

# Friday Flyer

29th September 2023

## Headteacher Update

We are at the end of week 4 and already half way through our first half term of this academic year - time flies when we are having fun!

As always it has been a busy week with each classroom a hive of activity producing some truly brilliant pieces of work from Reception to Year 6. Our celebration wall in the main Hall is testament to how hard we are working.

To keep a track of some of the fantastic work we do in school please do follow us on Twitter. We are trying hard to get better at providing regular updates as it is important you can see the hard work that occurs throughout school.

One of the main changes made this week, which you may have heard your children talking about, is the class names. It was decided that rather than call classes 1/2 or 3/4 for example we should choose names. As a result and due to our local context we have selected the following names:

Reception = Willow Class  
Year 1/2 = Maple Class  
Year 3/4 = Alder Class  
Year 5/6 = Oak Class

As we head into October, our Harvest Festival is very much on our minds and to celebrate this our children will be performing a concert of songs they are learning with Mrs Wigham who is the Pele Trust Director of Music. The children are now very busy learning the songs which they will sing for you at our **Harvest Festival on Friday 27th October at 9.15am**. It promises to be a very special event so we hope to see you there - further information will follow shortly.

As always I would like to finish this week's update congratulating all the children who have been nominated for Outstanding Achievement Awards, in recognition of their hard work or showing the Belsay Values. Also well done to all those children who have been nominated for the Hot Chocolate with the Head. This really is a special time for me to have some great conversations with the children - it's amazing what you find out!

Have a wonderful weekend!

Craig Shaw



Class	Attendance
Reception	92.3
Y1/2	89.8
Y3/4	91.4
Y5/6	86.3

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

Attendance	Description
98 -100%	Excellent
95-97.9%	Good
92-94.9%	Caution
90- 91.9%	Cause for concern
89.9 or below	Persistent Absence Serious Concern

Every child has the right to a good education. We want our children to thrive, and to be healthy and happy. For this to happen the majority of young people need to be attending school, seeing their friends, and learning in the classroom. Most children in England agree with this assessment. The Children's Commissioner for England's 'Big Ask' survey from March 2022 gathered over 550 000 responses from children and demonstrated during the pandemic how much they had missed face-to-face teaching, spending time with their friends, and the extra-curricular activities that brought joy and excitement to their lives.

The benefits of school are many. It offers positive adult role models and gives children a strong foundation for their interactions in society. School helps young people build confidence, which is crucial to healthy self-esteem. It encourages independent critical thinking and self-expression. These skills translate to every area of life, whether it is in academia, the workplace, or relationships. School widens a child's horizons and influences their aspirations. Schools are more than just classrooms, they are communities.

The NHS has recently published a really useful document to refer to when your child has a suspected illness and you are not sure if they could come to school. It can be found [here](#).

## Dates for the diary...

Autumn Term 2023		
Thursday 5th October	6.00-8.00pm	Year 6 Prospective Parents' Evening at Ponteland High School
Tuesday 10th October		Individual School Photographs
Monday 23rd October		Flu Immunisations
Friday 27th October	9.15am	Harvest Festival (Parents/Carers Welcome)
Friday 27th October		School Closes for Half Term
Monday 6th November		Teacher Training Day
Tuesday 7th November		School Re-opens after Half Term
Friday 10th November		Remembrance Day Assembly
Monday 13th November		Odd Sock Day
Monday 13th & Tuesday 14th November	3.15-5.30pm	Parents' Evenings
Thursday 7th December		Christmas Jumper Day
Thursday 7th December	1.45pm	Joint Christmas Performance (Parents/Carers Welcome) <i>Venue TBC</i>
Friday 15th December	AM	(TBC) Whole School Christmas Performance
Tuesday 19th December	10.00am	Christmas Pantomime at Tyne Theatre
Wednesday 20th December	Afternoon	KS2 Christmas Party
Thursday 21st December	Afternoon	Reception/KS1 Christmas Party
Friday 22nd December		School Closes for Christmas
All dates may be subject to change		

Apologies about the confusion on clubs in the past few weeks. Please note SLUK has been removed for now due to numbers but may be added back later in the year.

### Extra-Curricular Clubs:

We are looking to start these from next week. Please click [here](#) to sign up.

Day	Activity	Time	Age
<b>Monday</b>	SLUK Playmaker Award (10 weeks)	3.20 - 4.20pm starts 25th September	Years 4 - 6 (cost)
<b>Monday</b>	Dance	3.20 - 4.15pm	Reception - Y2
<b>Tuesday</b>	NUF Multi-Sport	3.20 - 4.20pm	Years 1 - 3
<b>Wednesday</b>	Pele Trust Multi-Sport	3.20 - 4.20pm	Years 4 - 6
<b>Wednesday</b>	Spanish Club	3.15 - 4.15pm	Years 3-6
<b>Thursday</b>	Badminton	3.15 - 4.00pm starts 21st September	Years 5 - 6 (cost)
<b>Friday</b>	Band	8.30 - 9.00am	All band members from last year and children who can play an entire scale are welcome
<b>Friday</b>	Choir	11.45 - 12.15pm	KS2

Would you or someone you know like to run a club? If so please don't hesitate to contact the school office.

### Remember...

As the weather changes and we move into colder, wetter times (not much different from our Summer), please remember to send your child to school with a waterproof coat and pair of wellies. We aim to try and get the pupils in the fresh air as much as possible during break and lunch!



## Keeping Children Safe Online

We all have a part to play in keeping children safe online.

Are you worried about what your child is looking at when online?

Do you need advice on how to talk to your child about staying safe?

For children, online life is life. It can help to think about how your child could feel sharing what they're doing online before you talk to them.

Find out how with this online safety guide from **NSPCC website**



## Competition Time...



# THE GREAT GEORDIE BANGER OFF

Get ready for some **sausage-tastic** fun as we've teamed up with our pals at the Geordie Bangers to create their next big flavour in a **Pele Trust wide competition**.

## THE COMPETITION

Entrants will need to come up with the name, ingredients and drawing of their tasty creation to impress the judges.

## THE PRIZES

The winning sausage will be made by Geordie Bangers and will appear in the next menu cycle for all schools within the trust. The winner will also receive 5 Kilos of their new sausage to take home and enjoy with their family.

There will also be runner up prizes for each primary school, with each finalist receiving a certificate, as well as their sausage being created and put into mini sausage sandwiches for the whole class to enjoy.

**Entry forms will be available from w/c 23rd October 2023**

We can't wait to see what wonderful creations you come up with!

Richard Bell | Area Catering Manager  
Vin & David McDonad | Geordie Bangers



## The week in Willow class

This week we have worked very hard. It is lovely to see everyone growing in confidence now that we have spent a lot of time together. We now know lots of new letters and phonics, the children are enjoying being able to attempt to read simple words.

We have continued our work on the story 'It's okay to be different' by Todd Parr. We have thought about why it is okay to be different and made our own version of the story. The ideas we had were, it's okay to...

- Have different-coloured hair.
- Have different coloured eyes.
- Be 4 or 5.
- Come to school on the bus.
- Be in the best class in the school.

These are some fantastic differences that we all agreed on.



In our maths lessons we have been focusing on the numbers 1, 2 and 3. We have found 1 and 2 items within the classroom and matched them to the right number. We have thought about the different ways to make 3 using the 10's frames and counters.



We have also thought about lots of patterns we can see and make. We have focused on making patterns using 1 and 2 colours.

A very busy week for everyone, and we even had time to spend lots of time playing!

Please see Tapestry for more photos.

**Miss Houghton**



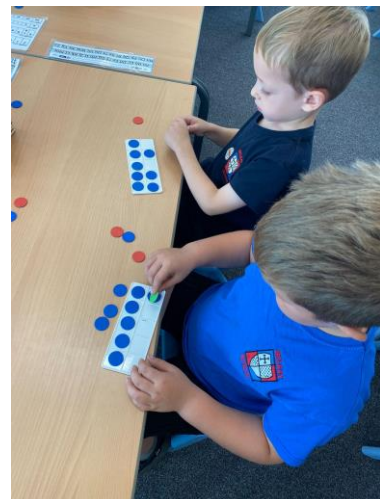


## The week in Maple class

Maple Class have been learning about the Solar System in Science, putting the eight planets in order from the sun. We used a mnemonic to help us remember the order correctly!



In English, we made story maps by sequencing illustrations from Beegu and added adjectives and interesting verbs to describe what was happening in each one. We plan to use our maps to help us rewrite the story in our own words.



In Maths, Year 1 worked hard to represent numbers to 10 and compared them using Mathematical vocabulary- greater than, less than and equal too. We are now beginning to use symbols to compare numbers.

**Miss Dixon**



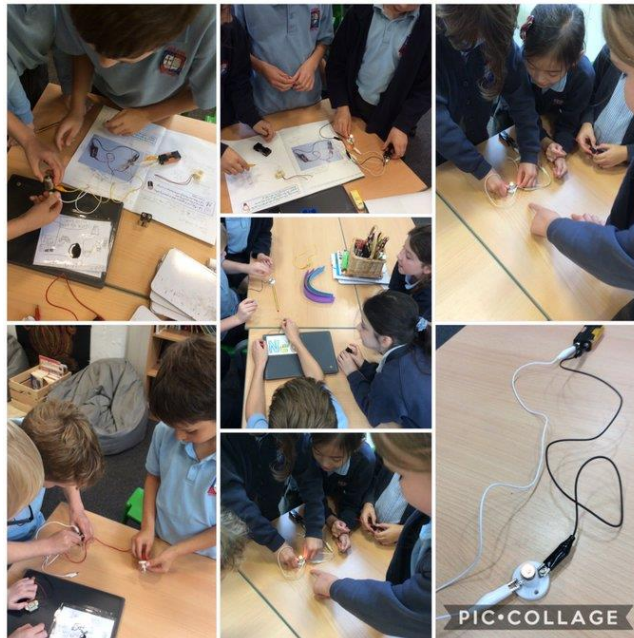
## The week in Alder class

Another incredible week in Alder class! We have packed so much into this week and have shown enthusiasm to every aspect of our learning! It has been great to see some children from our class take home certificates from their Reading Plus and I am excited to hopefully give out more. We have also enjoyed creating a more relaxed and positive classroom environment where we can fully immerse ourselves into our learning.

In English we have continued our work around the class text 'Anglo-Saxon Boy'. We have been focusing on different features of a diary entry and then picking apart the difference between fact and opinion and also understanding how to show emotion through our writing.

We have loved learning about the Anglo-Saxons in History and this week focused on what Sutton Hoo tells us about the Anglo-Saxon world. The children enjoyed looking at different artefacts and drawing images of what they believed the burial scene would have looked like.

In Science we have been learning about electricity and this week it was great to create our own circuits and understand how electricity travels and what can impact the circuit working.



Well done on a fantastic week Alder class and I hope you all have a restful weekend!

**Miss Cruise**



### The week in Oak class

In Oak Class this week we have continued to progress through all of the exciting things that our curriculum has to offer. We can't believe that we are halfway through this half-term

#### English



Letters from the Lighthouse is tantalising our thoughts and we're getting very concerned over the whereabouts of Sukie. Who is the man she has been meeting with? Why did she run in the opposite direction of the air raid shelter and does mum know something that she is not telling the rest of the family? We can't wait to read the next chapter and find out what is going to unfold next. We have also been studying how to identify **main clauses** and **subordinate clauses** and our suspense writing has been wonderful. We have a great set of writers in our class who know how to capture the attention of the audience; adding tension to our stories!

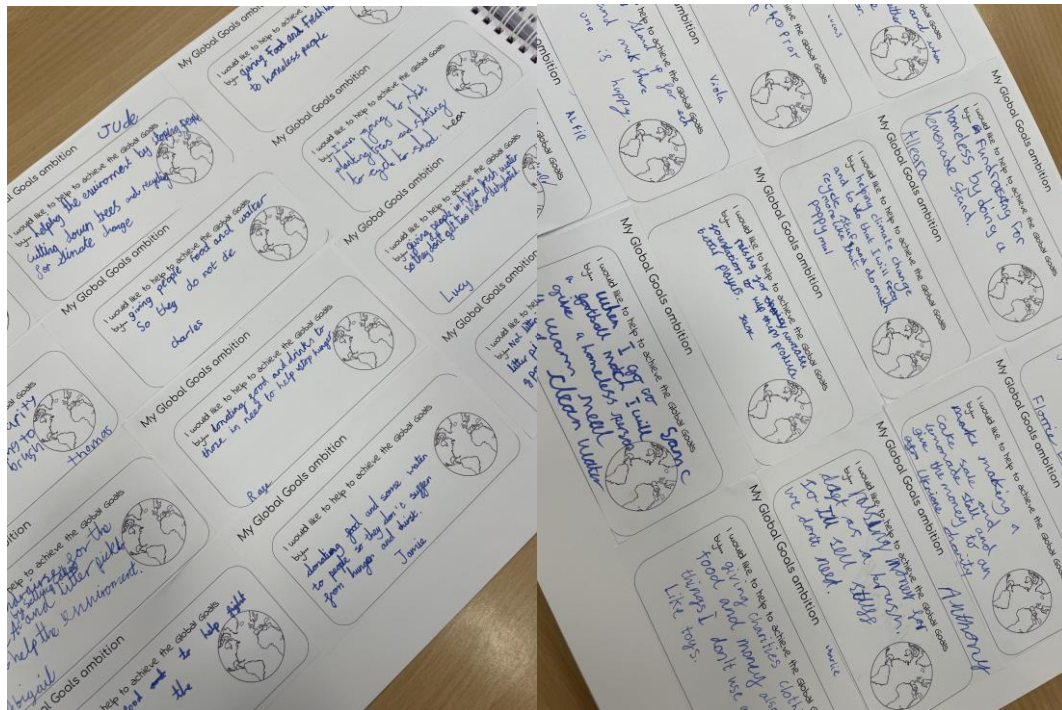
#### Art

Practising our 'tonal shading' during art on Wednesday. We have been inspired by Ida O'Keefe's lighthouse artwork.



## PSHE Global Goals

In our PSHE lesson this week, we have been considering how we can help to contribute towards some of the Global Goals. Many of us have said we are going to carry out some fundraising to help worthwhile charities and others are going to donate food to homeless charities. We have a real sense of fairness in our class and we strive to make things better for those less fortunate than ourselves.



**Mr Harvey**



87 days until Christmas...



# Belsay School and Belsay Daycare Fundraiser

## Wreath Making

Date: 28/11/2023

Time: 6.30 PM

- All Materials Provided
- Refreshments available at extra cost
- Don't forget to bring gardening gloves
- All monies raised will go to the PTA & Daycare

Place:  
Belsay School Hall

£35 p/p with £5 deposit  
to book your space

**To book txt Diane: 0780 4482 856**





Belsay School



The Whistling Sheep presents



## The Charity Ceilidh

Raising funds for the Disaster Emergency Committee

Ponteland High School, NE20 9EG

*Buffet food included.*

*Bring your own non alcoholic drinks!*

**Friday  
13<sup>th</sup> Oct**

18.15 – 21.15

**Adults £15**

**High School  
Students £10**

**Primary School  
Students £5**



Tickets can be bought **cash only** from High School reception  
from September, or by on-line payment by emailing:

[whistlingsheepceilidhband@gmail.com](mailto:whistlingsheepceilidhband@gmail.com)



**Dancing!**

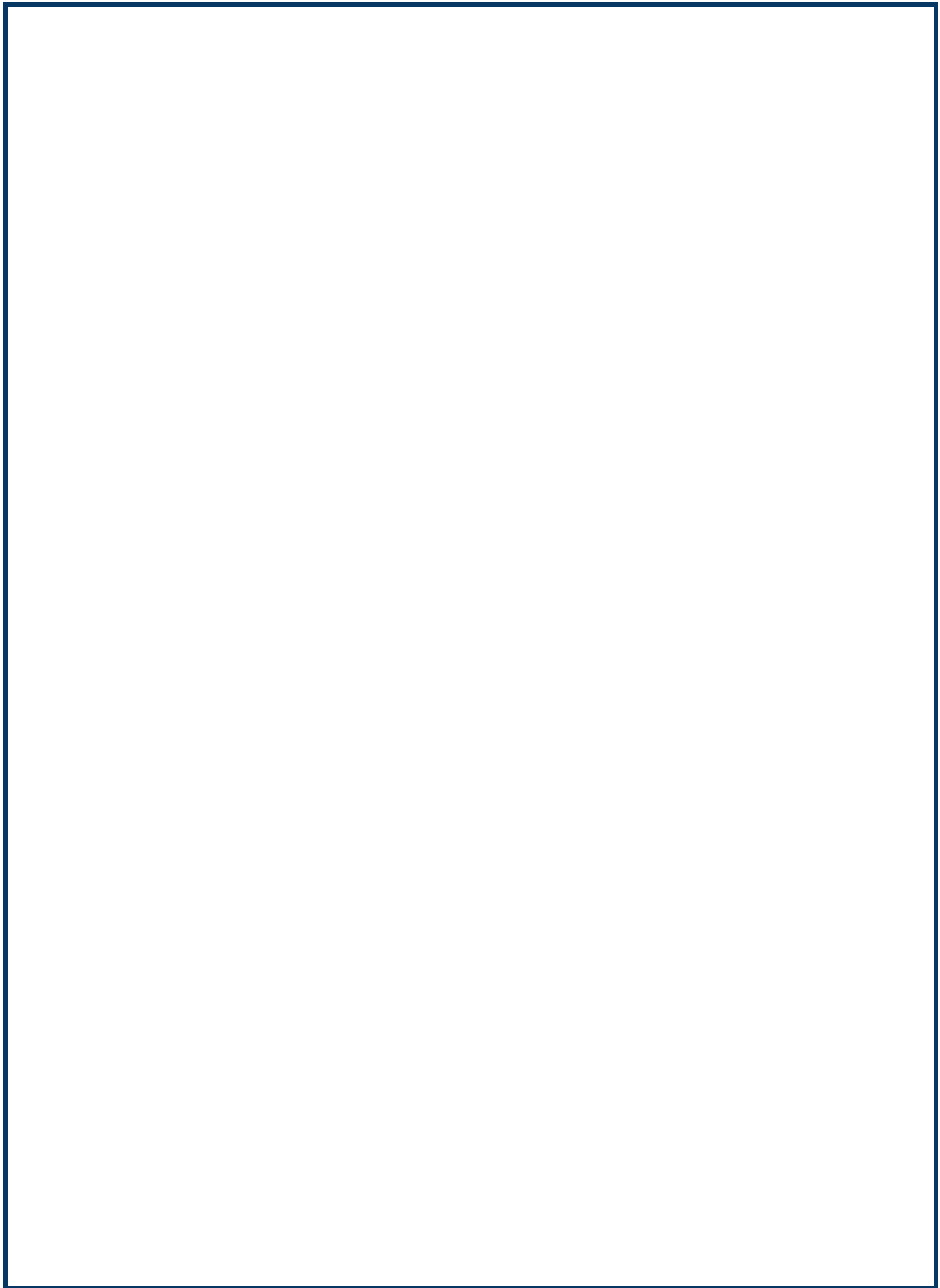
**Raffles!**



Find out more about the band at

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

Belsay School





Belsay School



**CALLING ALL FAMILIES**

**Come & Party at  
Bouncy Church**

**!!!**

**Ponteland Methodist Church**

**breakfast**



**bouncy castle**



**Sunday October 1 at 9a.m.  
"JOY IN NATURE"  
With Magic Interactive Garden**

**crafts**



**lots & lots  
of fun**

**stories**



Any enquiries please  
phone 01669 621347