



# Friday Flyer

17th February 2023

## Head of School Update

Last Friday, our girls' football team thoroughly enjoyed a fantastic experience participating in the Newcastle United Foundation's Premier League Tournament. They perfectly displayed our school values of collaboration, confidence and resilience and Mr Atkinson reported that they represented Belsay with pride. Well done to the girls and thank you to Mr Atkinson for preparing them and taking them to the tournament.



This week we welcomed Rowena from the Shakespeare Schools Festival into school and our KS2 Shakespeare cast benefited from professional stage direction. It was fabulous to see the children responding to feedback and honing their acting skills. We are very excited to see them perform *The Tempest* at Northern Stage on Monday 27th March!

There was lots of excitement on Thursday morning as Mr Bell, who is Pele Trust's Catering Manager, returned to Belsay to cook with Reception. The children all became chefs as they helped him prepare all of the toppings and learned about the ingredients needed to make pancakes. Kind as ever, Reception were sure to prepare extra toppings so that KS1 could all enjoy a pancake too.

As this half term draws to a close, we have reached the halfway mark in the academic year. I would like to thank all of the staff and children for the hard work they have put into making Belsay such a special school. Thank you also to all of our families for your continued support. I hope everyone has a lovely week over half term.

Claire Johnson



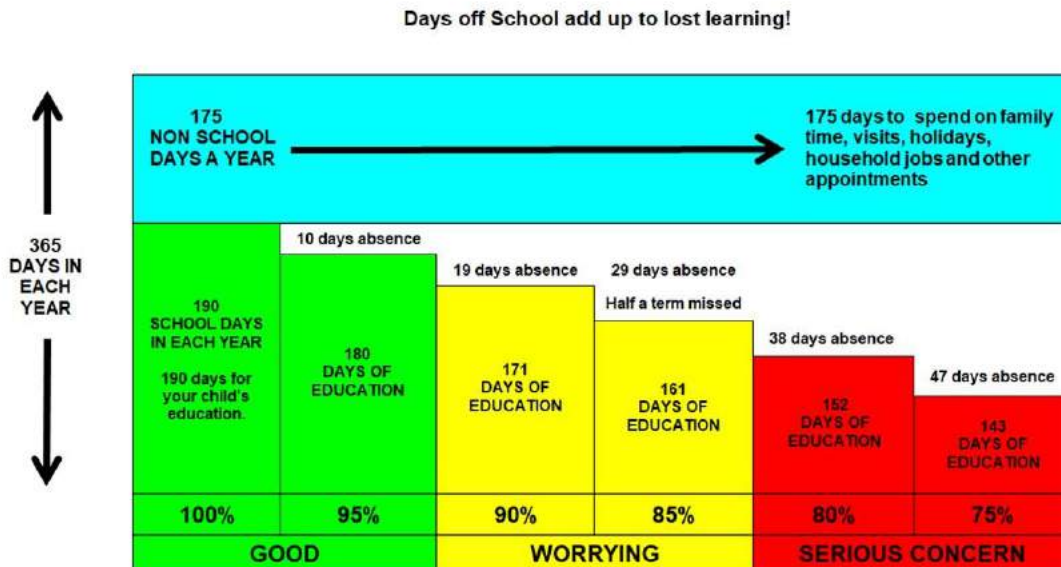
## Proposed Regional Strike Action on Tuesday 28 February

The second day of industrial action proposed by the NEU is due to take place on Tuesday 28 February. I am now in a position to confirm that school will be open to all classes as usual and all children will be expected to return to school on this date.

### Class by class Attendance

Class	Attendance
Reception	93.11
Y1/2	95.41
Y3/4	95.65
Y5/6	94.58

Please refer to the graphic below which shows the significant impact of absence over time.





## Ewe-some news!

St Oswald's Hospice will be launching a brand new Art Trail in and around Newcastle called 'Shaun the Sheep on the Tyne', starring Shaun the Sheep himself.

Our school is very excited to announce that we will be part of this baa-rilliant project by designing a sheep to be displayed somewhere on the trail.

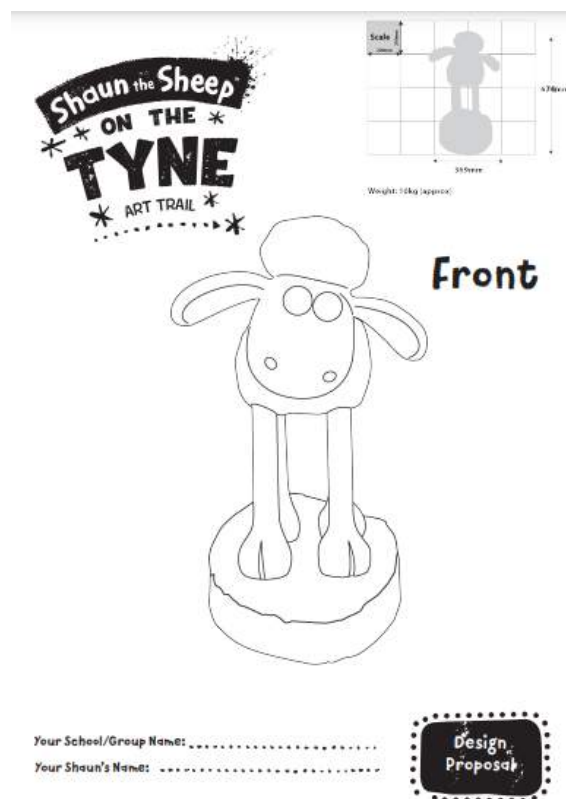
A blank Shaun will be delivered to school later this term, but before we can begin to paint him we need to design him! It would be great to have as many ideas as possible to consider in our final design.

In your child's bag you will find a blank template of the sheep (front and both sides). We'd like all our children to get involved with designing a wonderful sheep for our school. Imagine how special it would be to see part of their design on the trail!

We are very open to ideas - your design could link to so many areas. For example, our school values, farming, the environment, or simply a character or a theme. Maybe you could look up previous Snowdog or Elmer trails for inspiration too. It really can be anything, just let your imagination run wild! No logos though please.

We will collate all the ideas and consider them in our design planning sessions in school after the holiday. Please hand in any completed ideas to your class teacher after half term.

Thank you for your support and we cannot wait to see what bewe-tiful designs you all come up with.





Come to our

# Book Fair

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Exclusive edition

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PRODIGES IN THE VALLEY OF DOOM  
For Readers 6-9 (11-12)

**NEW** **UNEXPECTED TWIST**  
An Unexpected Tale  
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**NEW** **POKÉMON SUPER DELUXE ESSENTIAL HANDBOOK**

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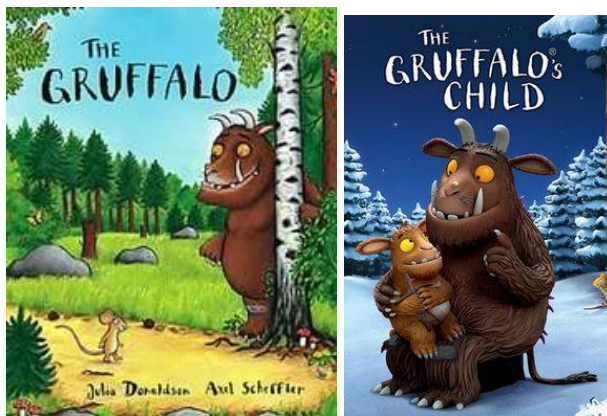


<b>Upcoming events:</b>	
17th February	Last day of the half term
27th February	Teacher training day (school closed to pupils)
28th February	Return to school - school will not be affected by the strikes
13th & 14th March	Parent / carer consultations
13th - 17th March	Book Fair
Week beginning 27 March	Made In The North East Week Each class will study an aspect of local history/geography including a visit.
Friday 31 March	End of term
Monday 17 April	Summer term begins
Monday 1 May	Bank Holiday
Monday 8 May	Bank Holiday (King's Coronation)
Tuesday 9 May - Friday 12 May	Y6 Sats
Friday 26 May	End of summer 1
Monday 5 June	Summer 2 begins
Week beginning 12 June	Year 1 phonics screening
All dates may be subject to change.	



## The week in Reception

This week we have been using the story 'The Gruffalo' to think about describing different characters. We have thought about how we can use simple captions in our writing to make our own wanted poster to try and let everyone know what The Gruffalo looks like. We love this story and it is one of Miss Houghton's favourite stories. It is lovely to hear the children retelling it and becoming more confident to read it during the week. Madame Barton even read the story to us in French.



We have also thought about the story of The Gruffalo's child. This has led us to discuss how we can keep ourselves safe. We also thought about what we would do differently if we were the Gruffalo's child. Two brilliant stories which the children have enjoyed.



On Friday we had a class of polar bears! Everyone looked fantastic. This was such a lovely day. We have enjoyed learning all about polar bears and penguins this half term and we now know lots of facts about polar bears. We have also adopted our own polar bear, with the help of all of our parents. A big thank you to everyone who contributed towards this.

Miss Houghton



## The week in Key Stage 1

Year 1 and 2 have had a fantastic end to the half term and worked hard to write detailed instructions on how to make recycled kites. We thought carefully about the order of our instructions and used time words and verbs to make each step clear. We then re-read and followed our own instructions to make the kites ourselves and had lots of fun flying them on a windy day!

We have been learning about animals and their habitats in Science and made field sketches of the wildlife area. We discussed the features of the woodland habitat and what creatures we might find there!

In Maths we were surprised with delicious pancakes, prepared by Reception and Mr Bell to celebrate Shrove Tuesday which falls during half term. They were scrumptious!



Thank you for all your hard work KS1, have a wonderful half term and a well deserved break!

Miss Dixon

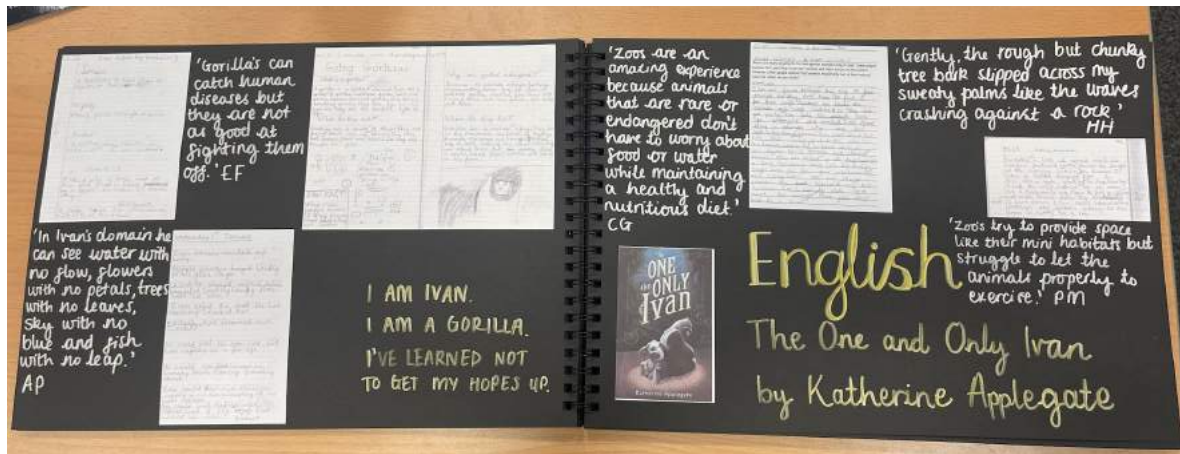


## The week in Year 3 and 4

This week in Year 3 and 4 we have finished exploring the book 'The One and Only Ivan' by writing our own jungle narrative including dialogue between two characters we have created. This allowed us to use all our knowledge and vocabulary we have explored in English and Geography to create an exciting narrative.

We have been creating our own project in computing based upon our knowledge of programming. This meant we had to use our learning from last term on sequencing to enhance our sound and characters.

Well done for an excellent half term Year 3 and 4 and enjoy a very well deserved week off.



Miss Cruse





## The week in Year 5 and 6

Year 5 and 6 have taken part in another week of fun-packed activities. Children continued to develop skills further during Forest School. This week's challenge was to make A-frame shelters. We showed how wonderfully we can work together in small teams and I'm sure you would agree that we'd keep dry under our newly built shelters.



During our maths lessons this week, Miss Thomas has been teaching fractions, decimals and percentages to Year 5. As an end of half-term treat, she bought some swiss rolls but the children had to help her half, then quarter, then eighth them before they could have a slice. We worked out we had  $24/8$ ths or 3 whole cakes. Some of us knew this would be  $48/16$ ths if we had a larger class. Well done everyone; some great maths!



In science this week we have asked ourselves 'Do heavier items have more water resistance?' We carried out some investigations and we realised that water resistance depends on how streamlined an object is. Objects of the same mass fell at different rates, depending on their shape. We also enjoyed getting our hands dirty with modelling clay, as well as proving our theory was correct.



Mr Harvey and Miss Thomas





KIRKHARLE

*Courtyard*



JOIN US FOR

# Half Term SUPPER & STARS

MINIMUM AGE 6

with Si Rowland Astronomy

WEDNESDAY 22ND FEBRUARY

TWO COURSE SUPPER | 4.30 - 5.30PM

STARS | 6-8 PM





NYCGB

NATIONAL  
YOUTH  
CHOIR  
GREAT BRITAIN

SING!



25 & 26 February  
10am-4pm  
Newcastle/Gateshead  
(venue tbc)

**“It was fun to work with other people who all love singing as much as I do.”**

(Sing! 2022 participant)

Take part in a weekend of singing with young people from across the North East! Learn new songs with friendly staff from National Youth Choir, make new friends and develop your musical skills.

Follow up days in summer and autumn 2023.

For anyone who loves singing in Y6 to Y9. It's free to take part and support is available for travel costs. Whatever your musical interest, this is open to all.

Sign up here:

[www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/Sing23](https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/Sing23)

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 23RD FEB - 24TH FEB  
10AM - 3PM

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