



## Belton Update

29th October 2021

Dear Parents/Carers and Children,

We are back in the swing of things after half term, with Judo and Young Voices starting as well. The children have really enjoyed themselves. Over the last month each class has been taking part World Mental Health Day where the children took part in Yoga, circle time, mindfulness colouring, meditation and breathing exercises. They have also celebrated Black History Month. Foxes have taken inspiration from Nina Simone, Hedgehogs Seydou Keita, an African photographer, Squirrels Floella Benjamin and Badgers Rosa Parks. You will learn more about her in Badgers Class assembly in church next week. We have also had parents' evenings, Dogs Trust workshops, Bonfire assembly with PCSO Mark and a lovely party day.

### Homework consultation

I will reissue the policy next week and each class will have a homework timetable in their reading diaries making it really clear of expectations.



The safety and well-being of our pupils is something that our school strives hard to ensure and we continue to work hard to provide ways to help you tell us if you or your children have any problems or worries which the School needs to know about such as bullying.

Reporting issues is a very effective way to enable us to deal with risks before they escalate into harm, and we already have several ways in which you can report to our school. That goes a long way in helping us create the safe and reliable environment for your children that you expect our school to be.

We understand too that sometimes, coming into school to tell us about these issues cannot always be an easy thing to do. Time? Arranging an appointment? Speaking with staff? Sometimes it can be a subject that you need to bring to our attention without wanting to identify yourself, but that you feel we need to know, particularly if it involves children's safety.

That's why we are launching **Whisper** on our school website, an anonymous reporting service for pupils, families and local community that allows you to send a message or text to a confidential school email account where staff experienced in responding to issues will receive it.

### How does it work?



Clicking on the **Whisper** button on our website, under Keeping Children Safe, will take you to an online form where you can leave your message. You can choose to send it anonymously or, if you want us to get back to you, you can leave your contact details.

**Whisper** does not collect any information to identify a sender unless they choose to leave it.

You can also send an anonymous text by following the SMS instructions on our school website.

### Why do we think this is important?



For a variety of reasons, such as being classed as a “grass”, or mistrust of how their concerns will be handled, young people often find it very difficult to report issues at school. Offering an anonymous route may empower them to raise concerns they may not have felt able to raise before.

We know that reporting can raise awareness of an issue across the school and things can change because of that, through discussion and education.

Whilst your report may not always get the solution you want to see, reporting bad behaviours can often stop them from happening to others. If people know their unacceptable behaviour will be reported they are less likely to do it and this can have a positive effect across the whole school.

### **What happens next?**

Over the next few weeks we will be discussing **Whisper** with the children as part of our wider safeguarding education programme: how, why and when to use it. How it can provide a useful route for them to help safeguard themselves, their friends or the wider school community

We thank you for your continued support and comments. With that support, we are confident we can build a positive school community in which you, and your family play such an important and valuable role.

### **Week 1 Dinners next week**



## **British Legion Poppy Appeal**

From Monday we will be selling poppies and also snap bands (£2), wristbands (£2) reflector poppies (50p), pencil sharpeners (£1), rubbers (£1) and Zip pulls (50p)



### **Photographer in school next week**

Will Hardy of Hardy's School Photography will be in school next week on Wednesday 3rd November to take individual photographs of all our children. You will be able to order prints and gifts online and maybe even tick off a few Xmas presents at the same time! It helps our school too as Hardy's School Photography gives us commission on all sales.



## Diary dates (Covid guidance permitting)

1 -7<sup>th</sup> November UK Parliament week

2<sup>nd</sup> November Brilliant Badgers assembly in Church 9.15am

4<sup>th</sup> November Badgers Forest School trip

5<sup>th</sup> November Flu Immunisations CANCELLED

9<sup>th</sup> November Superstition in Science trip Brilliant Badgers

11<sup>th</sup> November Squirrels Toy Sale

15<sup>th</sup> November Anti Bullying Week – Odd Socks Day

14<sup>th</sup> November Remembrance Sunday

3<sup>rd</sup> December Panto – Aladdin Loughborough

6<sup>th</sup> December PCSO Mark Respecting property assembly

7<sup>th</sup> December Church Service 6pm in Church

# The Toys Sale

*Santa is starting to think about getting ready for the festive season have you?*





To make room for Santa arriving at your house we thought you might like to have a 'tidy up and clear out' over our holidays and donate good quality toys, games, puzzles, DVDs etc... for the Squirrels...

## 'Bring and Buy Toy Sale'

on

Then come along on the day to pick up a bargain, play some games, have a drink and let the children enjoy their purchases.

All proceeds will go towards the Shepshed Toy Library who are our class charity for the year.





# The Toys Sale

Stay and Play

Toys for Sale

Teas and Coffees

Lucky Dip

Tombola

All proceeds will go towards the Shepshed Toy Library

Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> November at

3:15pm