

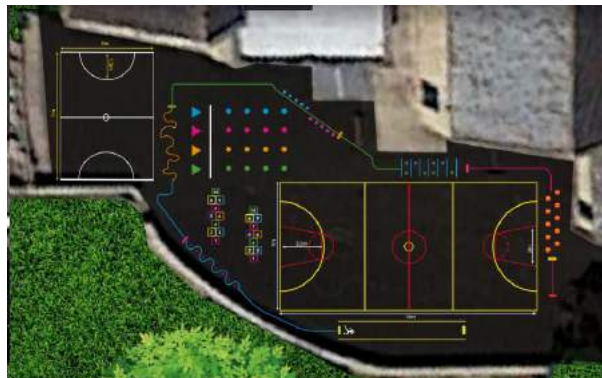
Friday Flyer

19 January 2024

Headteacher Update

Happy Friday! Well this week has definitely been a cold one but sadly there has been no snow, much to the disappointment of many. Despite the cold we have still managed to have a lot of fun and the children with the correct outdoor attire have had the benefit of playing on the field this week.

In addition to our Ofsted Report being issued, I have more good news this week to share with you, although I am sure the children may have already mentioned it. Fingers crossed we will be having our new playground markings installed on Thursday next week, weather permitting. Due to this, I need your support and will be asking that children therefore come down the main drive and along the tree line, the same as when the playground was being resurfaced. In addition to the new markings, the PTA are also going to fund outdoor equipment which will be amazing!



Behind the scenes this week I continue to work with staff to plan all the amazing activities we have coming up in the next few months. Belsay really is an exciting place to be as we continue to develop and enhance our curriculum.

Finally, well done to all our winners this week whether that be through the Outstanding Achievement Awards or for being nominated for Hot Chocolate. You are all amazing!

I hope you all have a warm and restful weekend.

Craig Shaw

Value of the Month - Positivity

Language of the Month - German

Belsay School



Nut Free School...

Please can I remind all parents and carers that we are a Nut Free School here at Belsay as we do have children with severe allergies to them. If you send your child to school with a snack or pack lunch please ensure that the products do not contain nuts.

Thank you for your cooperation with this.

Belsay School



**THIS SCHOOL IS
NUT FREE**



THANK YOU
for keeping our school safe!



| Class | Attendance |
|--------|------------|
| Willow | 95.38 |
| Maple | 99.13 |
| Alder | 98.75 |
| Oak | 98.06 |

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 (below national) |
| 90- 91.9% | Cause for concern |
| 89.9 or below | Persistent Absence Serious Concern |

Did you know?

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...

Dates will be added to this document as the term progresses.

| Spring Term 2024 | | |
|---|---------|--|
| Friday 3rd February | All Day | NSPCC Number Day |
| Tuesday 6th February | | Safer Internet Day |
| Friday 16th February | | School Closes for Half Term |
| Monday 26th February | All Day | Teacher Training Day |
| Tuesday 27th February | 8.45am | School Reopens after Half Term |
| Tuesday 5th March | All Day | World Book Day |
| Wednesday 6th March - Friday 8th March | | Year 3 - Year 5 Residential to Ford Castle |
| Monday 11th March - Tuesday 12th March | PM | Parent Evenings |
| Wednesday 27th March | PM | Oak Class Shakespeare Production |
| Thursday 28th March | | School Closes for Easter Holidays |
| Monday 15th April | 8.45am | School Reopens after the Easter Holidays |
| All dates may be subject to change | | |

Remember you can track our key school events through our website by clicking on the News and Events tab and then School Calendar.

Extra-Curricular Clubs:

Please note that the new club list is below for Spring 1 - more clubs may be added once the term starts.

There have been some year group changes for some of the clubs and this is to allow the coaches to work with various age groups.

Click [here](#) to select your preference

| Day | Activity | Time | Age |
|-----------|------------------------|-----------------|---|
| Monday | Football | 3.20 - 4.00pm | Years 1 - 2 |
| Tuesday | NUF Multi-Sport | 3.20 - 4.15pm | Years 4 - 6 |
| Wednesday | Pele Trust Multi-Sport | 3.20 - 4.15pm | Years 1 - 3 |
| Thursday | Badminton | 3.15 - 4.00pm | Years 5 - 6 (cost) |
| Thursday | Art | 3.20 - 4.00pm | Years 3 - 4 |
| Friday | Band | 8.30 - 9.00am | All band members from last year and children who can play an entire scale are welcome |
| Friday | Choir | 11.45 - 12.15pm | KS2 |

Parking...

Once again, we have had concerns raised about parking along the main road but also people parking on Belsay Bridge.

We know parking is an issue here at Belsay but we have limited options to how we can rectify this. Could I kindly request that we don't try and make turns in the road during pick up times as this is extremely dangerous and that we refrain from parking on the Belsay Bridge road.

Thank you for your cooperation.

Keeping children safe online...



LITTLE REMINDERS OF HOW TO BE KIND ONLINE

ONLINE ABUSE CAN HAVE A SEVERE IMPACT ON PEOPLE'S LIVES AND IS OFTEN TARGETED AT THE MOST VULNERABLE. CYBERBULLYING HAS BEEN SHOWN TO HAVE PSYCHOLOGICAL AND EMOTIONAL IMPACT. IN ORDER FOR US TO DEVELOP EMPATHY FOR OTHERS WE SOMETIMES NEED TO MOVE AWAY FROM FULFILLING OUR OWN NEEDS AND THINK ABOUT THE NEEDS OF OTHERS. THIS IS SOMETIMES MORE CHALLENGING ONLINE BECAUSE WE CANNOT SEE THE PERSON, CONNECT WITH HOW THEY FEEL NOR INTERACT FACE TO FACE.

THIS GUIDE WILL HELP YOU TO BE MORE CAREFUL ONLINE AND IS SUITABLE FOR ANY ENVIRONMENT I.E. GAMING, MESSAGING AND SOCIAL MEDIA. IT WILL HELP YOU TO UNDERSTAND THE IMPORTANCE OF SHOWING KINDNESS AND HOW TO DEVELOP EMPATHY ONLINE.

TOP TIPS FOR EVERYBODY

#WAKEUPWEDNESDAY

UNDERSTAND WHAT 'EMPATHY' IS

EMPATHY IS THE SKILL OF RECOGNISING, UNDERSTANDING AND CARING ABOUT ANOTHER PERSON'S FEELINGS AND TAKING ACTION TO HELP. THIS IS TRICKIER ONLINE BECAUSE RECOGNISING AND IMAGINING HOW ANOTHER PERSON FEELS IS HARD WHEN WE ARE NOT WITH THEM FACE TO FACE. WHEN WE TRY AND UNDERSTAND HOW SOMEONE FEELS THROUGH WORDS ALONE, IT CAN LEAD TO CONFUSION OR A MISUNDERSTANDING.

FEEL SEE AND UNDERSTAND

IF WE IMAGINE OURSELVES IN THE SITUATION OF ANOTHER PERSON, WE TAKE ANOTHER STEP DOWN THE PATH OF EMPATHY. IT DOESN'T MEAN AGREEING WITH THE OTHER PERSON BUT IT MEANS **UNDERSTANDING** HOW THEY FEEL. IF YOU FEEL YOURSELF BECOMING DETACHED AND UNCARING PERHAPS DEVELOP A MENTAL PICTURE OF THEM. SO YOU CAN IMAGINE THEM AS REAL PERSON AND NOT JUST A BUNCH OF WORDS. IF YOU KNOW THE PERSON, CONSIDER A VIDEO CHAT OR VIDEO CALL.

DEVELOP SELF EMPATHY

ALTHOUGH WE TEND TO SHOW THE BEST OF OUR LIVES THROUGH SOCIAL MEDIA, THE REALITY IS WE ARE NOT ALL PERFECT. HAVING **EMPATHY** FOR OTHERS MEANS WE NEED TO ALSO HAVE SELF EMPATHY. IF WE UNDERSTAND THAT WE ARE NOT ALL PERFECT, INCLUDING OURSELVES, WE CAN FIND KINDNESS.

★ OFFER HELP ★

ACCORDING TO DR DAN SEIGEL, A CLINICAL PROFESSOR OF PSYCHIATRY, BEING KIND IS REALLY ABOUT RESPECTING EACH OTHER'S VULNERABILITY AND WANTING TO HELP. SO, WHEN SOMEONE IS SHARING THAT THEY ARE STRUGGLING OR FINDING IT HARD, OFFER HELP, EVEN IF THE HELP IS A **LISTENING** EAR OR SAYING "I CAN UNDERSTAND YOU WOULD FEEL THAT WAY, I'M HERE FOR YOU."

TRY TO ADD VALUE

CONSIDER, BEFORE YOU COMMENT ON A POST OR IMAGE, HOW CAN I HELP THIS PERSON TO LOWER THEIR SADNESS? HOW CAN I ADD SOMETHING TO **IMPROVE** THEIR DISTRESS AND HAPPINESS? SHOWING OTHER PEOPLE'S PAIN AS ENTERTAINMENT AS A WAY TO GET NOTICED OR MORE LIKES DOES NOT ADD VALUE.

BE RESPONSIBLE

THINK TWICE BEFORE YOU ACT. CONSIDER, ARE YOU ACTING ON ANGER, FRUSTRATION OR IN A MOMENT OF JUDGING A SITUATION WITHOUT KNOWING THE **TRUTH**? ONLINE, IT IS EASY NOT TO HAVE ALL THE FACTS AND REACT TO A SITUATION WHICH IS BEING PORTRAYED.

UNDERSTAND THE IMPACT OF YOUR ACTIONS WORDS

COMMENTING ONLINE SOMETIMES MEANS THAT WE DON'T ACTUALLY 'SEE' THE IMPACT OF OUR COMMENTS AND WORDS. THIS MEANS IT CAN BE **EASIER** TO DETACH FROM THE CONSEQUENCES OF OUR ACTIONS. UNKIND COMMENTS DO HAVE CONSEQUENCES AND CAN ADD TO SOMEONE'S DISTRESS AND FEELING ABOUT THEMSELVES.

DISASSOCIATE FROM PACK MENTALITY

ONLINE, IT IS EASY TO GET CAUGHT UP WITH POSTING **NEGATIVE** COMMENTS BECAUSE EVERYONE ELSE SEEMS TO BE. GET COMFORTABLE WITH STANDING OUT, AND NOT GETTING CAUGHT UP POSTING NEGATIVELY BECAUSE EVERYONE ELSE IS. EVEN IF THIS MEANS STANDING ALONE AND REMINDING OTHER PEOPLE THAT THEIR BEHAVIOUR IS UNKIND, YOUR COURAGE COULD SAVE A LIFE.

#BEKIND



**National
Online
Safety**

#WAKEUPWEDNESDAY

MEET OUR EXPERT

THIS GUIDE HAS BEEN WRITTEN BY ANNA BATHURST. ANNA IS PASSIONATE ABOUT PLACING PREVENTION AT THE HEART OF EVERY SCHOOL, INTEGRATING MENTAL WELLBEING WITHIN THE CURRICULUM, SCHOOL CULTURE AND SYSTEMS. SHE IS ALSO A MEMBER OF THE ADVISORY GROUP FOR THE DEPARTMENT FOR EDUCATION ADVISING THEM ON THEIR MENTAL HEALTH GREEN PAPER.



For further info, check out these online resources too

<https://www.themix.org.uk/>

<https://youngminds.org.uk/>

<https://www.mind.org.uk/>

www.nationalonlinesafety.com Twitter - @natonlinesafety Facebook - /NationalOnlineSafety Instagram - @nationalonlinesafety



The week in Willow Class

It has been a very cold week this week, some might say very fitting for learning about polar bears and what they need to survive. Which is exactly what we have been learning about in Willow class. The children have enjoyed the story of The Polar Bear's home and are brilliant at remembering the message behind the story, which is to ensure we take care of our world for the future. You could ask your child what we are doing in school to help towards looking after our world.

As well as thinking about polar bears we have loved playing outside and the children enjoyed collecting the ice in our outdoor area and using it in the mud kitchen. Some children collected small blocks of ice and worked together to try and get them to melt. There were lots of different techniques being used and the discussion the children had around this was lovely to listen to. Some of the ideas they tried were hitting the ice with a stick- but then they realised this was just breaking the ice not melting it, blowing on it- this took a long time, rubbing it in their hands without gloves on, rubbing it in their hands with gloves on and leaving it inside the classroom. The children really enjoyed creating their own experiment and were amazed when I told them what they had done was like being a scientist.



A big thank you to everyone who continues to read at home. Some of our children in Willow class have already read over 50 times. This really does make a big difference to your child's development. I know lots of children read at home but sometimes forget to fill in the yellow reading records. Please try where possible to complete this even if you just write the date and the name of the book, as every time you read this goes towards the bookworm points. The children are very eager to reach their book worm milestones and this is lovely to see.

Miss Houghton



This week in Maple Class

Maple Class have been working hard in Geography, learning about Fair Trade and where food comes from. We recapped our knowledge of the seven continents and identified the country of India as a subcontinent due to its size. We learnt what life is like in the village of Chembakolli and discovered that large amounts of tea grows there. We marked the route that the tea would take to travel from India to England via ship.



In Maths, Year 1 have been comparing objects to 50 and solving tricky mastery problems. Year 2 have worked collaboratively to begin their study of multiplication, finding totals by skip counting amounts in sets .



Miss Dixon



The week in Alder Class

A very cold but fun week in Alder Class with lots going on. We have had lots of fun activities and visitors this week and the snow was an added bonus!

In English we have been focusing on Mount Everest this week and organising lots of different facts into different categories. We then used our knowledge from last week, to create our own non-chronological reports about Mount Everest. We have had a huge push this week on making sure all of our work is our nearest work we are proud of and this was the perfect task to show off our hard work. We not only used all the features of a non-chronological report, but we were also challenged with using adverbs, conjunctions and prepositional phrases. We completed some amazing work that we are so proud of!

Maths this week has been a little bit trickier as we have been learning about different methods to multiply and divide 2 or 3 digit numbers by a 1 digit number. These different methods challenged us to begin with but after using base ten and different manipulatives, we are really strong at this now. We have also introduced fast maths this week which is an extra way to practise our times tables quickly and efficiently. We have enjoyed trying to beat our own high scores.

We have been lucky enough to have a visitor from the British Sign Language to learn different phrases, the alphabet and how to sign our names before discussing the importance of us knowing some sign language and the impact this may have. We really enjoyed this and have been trying to communicate to our friends some different phrases which is great.

Year 4 have qualified to take part in the Northumberland Games Multi Skills final which means we spent our PE session trying out the different challenges in preparation. We discussed how important it is to try our best not only for ourselves but also for our teammates before showing Miss Cruse how great we were at all the challenges.



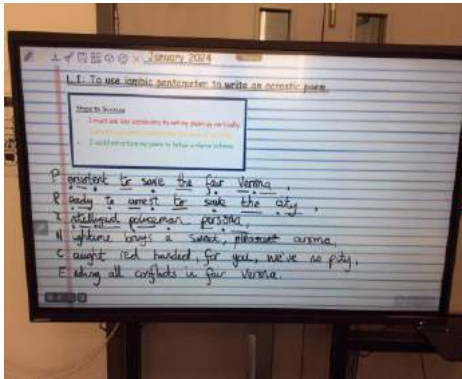


I am so proud of all your hard work in this week Alder Class! I know it can be tiring coming back after a break but you have all shown amazing resilience and positivity which has helped you produce some amazing work. Have an amazing, and warm weekend with lots of rest!

Miss Cruse



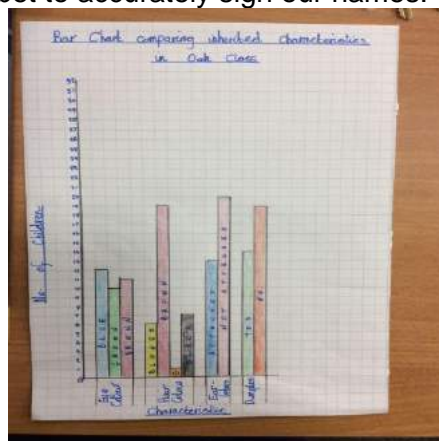
This week in Oak Class



We demonstrated our unfaltering creativity in Literacy this week as we used iambic pentameter and vocabulary knowledge to create our own Shakespearean acrostic poem. We used music skills to clap out our ten beats and add stresses in the necessary points of our poems when performing them.



We welcomed Carly as a guest in our classroom on Thursday and really enjoyed an introduction to B.S.L (British Sign language) and by the end of the session, were all able to use the B.S.L alphabet to accurately sign our names.



In Science, we have been focussing on the Data, Graphs and Tables element of scientific learning to help us with our unit on genetics. We collected data regarding our own characteristics and presented them beautifully in comparative bar charts.

Another great week of fantastic learning, gearing us up for a brilliant weekend. Thank you all so much!

Mr. McLeod