# BELL Academy

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

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**David Abbott**
***Principal***
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Samantha Bhadha
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이 문서에는 중요한 정보가 들어 있습니다.
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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 24th'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: **R**espect Yourself and Others, **I**ntegrity in All Actions, **S**trive to be Responsible, and **E**mpathize with Others. For those families who were unable to join, please know that the resources from the morning presentation are available on October 24th'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 4th**: Election Day- ***No School***. However, children should work on any missed assignments.
- **November 5th**: Last day of Marking Period 1.
- **November 5th**: Picture Day! Please email Ms. Lori with any questions.
- **November 5th:** BELL Academy Open House for interested 5th Grade families.
- **November 11th:** Veterans' Day- ***No School***
- **November 12th**: In-school administration of the Specialized High School Admissions Test (SHSAT) for registered 8th Grade students.
- **November 13th**: Parent-Teacher Conferences. Report cards will be distributed. *Please refer to information below. **All students will be dismissed by 11:10 a.m.**
- **November 18th**: SLT and PTA Meeting.
- **November 24th**: 6th Grade trip to bowling alley.
- **November 25th**: 7th Grade trip to bowling alley.
- **November 26th**: 8th Grade trip to bowling alley.
- **November 27th and 28th**: Thanksgiving- ***No School***. Students will only receive minimal homework, but are encouraged to make up any missed assignments.

***November 13th- Parent Teacher Conferences- Fully Remote**

Our afternoon and evening Parent Teacher Conferences will both be held on Thursday, November 13th. **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

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 for translation arrangements.

For information on making an appointment for Parent Teacher Conferences:

**6th Grade Parents (601-604)**: Please Click Here

**6th Grade Parents (605-608)**: Please Click Here

**7th Grade Parents (701-703):** Please Click Here

**7th Grade Parents (704-706):** Please Click Here

**8th Grade Parents:** Please Click Here

**School Counselor, Ms. Johnson,** EJohnson6@schools.nyc.gov**:** Please Click Here

**School Social Worker, Ms. Lavino,** DLavino@schools.nyc.gov**:** Please Click Here

**Dean of Students, Mr. Williams,** JWillia31@schools.nyc.gov: Please Click Here

**Speech Therapist, Ms. Morrison**: DMorrison5@schools.nyc.gov: Please Click Here

**ENL Teacher, Ms. Lee**: ALee3378@schools.nyc.gov: Please Click Here

**Parent Coordinator, Ms. Belcastro:** 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