team with victories over both St George's and Rouge Bouillon in our first two matches!



Next half term, children from Year 3 who have been learning tennis skills with the support of Jersey sport coaches will be taking part in a tennis tournament held at Caesarean tennis club. This will be a wonderful opportunity to demonstrate the skills they have been developing!

**Creative Arts:** We have enjoyed various performances by Music in Action and the Jersey Music Service over this half term, as well as listening to our School Choir and many of our children performing during assemblies. Jersey Arts centre have led workshops with classes to develop our skills in storytelling and characterisation.



There have been some super art and DT opportunities across the school, with the children developing many technical skills and working hard towards their finished products.



We are looking forward to welcoming Ballet D'Jerri into school next half term to work with our Year 5 & 6 children on a 6-week course, teaching a ballet style choreography and assisting our pupils in creating their own choreography by developing the movements and concepts explored in a theme. This will culminate in a Q & A session at the Ballet D'Jerri studio, where the children will meet the whole company, perform their choreography, and have an opportunity to watch, and participate in their daily ballet class.

We are delighted to be working with local charity Music in Action when some of our pupils take part in this year's Jersey Sings Across the Bay, which will take place on Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> June on the beach amphitheatre next to Jardins de La Mer. The key aims of this project, is to ensure that every child in Jersey can make music and experience the rare thrill of performing in a large event.



**Nursery:** In Nursery we have been finding out all about minibeasts, starting with the life cycle of a butterfly in Nursery. Our caterpillars doubled in size in a week, before attaching themselves to the top of the lid of the jar and going into a cocoon. They were then moved to a large net ready to hatch out into butterflies, a few days later we released them out in the nature garden. We have also built a large bug hotel down in the nature garden using wooden pallets and are currently making our own individual bug hotels. *(Mrs Smith)*



**Reception:** In Reception we have been doing lots of outdoor learning. We have been working together to build a water slide!

We have also been filling our new planters with soil and creating a herb garden. We have also been very creative in the block area and developing our independent writing by making signs for our buildings. *(Miss Lamb)*



**Year 1:** Year 1 have had a great start to the Summer Term after saying goodbye to Miss Fox and starting out the new term with Miss Huby. The children have adjusted well to the new classroom layout, routines and timetable and have been working their socks off!

We started out the term with a visit to The Maritime Museum to launch our Pirates History unit of work, and in English we have been doing a lot of work based on the text *Pirates Love Underpants*. Just this week the children have completed their final pieces of writing; instructions to find the Pants of Gold! Their instructions have included lots of the things we have learnt such as adverbs of time, adjectives, nouns, bossy verbs, and prepositions! Amazing writing!



Another highlight of the past few weeks was our success with the potato growing competition. We were very excited to have the heaviest crop and to win the weight category. We cheered and celebrated very loudly!

*(Miss Huby)*

**Year 2:** Year 2 have been learning about the Battle of Jersey, and we visited The Royal Square to re-enact the battle, which was great fun, and the Town Church where Major Peirson and Baron de Ruellecourt were buried.



We have been growing plants and we have designed our own experiments in science as part of our learning about plants. We visited The Eric Young Orchid Foundation, where we took part in a workshop about the function of roots, leaves, and flowers. We also had the opportunity to use our sketching skills to draw some of the beautiful orchids that are grown there. We are super scientists and historians! *(Mrs Du Val)*

**Year 3:** It has been another busy half term for the wonderful Year 3s. We began, by investigating forces in action at the park. This was a fantastic opportunity to use our scientific enquiry skills in real life. Investigating friction on the slide was definitely a favourite!



In class, the children have written non-chronological reports about Meerkats which are published on Seesaw and postcards from the Kalahari Desert! We will extend this next term by learning about different biomes across the world.



We have also been enjoying our weekly Jèrrias lessons with Charlie, learning so much about Jersey's history while broadening our linguistic repertoire which our multilingual class loves so much.

Next term, we also look forward to the children's first overnight residential, a trip to the zoo to learn about Rainforests and our Design and Technology project making healthy smoothies. *(Miss Benn)*

**Year 4:** Year 4 have been on their Residential Trip this half-term. They increased their knowledge of map reading by beginning with an orienteering activity. They increased their sense of awe and wonder of the world around them, with Forest School weaving and crown making. Kaz Padidar lead activities in coastal and land foraging, ending these sessions with limpet cooking and eating, and fire making. The children created well observed bird drawings at the Wetland Centre.



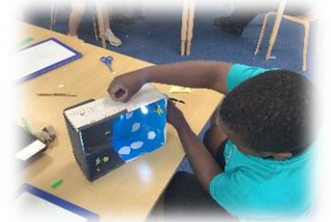
The surf was up in St. Ouen's Bay, where much fun was had learning how to surf and enjoy the beach safely with Jersey Surf School. The children showed perseverance and resilience, they worked as teams and developed their problem-solving skills, and most importantly their confidence in their abilities grew. *(Mrs Nerac)*



**Year 5:** Year 5 have loved exploring their Space topic this term across English and Science. As well as being able to discuss facts about the planets and how the relationship between Earth and the Sun works, we have created shoe box models which demonstrates it.

We have now started to explore the wonderful text, Hidden Figures and learning the journey of four remarkable women in 1950s and 1960's America, who beat all odds by using their mathematical talents to help NASA put a man on the Moon!

*(Miss Simon and Miss Graystone)*



**Year 6:** What a great start to the last term of Year 6 we have had!

We launched our study of World War 2 and the occupation with a workshop delivered by Jersey Arts Centre. During this workshop, we explored various drama techniques which helped us to better understand the impact of the occupation on people living in Jersey at that time. Hopefully, you have seen the videos of their short performances on Seesaw.



Following this, we were invited to attend the Jersey Archives to look at documents and letters from the occupation. It was interesting to read some of the letters people sent to each other.

We are looking forward to visiting the War Tunnels after half term.

We have made a start on rehearsals for our end of year production, *The Wizard of Oz*. Please encourage your child to practice their lines over the half term break, as we need to move forward with this to ensure we are ready for our performances at the end of the term.

This last week, Year 6 have taken their end of Key Stage 2 tests. They have been so focused and calm, taking it all in their stride. We are now looking forward to next half term when we will be taking time to enjoy the remainder of our curriculum as well as activity week and preparing for transition to secondary school.

### **Walk, Surf and Heal Walk**

As many of you will know, our school is supported by many outside agencies and charities who help provide enriching activities for our children.



Bel Royal is one of 13 schools who currently access the Healing Waves surfing schools' program, which offers our children the opportunity to take to the waves as an out-of-the classroom learning approach and access ocean therapy as an alternative and holistic form of therapy. The charity's services are, and will always remain, free of charge and we are very grateful for the provision they provide for us.

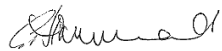
We have therefore decided to organise a community fundraising event on the 7<sup>th</sup> June, where all money raised will be divided equally between Healing waves and our school PTCG fund. Your child will be coming home today with a sponsored walk sheet along with some more information about our drive to promote active and sustainable travel.



As we approach the final weeks of the school year, I encourage you to take some time to relax and enjoy the half-term break with your family. I look forward to welcoming the students back, refreshed, and ready for the exciting activities and learning opportunities that await.

Thank you once again for your ongoing support, and I look forward to seeing you all refreshed and ready for another exciting term ahead.

Warmest regards,

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

Claire Hammond