Friday Flyer

26 April 2024

Headteacher Update

You simply blink and the week's have passed you by! Super week in school for a wide range of reasons, none more so than our Year 6 overnight trip to Dukeshouse Wood in Hexham. What a fantastic opportunity for the children who were absolutely incredible! We packed our 24 hours with fun, games, laughter and we even got some sleep. I have no doubt that our Year 3-5 planned residential to the same venue will be a roaring success next academic year.

Elsewhere in school this week the classrooms are buzzing with activity and the children have also been taught about World Earth Day through our Monday assembly with Miss Cruse. We talked about ways in which we can help to be respectable citizens and look after our planet.

Last week I mentioned about getting chickens in school. Well if you bring the children into school in the morning you will have seen that Mr A has been hard at work starting to set up our new home for them. As soon as their home is complete we will be looking to add our new additions.

Finally, it was amazing to see so many girls from KS2 involved this week at a Dance Festival at Dame Allans. The feedback I have received has been unbelievable and apparently the girls smashed their routines! A big thank you to Miss Cruse for pulling this all together but a huge congratulations to our superstar dance squad - Team Belsay has done it again!

The week has ended with our Celebration Assembly and the children were super excited to take part in the first Hot Chocolate of the Summer Term. As always, this is such a hard choice each week as we have so many worthy winners. Well done to everyone and keep giving 100%.

I hope you have a wonderful weekend and that it starts to warm up a little - I find it hard to believe it is May next week.

Craig Shaw
Value of the Month - Confidence
Language of the Month - Portuguese

Dates for the diary…

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

Spring Term 2024		
Thursday 2nd May	9.00am	Willow Class Reading Cafe
Monday 6th May	School closed	May bank holiday
Tuesday 7th May		Willow class vision screening
Monday 13th May	All week	Year 6 SATs
Monday 20th May	9.00am	Alder Class Reading Cafe
Friday 24th May	3.15pm	School closes for half term
Monday 10th June	9.00am	Maple Class Reading Cafe
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

Belsay School

PELE TRUST

Keeping children safe online…

Class	Attendance
Willow	**100**
Maple	**97.58**
Alder	**100**
Oak	**98.57**

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

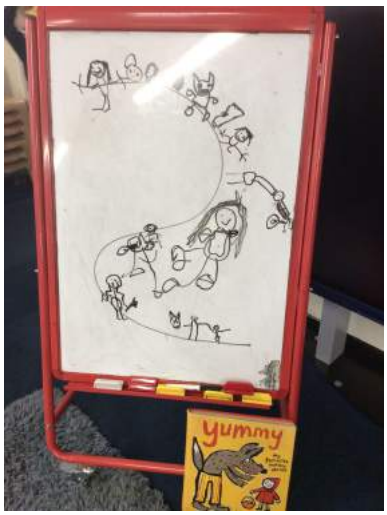
Did you know?

Poor attendance suggests to colleges, universities and employers that these pupils are unreliable.

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.

The week in Willow Class

Another fantastic week for the children in Willow class. This week we have focused on the story Little Red Riding Hood. The children know this story really well and it is lovely to see and hear them retelling the story. We have used our story map to draw pictures to be able to retell the story without words. I was really impressed with the children for this. The highlight of the week for the children has been making sandwiches to make Grannie feel better. Thankfully the Big Bad Wolf stayed away from our classroom and we were able to enjoy them without being tricked. Mrs Moffat was really impressed with the children and how well they followed the step by step instructions to make the sandwich. I wonder if anyone will attempt to make another type of sandwich this weekend. If you do watch out for the Big Bad Wolf!

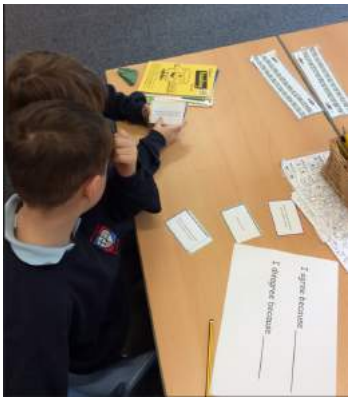


Last week our classroom was filled with chicks and a tortoise and the children had a great time taking care of the animals. This week we had the skeleton of a sheep brought into school. It was really fascinating to explore the bones and to look at the different shapes and sizes of them. We made comparisons to the bones in our body and looked for similarities and differences between us and the sheep.

The week ended with our gardening session with Mrs Martin. The children were able to see the start of the chicken house taking shape and had lots of questions about it. They were brilliant at showing our school value of ‘Respect’ when helping to take care of the gardening area. Well done Team Willow!
I hope everyone has a wonderful weekend. The children have been telling me about the exciting plans they have. Hopefully they have told you about them as well!
Miss Houghton

This week in Maple Class

Maple class had another exciting week in the classroom! In English we have continued looking at our class text *The Lonely Beast* and were introduced to persuasive language. We had insightful discussions and worked collaboratively to persuade each other to get a pet and thought carefully about whether we agreed or disagreed with statements, justifying our answers. At the end of the week we worked hard to create an advert to persuade the Lonely Beast to choose the children's own Beast to be his new friend!



In RE we have been learning about what stories Jewish people tell from the Bible. As a class we used a chant and thought of actions to use to represent what was happening in the story of *David and Goliath*. In Computing, our focus has been giving and acting on instructions in both group work and when using the Bee Bots. We were even able to work out which instructions the Bee Bot had been given without seeing which buttons had been pressed.

Miss Dixon and Miss McNickle

This week in Alder Class

This week has been all about teamwork, creativity and this month's school value of confidence.

We have continued our work on Greek Myths and this week we wrote a character description about Theseus and Mintour before looking at a new Greek Myth. We talked about the different elements that create the story of a myth and how they all follow a similar pattern. This then allowed us to retell the story as a storyboard. Everyone challenged themselves to make this writing as creative as possible and use exciting vocabulary to enhance it.

In Maths we have also started our new topics. Year 3 have been looking at mass and what this means before comparing the mass of different objects. Year 4 have started to look at decimals and have been linking their knowledge of tenths as a fraction to create a decimal.

History was so much fun this week as we began looking at the importance of Gods and Goddesses in Ancient Greece. My favourite part was definitely all the children comparing myself to the different Goddesses. I have been so amazed by how much the children know and how much they go home to learn even more. We then made our own top trump cards for the different Gods and Goddesses to deepen our understanding of their different strengths and weaknesses to help us know how they were important in different scenarios.

Thursday was a very busy day but everyone challenged themselves whilst still having fun. It looks like the boys had an amazing day! They started off by measuring and preparing their wood to create their bridge and worked well as a team. They then spent the rest of the afternoon working on their football skills with Mr A! Well done on all your hard work boys! The KS2 girls were out for the day performing at The North East Primary Dance Festival at Dame Allen's school. They performed their piece before taking part in a workshop and I am bursting with pride at how professional and talented they are! Well done girls! We are so lucky to have such a variety of talents in our class and this week has highlighted just how amazing you all are.

Well done as always on a brilliant week! I am looking forward to all the other exciting events we have coming up this half term. Enjoy your weekend everyone!

Miss Cruse

This week in Oak Class

We are raising a group of Cardio Vascular experts up here in Year 5 and 6! The levels of interest as we continue to work towards an information text has been amazing. From the parts of the heart to their functions, our guys have really thrown themselves into this topic. The Story of Pig Heart Boy has been a great anchor for all of our learning this week too. Like I said last week, it's really nice to remind ourselves that although we have a really quickly maturing group of KS2 learners, these guys are still children who love to absorb themselves in a story.

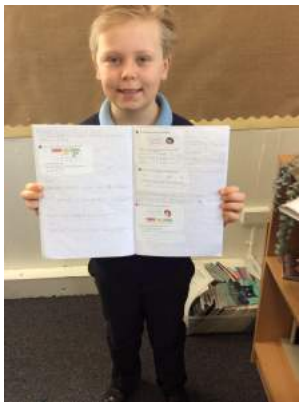
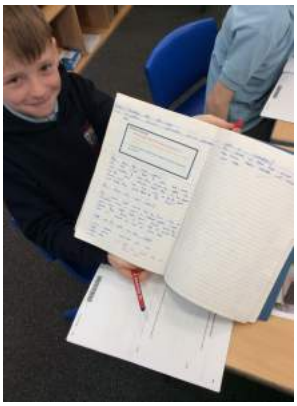
Everyone has been keen to get stuck into our Human Rights unit in History as well, which again, has shown how mature and empathetic this class can be. It was really impressive to see how quickly the children picked up on violations of Human Rights and showed passion for finding solutions to these problems.

Dropping into my inbox this week, were some fantastic spreadsheets. On Tuesdays with Miss Cook and Mr. A, the children have been planning and budgeting for a party as part of their Computing unit. They have shown an ability to manage their money for party hats, DJs and even mocktails! There is no doubt that these parties would be far more fun than the parties I went to when I was 10 or 11!

I know we always are, but I've got to mention once again, how proud we are of our Year 6 guys. Going away to another residential and demonstrating absolutely exemplary behaviour throughout the entire 24 hours was another amazing effort. The reports coming back from Mr. Shaw and Miss Houghton only confirmed what we already know. What a great bunch of kids we have!

(There's SATs stuff happening too…but we're just chipping away at that in the background 🙂)

As always, have an awesome weekend everyone!

Mr. McLeod

Belsay School

PELE TRUST

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2024

BELSAY DAYCARE

OPEN AFTERNOON

TOMBOLA

CRAFTS & GAMES

CONNECT WITH STAFF

& SHARE YOUR IDEAS

AGM FROM 1PM.

SNACKS & DRINKS

OPEN TO ALL!

JOIN US ON SATURDAY 11TH MAY

12 NOON - 2PM

ALL CHILDREN & PARENTS, PROSPECTIVE FAMILIES & MEMBERS WELCOME!

Belsay School

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