



Bellevue Elementary

Bellevue City School District, Bellevue Ohio

January 2026

Dear Families,

Novice, sedan - these are two words your children may not know. The other day I was at a pickleball court and I heard a teen say, “What is a nō-vīs ?”

The teen pronounced both vowels with a long sound instead of “NAH viss” meaning an amateur or a beginner.

Oral language skills are extremely valuable in all facets of life. We set our children up for success when we expose them to more advanced vocabulary in our every day discussions. Over the next few newsletters we will take a deep dive into oral language.



Oral Language is the Foundation of Literacy: Conversations, storytelling, and discussions help children build vocabulary, sentence structure, and thinking skills that make reading meaningful.

When we provide space for children to talk, listen, and engage in meaningful dialogue, we help them speak better and lay the foundation for lifelong success in reading and communication.

- **Talk often and talk back:** Ask open-ended questions (How? Why? Tell me about...) instead of yes/no questions. And expand upon their sentences.
- Offer **Wait time:** Don't jump in—give children time to respond.
- Introduce new words naturally and use precise language (**enormous**—not big, **frustrated**—not mad)
- Encourage **full sentences.** BES students are encouraged to speak in full sentences especially when explaining ideas.
- Build confidence—praise children for sharing ideas and model correct sentences.

With Children at Heart,

Mrs. Turner, Principal

A Look Ahead

Thurs. Jan. 8 - American Red Cross Blood Drive 2-7 pm

Fri. Jan. 9 – End of 2nd quarter

Sat. Jan. 10 - PTO Neon Nights: **GLOW DANCE PARTY**
NEW TIME for all who RSVP'd
6 p.m—9 p.m.
Come anytime in dance window.

Please email PTO@bellevueschools.org with any questions.



February 5—BES 4th grade Music Program

Team Weilnau 6:00 p.m.

Rogers, Brown, Widman

Team Mira 7:15 p.m.

Cochey, Stiles, Higgins

February 17-20 Mobile Dentist at BES— look for paperwork to come home



Donuts with Dads

