



Samantha Bhadha  
Assistant Principal

# BELL Academy

*Bayside Enrichment & Long-Distance Learning Academy*  
MS 294

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**David Abbott**  
Principal

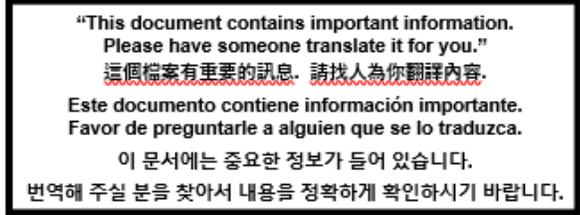
[www.thebellacademy.com](http://www.thebellacademy.com)



Jaelyn Rajwan  
Assistant Principal

October 31, 2025

Dear BELL Families,



A great big BELL Shout-Out to our amazing PTA and parent volunteers for making our Halloween Dance a huge success! Thanks to your support, we were able to provide a fun-filled afternoon for our students. We would also like to thank the parent volunteers who helped organize and run the bake sale.

We would like to thank all the families who participated in Friday, October 24<sup>th</sup>'s Coffee and Cluster meeting. Aside from visiting your child's Enrichment Clusters, you were able to engage in a great conversation about our school-wide RISE initiative. Our **RISE** program reinforces: **Respect Yourself and Others, Integrity in All Actions, Strive to be Responsible, and Empathize with Others.** For those families who were unable to join, please know that the resources from the morning presentation are available on October 24<sup>th</sup>'s Class Dojo posting and on the BELL Academy website. We are so proud of our three student representatives who thoroughly explained the core values embedded in the RISE initiative. At BELL, we **RISE!**

We would like to give a huge Shout-Out to our BELL Sports Teams! Our Girls Flag Football Team remains undefeated, and our Boys Soccer Team is off to a 2-0 start! Thanks to our all-star coaches, Coach Messemer and Coach Mshar, for supporting our students and keeping them #BELLStrong!

Earlier this week, we celebrated our October Student of the Month Award recipients. During the celebrations, we discussed the importance of Digital Citizenship. You can access the New York City Public School resources by clicking on this link: [Digital Citizenship](#). We also discussed the importance of coming together in service to support those in need. Last year, with the support of our Student Government and Ms. Milazzo, we donated 314 pounds of food through City Harvest. This year, our goal is to reach 500 pounds! You can help us reach our goal by clicking on this link: [City Harvest BELL Academy Holiday Food Drive](#). Our hearts go out to the friends and families of our neighbors in Jamaica, who have been devastated by Hurricane Melissa. We are hoping to find ways, as a school community, to support those who have been affected.

Please note the following information below regarding upcoming dates and events:

- **November 4<sup>th</sup>**: Election Day- **No School**. However, children should work on any missed assignments.
- **November 5<sup>th</sup>**: Last day of Marking Period 1.
- **November 5<sup>th</sup>**: Picture Day! Please email Ms. Lori with any questions.
- **November 5<sup>th</sup>**: BELL Academy Open House for interested 5<sup>th</sup> Grade families.
- **November 11<sup>th</sup>**: Veterans' Day- **No School**
- **November 12<sup>th</sup>**: In-school administration of the Specialized High School Admissions Test (SHSAT) for registered 8<sup>th</sup> Grade students.
- **November 13<sup>th</sup>**: Parent-Teacher Conferences. Report cards will be distributed. \*Please refer to information below. **All students will be dismissed by 11:10 a.m.**
- **November 18<sup>th</sup>**: SLT and PTA Meeting.
- **November 24<sup>th</sup>**: 6<sup>th</sup> Grade trip to bowling alley.
- **November 25<sup>th</sup>**: 7<sup>th</sup> Grade trip to bowling alley.
- **November 26<sup>th</sup>**: 8<sup>th</sup> Grade trip to bowling alley.
- **November 27<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup>**: Thanksgiving- **No School**. Students will only receive minimal homework, but are encouraged to make up any missed assignments.

### **\*November 13<sup>th</sup>- Parent Teacher Conferences- Fully Remote**

Our afternoon and evening Parent Teacher Conferences will both be held on Thursday, November 13<sup>th</sup>. **All students will be dismissed at 11:10 a.m.** All conferences will be held remotely between 12:30 p.m. – 2:30 p.m. and 5:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. Below you can access surveys from your child's teachers to request appointment times, as well as to indicate your meeting preference. Please remember that you can always



## BELL Academy

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request additional meetings with your child's teacher(s) during parent engagement time. Please contact your child's teacher(s) for additional appointment times. Translation services will be available. Please contact Ms. Lori at [LBelcastro@schools.nyc.gov](mailto:LBelcastro@schools.nyc.gov) for translation arrangements.

For information on making an appointment for Parent Teacher Conferences:

**6<sup>th</sup> Grade Parents (601-604):** [Please Click Here](#)

**6<sup>th</sup> Grade Parents (605-608):** [Please Click Here](#)

**7<sup>th</sup> Grade Parents (701-703):** [Please Click Here](#)

**7<sup>th</sup> Grade Parents (704-706):** [Please Click Here](#)

**8<sup>th</sup> Grade Parents:** [Please Click Here](#)

**School Counselor, Ms. Johnson,** [EJohnson6@schools.nyc.gov](mailto:EJohnson6@schools.nyc.gov): [Please Click Here](#)

**School Social Worker, Ms. Lavino,** [DLavino@schools.nyc.gov](mailto:DLavino@schools.nyc.gov): [Please Click Here](#)

**Dean of Students, Mr. Williams,** [JWillia31@schools.nyc.gov](mailto:JWillia31@schools.nyc.gov): [Please Click Here](#)

**Speech Therapist, Ms. Morrison:** [DMorrison5@schools.nyc.gov](mailto:DMorrison5@schools.nyc.gov): [Please Click Here](#)

**ENL Teacher, Ms. Lee:** [ALee3378@schools.nyc.gov](mailto:ALee3378@schools.nyc.gov): [Please Click Here](#)

**Parent Coordinator, Ms. Belcastro:** [LBelcastro@schools.nyc.gov](mailto:LBelcastro@schools.nyc.gov)

As always, please contact the school with any questions.

Let us all welcome November with feelings of optimism and gratitude. As Thanksgiving approaches, it is a good time to remind ourselves of all for which we are thankful. I would like to express gratitude and thankfulness for our #BELLFamily! For those celebrating, have a safe Halloween 😊

Sincerely,

David Abbott,

Principal

