



Churchfields News



Churchfields Road, Beckenham, Kent, BR3 4QY Tel: 020 86505247

5th December 2025

Dear Churchfields Families,

One of the stand out features of our school is the strength of our community.

We had a fantastic **Christmas Fair** on Saturday thanks to your donations and hours of work from many PTA volunteers. I really enjoyed seeing the Forest School shelter, paid for by the PTA in Spring, being put to good use as a marshmallow roasting pit ably run by Mrs Sutcliffe and her helpers. As well as bringing families together, the funds raised help make our school better for all of the children.

We have had two **parent forums** this week; in the general forum we discussed our school improvement priorities, increasing the range of arts (art, music, dance, drama) in the school and how to make our admin systems more efficient. We had a large group attend the anti-racism forum this morning and we had a very positive and constructive discussion on, amongst many topics, the staff training so far, the children's lessons coming up in Spring term, how we can make sure all parents and children can be involved and feel comfortable and empowered in learning about anti-racism. It's not easy to talk about such potentially sensitive and emotive issues openly and without fear of judgement - I'm so proud that as a community we can trust each other and work together to educate and support all of our children.

Finally, the **choir were on stage at the Old Vic** yesterday, singing alongside the elders from the local lunchtime club - the children loved performing and have talked so movingly about meeting their new older friends. We hope to keep this connection going. If you are in The Glades this afternoon, the choir are performing there to raise money for charity.

Have a great weekend,

Sarah Atherton
Headteacher



Follow us on social:
[@churchfields_primary](https://www.instagram.com/churchfields_primary)

Important Autumn Term dates:

Reception Christmas Concert - Monday 15th December, 9.30am in Main Hall

Year 1 Pine and Year 2 Hickory Christmas Concert - Monday 15th December, 2pm in Main Hall

Year 5 Greek dressing up day - Tuesday 16th December

Year 1 Willow and Year 2 Maple Christmas Concert - Tuesday 16th December, 9.30am in Main Hall

Years 3, 4, 5, 6 Christmas Concert - Wednesday 17th December, 2pm, at St Michael's Church

Churchfields Got Talent Finals - Thursday 18th December

Year 4 Anglo Saxon and Year 6 VE Day dressing up days - Friday 19th December

Children's Christmas Lunch - Friday 19th December - **children can wear their own clothes**

Last day of Autumn Term 2 - Friday 19th December, school finishes at the usual times.

Holidays: Monday 22nd December - Friday 2nd January,

Inset day: Monday 5th January - school closed to children

First day of Spring Term 1: Tuesday 6th January - children return to school

Full term dates for the 2025-26 and 2026-27 academic years are available [on our website](#).



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Quality First
Education Trust

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Quality First Education Trust News

John Grove, CEO of the [Quality First Education \(Q1E\) Trust](#), has announced that he will be retiring from the role of CEO at the end of the Summer Term. He has served Belleville Primary School and the Q1E Trust for 25 years as Headteacher, Executive Headteacher and CEO.

John is an outstanding leader with over 20 years of successful headship experience and a track record of improving schools. As Headteacher of Belleville from 2000 to 2016, he led the school from "in danger of failing" to outstanding. Belleville gained national recognition for excellence in many areas and grew to be highly regarded for its support to other schools in the local area. Under John's leadership Belleville was designated as a National Support School, a National Teaching School, an Academy Sponsor and a Maths Hub. John is a National Leader of Education and a Fellow of the National College for Teaching and Leadership.

In 2017, John became CEO of the Q1E Trust and Belleville was joined by Belleville Wix Academy, The Alton and Churchfields Primary School later that year, and by Thomas's Academy in September 2025.

As Ofsted wrote about John, following one of their visits to Belleville: *"You provide inspirational leadership to your staff and are very highly regarded by your colleagues. A strong vision is evident and a positive ethos permeates the school. There is an uncompromising drive for continuous improvement. Your work with partner schools in the network of local headteachers is very well received."*

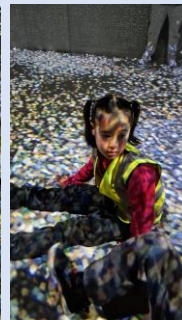
We echo these words, and we could not put it better ourselves. John will be leaving with our deep gratitude, respect and very best wishes for the future. The process to find a successor has already started, with a recruitment timetable allowing for an early appointment and smooth transition.

Parent/Carer Reading Volunteers

We are looking for parent reading volunteers to listen to children read for one hour each week, starting after Christmas. This extra reading support is hugely beneficial in building children's confidence, fluency and enjoyment of books. Many of our past volunteers have told us how rewarding it is to see children progress and to share their excitement as their reading skills grow. If you can spare an hour a week, we would be delighted to welcome you - your time can make a real difference! Please email admin@churchfields.q1e.org.uk if you are interested.

Holly and Magnolia visit Frameless

Holly and Magnolia Class had a wonderful visit to the Frameless Art Exhibition. The children loved the bright Colours and especially enjoyed the interactive artwork, where the visuals shifted as the children walked around the space. A huge thank you to our parent volunteers!





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Birthday Books

Thank you to Raffy in Year 2 for the amazing interactive birthday book of *Let's go into the Centre of the Earth*.

Is your birthday coming up? You can bring books for the library (they don't have to be new) instead of sweets and treats.



HAF Programme

London Borough of Bromley's upcoming winter HAF programme will run from 22 to 31 December 2025 (excluding Bank Holidays and weekends). The programme offers free holiday club places, including activities and healthy meals for families with children 5-16 years old who are in receipt of benefit related Free School Meals (FSM) or residing in Bromley as a refugee.

The programme allows children and young people to enjoy fun and enriching activities that will enable them to develop new skills, build confidence, and meet new friends. Each session will allow children to take part in some form of physical activity as well as creative and educational tasks. They will also learn about the nutritional value of the food they eat, whilst enjoying a free meal each day.

Booking is now open for Winter 2025. Please [book directly with the Bromley HAF Providers via this link](#). Proof of benefits may be required upon booking. If you have any questions, please email HolidayActivitiesandFood@bromley.gov.uk



Our number one priority is to ensure that all children and adults are safe. If you are worried about something or if you are worried about someone else, you can talk to ANYONE who works for the school.

Safeguarding is the responsibility of EVERYONE. Childline: 0800 1111