



# Bella

GUIDE  
DOGS



**Pupdate 3**

**Mastering skills**

**Preparing for training school**

**SPONSOR  
A PUPPY**







**Hello, it's Vicky here, Bella's Puppy Walker. Bella will soon be going off to Guide Dogs Training School and I'm excited to let you know how she has been getting on.**

Over the last few months we have seen Bella's patience continue to improve and she has become a lot calmer. It has been lovely to watch her grow and mature. Since

your last Pupdate, Bella has visited a theatre, hospital and a museum. She has also travelled on the London Underground and took it all in her stride.

Bella's playful personality continues to make us laugh and tug of war is still top of her list. Her current favourite toy is a sheepskin tug toy that she adores - it works brilliantly when encouraging Bella to come back to us whilst we are out walking in the park, as she can't resist it!

### **Valuable skills**

Bella is always enthusiastic and willing, if there is a food treat involved! Thanks to this we've taught Bella the 'touch' command, in which she will touch my hand with her nose when asked. This



will be a valuable skill to her future owner as they will be able to locate her easily. This skill can be developed further at training school to encourage Bella to put her head through her harness.

We've also taught Bella to stay on the doormat when we return from a walk. This gives me enough time to grab a towel to rub her down. Getting her familiar with these tasks will be hugely beneficial to her future owner, as it will be

easier for them to clean her to make sure she remains happy and healthy.

### **Let's avoid Wimbledon...**

We are continuing to develop Bella's focus around tennis balls as she has such a passion for them!

(Continued overleaf)



The goal is to ensure that, even if she sees one whilst free running, she will return to us when we call her. Thanks to our efforts we've seen a big improvement but she still isn't 100% reliable and so we will be continuing to work on this with her, and perhaps avoid Wimbledon!

**The next chapter**

I will miss my adventures with Bella and the lovely welcome I get when I come home, but I'm so excited to see her progress to the next step in her guide dog

journey. Being a volunteer puppy walker for Guide Dogs has been such a positive experience and I would love to do it again.

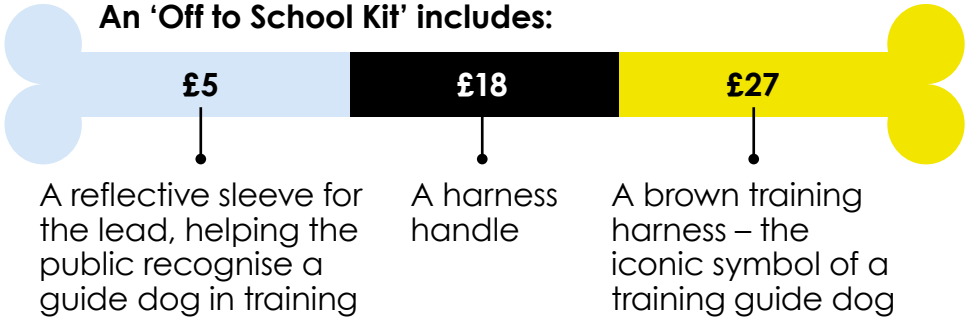
We can't wait to see Bella start training school. Look out for your next Pupdate in October to see how she's getting on!



**Next stop for Bella – training school**

Your donations can help to pay for an 'Off to School Kit', which costs £50 for a puppy moving into their first stage of training.

**An 'Off to School Kit' includes:**



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