



AUTUMN 1 NEWSLETTER

OCTOBER 2024

A Busy Half Term!

As we approach the end of the autumn half term, we'd like to take a moment to reflect on what has been a vibrant and productive first half of the school year. Our children have settled in to their new classes wonderfully, and it's been heartwarming to see their enthusiasm for learning, creativity, and teamwork.

School Council Elections

Our School Council elections were a fantastic opportunity for our pupils to engage in the democratic process. Congratulations to all our new representatives, who will be the voice of their peers and help bring about positive changes in the school.

Free Fruit

We are fortunate to have been part of the free fruit pilot led by Public Health. This mid-morning or afternoon fruit snack has helped children maintain their energy levels throughout the school day as well as boosting their intake of essential vitamins, minerals, and fibre Thank you PH.

Hot Lunches

Thank you for your patience with the technical issues we have been facing with food ordering. We are continually working hard to ensure that things run smoothly. If you have any queries or problems with ordering or payment for hot lunches do get in touch with Kay, our admin who is always happy to help -
k.mclaughlin@belroyal.sch.je

Parent Teacher Meetings

A huge thank you to everyone who attended the parent-teacher consultations. These meetings are an important part of keeping the lines of communication open, and it was lovely to hear so much positive feedback. If you were unable to attend, please contact your child's class teacher to arrange an alternative time.

Rights Respecting School Silver Award

We are thrilled to announce that Bel Royal School has achieved the Rights Respecting Schools Silver Accreditation this half term, This prestigious award, given by UNICEF, recognises our school's dedication to embedding the values and principles of children's rights throughout every aspect of school life.

Achieving Silver means that:

- Children's rights are at the heart of our school's policies, curriculum, and everyday activities.
- Pupils are not just aware of their rights but are also empowered to respect the rights of others, promoting an inclusive and caring environment.
- The school encourages pupil voice, allowing children to express their opinions and contribute to decision-making in matters that affect them.
- We actively work to create an environment where all children feel safe, respected, and valued.

The children have settled into nursery life amazingly well. They are getting used to the routines of nursery and learning to become more independent, taking shoes on and off and putting coats on etc. We are focusing on learning to share with our friends and tidy up after ourselves. We have already been out on two trips this half term, the first was an autumn walk on a day that felt more like summer! We collected leaves and sticks which we then used to make autumn wands. Then we went up to Manor Farm to buy some pumpkins, we had a great time looking at all the different types of pumpkins and picking our own one to take home. We have painted pictures of the pumpkins, hammered nails and golf tees into one, scooped out the seeds and then made pumpkin soup -yum!

Nursery



Year Two

Year Two have enjoyed a fantastic half term learning all about habitats. We have visited the Francis Le Sueur Centre where we had a chance to look at creatures from the pond and create our own food chains. The classroom is full of different types of habitats that we have created during our Design Technology topic where we have practised different types of joining. There has been some wonderful writing based on the Great Kapok Tree. We have really been working hard on using our story teller voices during our guided reading and we have succeeded in performing and creating our own plays and performing poems. Year Two have developed our handwriting, learning to join our letters and making great progress. We have persevered with learning to login to the internet and use a variety of apps and QR codes to learn more about habitats.

In early October, we saw a record number of children enter the cross country event. Every child in Year 5 and Year 6 participated and successfully navigated the course.

Our football season is now up and running, the children have trained hard each week and are applying their skills into matches.

Reception

The children have settled well into life in Reception. Over the last 8 weeks they have been focussing on the routines of the school day, learning to be independent and resilient with their self-help skills and exploring the indoor and outdoor learning environments. The children have particularly enjoyed learning in the outdoor block area and mud kitchen. The children have been threading Cheerios to make bird feeders and hanging them around the outdoor area. The children have been exploring with pumpkins this week and have been hammering nails into large pumpkins, using small pumpkins to support our subitising maths learning, mark making on huge 'snowball' pumpkins, scooping and mixing pumpkins in the outdoor area and using water colours to create still life photos of the nobbliest green pumpkin! What a fantastic half term of learning in Reception!

Year One

We have had a wonderful start to the year. The children have settled well into Year 1. They are enjoying exploring the continuous provision learning environment where they can consolidate and further their learning in the classroom, the shared area and the outdoor classroom area. They are also getting used to the routines and the learning activities we do as a whole class. Drawing Club is still a firm favourite, and the progress made in writing this term has been fabulous! We have also been doing lots of practical maths activities and then filling in our maths no problem workbooks. I am so proud of how everyone is doing and look forward to this continuing next half term.





The Jersey Instrumental Service are teaching Year 4 to play the trumpet. They will be performing several pieces for our parents at the end of the sessions. The children share books with their Year 2 buddies to encourage their love of reading. We are developing our oracy skills in lots of different ways. Year 4 went on a dragon egg hunt and made their own dragon eggs as part of their English work about dragons.

Year Four

Year Six

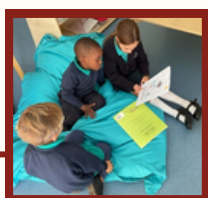
Year 6 has had a busy and productive start to the new academic year.

A visit to Hamptonne brought to life our study of the history of food and farming in Jersey. We learnt about the rise and fall of the knitting and cider industries as well as the discovery of the Jersey Royal. Back in school, we made butter from Jersey cream and enjoyed Mrs De La Cour's delicious Jersey Bean Crock. Some of the class picked the last of our school-grown tomatoes and made soup which we ate with a chunk of Cabbage Loaf spread with our own butter. We are looking forward to making other dishes using produce grown in school.



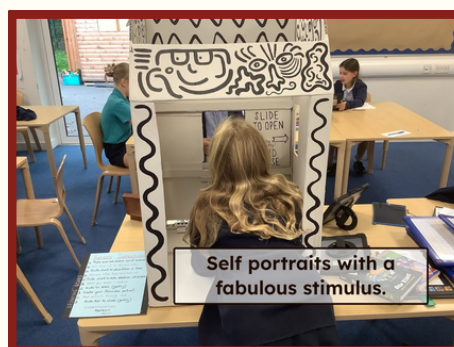
During English, we read *Voices in the Park* by Anthony Browne and then wrote a fifth voice to add to the story. After illustrating our work, we went and read our stories to children in Reception and Year 1. They were really engaged, and we enjoyed spending time sharing our stories with them.

We are now busy preparing two poems for the Eisteddfod in November; we hope to share these with you after half-term. Every morning, Year 6 start their day with a morning run. Over the past few weeks, we have noticed improvement in everyone's stamina and fitness. These daily efforts were put into practice when the whole class participated in the Primary Schools Open Cross-Country. It was great to see everyone giving their best to complete the course!



Year Three

What a fantastic half term it has been in Year 3. We have begun the year with an amazing attitude to learning and team work approach. As many of you will have heard, the children have been fascinated about our science work becoming experts in all things skeletons. We have also investigated how much sugar is in different drinks with some shocking discoveries and use of fantastic scientific skills. We have had our first class trip where we visited La Hougue Bie to launch our Stone Age topic. Here, the children became immersed in the Neolithic period by visiting the long house, had a dolmen tour and a lesson about the significance of Stone Age tools. The class were so engaged and beautifully behaved they were praised by the Jersey Heritage team. We are very excited for all our learning opportunities next half term including our entry to this year's poetry eisteddfod.



Self portraits with a fabulous stimulus.

Site Issues - dogs

It has come to our attention that there has been an increase in the amount of dog poo around the school premises, particularly in the areas where our children walk and alarmingly being thrown onto our school field. This is not only unpleasant but also poses health and safety risks for our pupils, staff, and visitors.

If you are a dog owner, please ensure you are responsible and clean up after your dog when walking near the school. If you notice dog fouling, please report it to the school office and remind your children to be cautious and avoid stepping in any mess. We hope to work with the parish and community to ensure our children have a safe, clean, and pleasant environment in which to learn and play.

Reminders

Attendance

A reminder that regular attendance is key to your child's learning and progress. Please ensure your child arrives on time each day, ready for a day of learning.

Uniform

As the weather gets colder, please ensure children come to school with appropriate outdoor clothing, including coats. Please ensure these are labelled clearly with child's name and don't forget we have lots of pre-loved items available and free to take.

Parent Teacher Community Group

A huge thank you to our PTCG who have met twice this term to make arrangements for this term's community events. If you would like to become involved, please do get in touch.

We would like to extend a heartfelt thank you to all our parents, carers, and families for your continued support. Your involvement in school life is invaluable, and we appreciate everything you do, from attending events to supporting your children's learning at home.

Upcoming Events

- **04.11.24 - Autumn 2 term starts**
- **12.11.24 - Family Bingo Night**
- **15.11.24 - Children in Need**
- **21.11.24 - Choral Speaking Eisteddfod KS2**
- **26.11.24 - Parent Workshop - how to support with reading at home**
- **03.12.24 - Year 4 Trumpet Concert**
- **09 & 10.12.24 - Choir performing at Care Homes**
- **12.12.24 - KS1 & KS2 Performance and Christmas Fayre 2pm - 4pm**
- **17.12.24 - EYFS & KS1 Xmas party**
- **18.12.24 - KS2 Xmas Party**
- **19.12.24 - End of Term**

Have a wonderful half term break and see you back to school on Monday 4th November.

**Each Unique,
Together We
Thrive**

