

# Friday Flyer

7 June 2024

## Headteacher Update

Welcome back, I hope you have all had a lovely half term. It feels like we have never been away this week as there has been a lot going on in school and the children have come back fully focused and raring to go.

Since returning on Monday we have already been fully immersed in the academic side of school and I could not be more proud of the children and staff. Firstly, we have our Year 4 cohort take part in their multiplication checks and I have every faith that they have done incredibly well. Also this week, Mr McLeod and Miss Dixon have attended a moderation meeting for writing which resulted in very positive outcomes. This highlights the strengths of our school, the hard work of our children and staff, as well as the strides we have made forward in the last 18 months. Well done to everyone!

In addition to the academic side of school we have had all our clubs up and running this week and it is brilliant to see just how many children want to attend. If you want your child to attend any of the clubs please make sure you speak to the office.

On Thursday we had a group of Year 5 and 6 children take part in a Quad Kids Athletics event at Ponteland High School. We are not sure of our results at this time but with our monthly value of resilience, I have no doubt the children gave 100%.

Could I please remind you that you may want to start thinking about uniforms for September as this can take a while to arrive. We now have the option of Emblematic or Be Uniform so make sure you find the best deals. The PTA is also hoping to have a uniform table available at our Summer Fair, more details will be shared in due course, in the meantime if you would like to donate any uniform that no longer fits then please drop it off at the office.

It was great to attend the PTA AGM on Tuesday night as it really was interesting to hear about all the amazing opportunities they deliver to support our school. Without such proactive parents and carers we would not have half the fun events that are currently in the calendar. If you would like to help out with our PTA then please just get in contact. You don't need to give up much time but even contributing ideas would be fantastic.

In other news this week...

Some of you may be aware that Miss Cruse will be reducing her hours in September and working 3 days a week. I am pleased to announce that we have appointed Mrs Aynsley to work alongside her in Alder Class. Our children have already met Mrs Aynsley so I anticipate



a smooth transition.

Furthermore, linked to staff, I am sure you would like to join me in congratulating Miss Dixon, who got engaged over the half term holidays. We are all very excited to hear about the wedding plans!

Finally this week, we have celebrated our successes in assembly and also completed our first Hot Chocolate of the half term. Well done to everyone for their persistent hard work, it is really paying off.

So as you can see, it has been very busy and we are only one week in but life would be boring if it was dull!

I hope you have a marvellous weekend and I will look forward to seeing all of the children on Monday morning.

**Craig Shaw**

*Value of the Month - Resilience*

*Language of the Month - Finnish*

### **PTA - Non Uniform Days**

In order to raise prizes for the Summer Fair we are asking that you support our non uniform days.

**Friday 14th June - A bottle**

**Friday - 21st June - Tomola items**

Thank you for your support as always as these events are invaluable for our school.





### Dates for the diary...

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

<b>Spring Term 2024</b>		
Wednesday 12th June	Morning	Year 6 Basketball Tournament
Thursday 13th June	Morning	Year 3/4 Quad Kids Athletics
Friday 14th June	All Day	Non Uniform Day
Monday 17th June	9.00am	Maple Class Reading Cafe
Friday 21st June	All Day	Non Uniform Day
Wednesday 3rd July	Afternoon	Sports Day
Thursday 4th July	All day	Transition Day
Friday 5th July	5:30pm	Night at the Museum
Tuesday 9th July	3.15pm	PTA Summer Fair
Wednesday 17th July	All day	Belsay Hall Visit - Whole School
Thursday 18th July	9am	Year 6 Leavers Service
Thursday 18th July		Willow class party
Friday 19th July	1.15pm	School Closes for Summer
<b>All dates may be subject to change</b>		



# Keeping children safe online...

All The National College, our WakeUpWednesday public engagement and equip parents, carers and educators with the confidence and practical skills to be able to have informed and appropriate conversations with children about online safety, mental health and wellbeing, and climate change. Formerly delivered by National Online Safety, these guides now address wider topics and themes. For further guides, hints and tips, please visit [nationalcollege.com](https://nationalcollege.com).

## What Parents & Educators Need to Know about

# POP-UP ADS

**WARN**

### WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

Pop-up advertisements have been a staple of the internet since they were first introduced in the late 1990s. This form of advertising causes a small window or banner to appear in the foreground while someone is browsing a website. Although these adverts are mostly irritating for most people, pop-ups can present more severe risks to younger users.

#### DECEPTIVE TACTICS

Children especially don't understand that adverts (including pop-ups) are designed to sell a product – and aren't always the best or a legitimate feature of a site and an advertisement. Video games, for example, can be full of pop-up ads that tempt users into spending money, yet they might take the form of a mini-game or extra level.

#### INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

While some adverts are targeted based on a user's interests and activity online, they don't always fit the scene. This means that children may occasionally be exposed to ads for age-inappropriate goods or services such as tobacco products, alcohol and gambling sites.

#### MALWARE RISK

Most pop-ups from reputable advertisers are safe. However, in some cases, pop-ups can lead you into downloading malware – whether it's a virus or spyware that's installed on your device, allowing them to access your sensitive data. It can be difficult to know if malware has been installed on your device, so your best option is to avoid interacting with these pop-up advertisements. Be wary of sites that suddenly bombard you with ads or try to prevent you from leaving.

#### PRIVACY RISK

Many app and game developers will collect their users' personal data, such as their name, address, email address, geo-location, information, unique personal identifiers, phone and payment information. If a child clicks on an illegitimate pop-up forced with malware, all this information could be put at risk.

#### RACKING UP BILLS

If a child has access to a payment card on their device – be it a smartphone, laptop, or tablet – they could very easily rack up a massive bill by interacting with pop-up adverts and buying products shown to them. Try to keep a close eye on their spending.

#### BEHAVIOURAL IMPACT

Research has found that pop-up ads can have an impact on children's behaviour. Some of these adverts use targeted offers to take advantage of children's developmental vulnerabilities, impulsivity or irrationality. This approach may cause a child's need to shut themselves away from screens, for example, if they begin wanting their parents to buy a specific product for them.

## Advice for Parents & Educators

#### START A CONVERSATION

It's important to have regular conversations with children about online advertising so that they understand the risks of interacting with pop-ups. For example, if a child asks for a product which has been advertised to them online, ask them why they want it and how they found it. This will present an opportunity to talk to your child through the tactics used in online marketing.

#### SPOT THE SIGNS

If you're concerned that a child may be following pop-up ads to make online purchases or viewing content that could be harmful, it's important to be able to spot the signs. One of the other major red flags of these adverts, children who interact with them regularly may show signs of distraction, irritability and an increasingly restricted diet.

#### MONITOR CONTENT

It can often be difficult to spot when a pop-up advert is malicious – even more so for impressionable younger users. It's important to monitor the content they're consuming to prevent them from clicking on something dangerous. If a pop-up ad seems too good to be true – promising a free trial, for example – it probably is.

#### PRIVACY SETTINGS

Most modern devices have privacy settings that let you limit the amount of advertising a child is subjected to while using apps or browsing the internet. It's a good idea to speak to teachers about disabling ads and apps with advertising, as well as adjusting digital privacy settings on any educational technology they use.

#### LIMIT SPENDING

Try to stay aware of what children are spending and covers that payment details aren't linked to or saved on the gaming platform that they use. Most video games and browser-enabled devices have settings that can help you manage what children can or cannot purchase online.

#### CUT DOWN ON SCREEN TIME

When the prevalence of pop-up ads (which can appear in everything from social media and games to internet-connected toys and games), it might be beneficial to limit the time children spend on digital devices to curb their exposure to digital advertising.

#### Meet Our Expert

Carly Page is an experienced technology writer with more than 10 years in the industry. Previously the editor of TechBehindTheBlog, she is now a freelance technology journalist, editor and content strategist who writes for Forbes, TechRadar and Wired, among others.



Source: See full reference list on guide page at: <https://nationalcollege.com/guides/pop-ups>



Class	Attendance
Willow	88.89
Maple	100
Alder	100
Oak	97.04

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](#).



## This week in Willow Class

What a fantastic half term break everyone seems to have had. We loved show and tell on Monday and having the chance to hear from everyone about the lovely family time they had. Willow class has worked very hard this week especially with our number work. We have made number pairs to 10, wrote them as a sum and then practised telling a friend the number pairs we need, to help us to remember more. I was really impressed with all of the children and it was wonderful to see them so confident to tell each other the number facts.

Before the holidays the children were eager to explore the invention shed again, however we ran out of time. During our focus task time this week we spent time in the invention shed making lots of wonderful creations. My personal favourite was the computer Magnus made, however he said he couldn't complete any of my important jobs on it because 'it's not that kind of computer,'. It was great to see the children thinking carefully about the items they wanted to use and they really put our plan, do, review method from Design Technology to good use. Well done everyone!



This morning we enjoyed a special musical treat. Mr Grant came into school and played the pipes alongside Miss Wigham who played her violin. It was a lovely moment for us to listen to and we really enjoyed it. Lots of the children were eager to come home and ask if they could start to learn how to play an instrument!

Next week we will welcome our new Reception friends into our class. It doesn't seem like it has been a year since these children who are now in Willow class, were visiting for the first time, and yet we are now in our final half term of the year together. Time really does fly when you are having fun! I know the children will be a great help with supporting the younger children and we are looking forward to seeing our friends from preschool.

Have a lovely weekend!

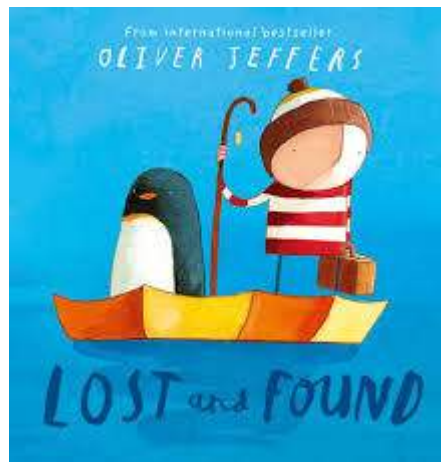
**Miss Houghton**



### This week in Maple Class

Maple Class had a brilliant first week back after the half term holiday! It was lovely to see the children share photographs of the places they had been and discuss what they'd enjoyed doing.

In English, we began our study of the new class text *Lost and found*. We made predictions about the story, clarified new vocabulary and enjoyed reading about the friendship between the two main characters. We thought of lots of interesting adjectives to describe the penguin from the text and made lost posters by writing careful descriptions of him. Year 1 worked hard to join sentences using 'and' whilst Year 2 challenged themselves to use a variety of subordinating conjunctions. We look forward to innovating the story next week and writing our own versions inspired by the plot.



In Science, we started the plants topic of our Biology unit and went outdoors to explore the school grounds to see which plants and flowers grow in our environment. We discovered lots of interesting new flowers and also had time for a minibeast hunt! We enjoyed looking closely at minibeasts and where they like to live. We found they enjoy living in microhabitats and identified many creatures under logs and stones, in leaf piles, trees, bushes and grass.



Belsay School



**Miss Dixon**



### This week in Alder Class

A brilliant and busy first week back and I am so proud of all the children and the resilience they have shown this week. We had our Year 4 multiplication test this week and it was great to see everyone supporting and encouraging each other. I am so so proud of every single member of Alder Class this week and it was great to celebrate all your hard work over the last few weeks.

We have been continuing our work on Ancient Greece and we began looking at where and why Ancient Greece exported and imported items and why this was independent to them. Lots of us were able to challenge ourselves and compare this to other parts of history and could start to make links in their learning which is incredible.

In English, we have started to focus on poetry and in particular acrostic poems. We began the week by looking at rhyming as a feature of poetry before planning and then writing our own acrostic poems about Ancient Greek Gods. We all included similes, alliteration, rhyming, adjectives and expanded noun phrases. We then had the opportunity to perform some of our work which showed great pride and confidence.

We have also been super lucky this week and it has been our turn to look after our school chickens. We decided to go out as a whole class on Thursday and look after the chickens and our gardening area. Everyone worked well as a team and we managed to collect 3 eggs! We have started to plan ideas of how we would like to use the eggs we collect next time as it would be great to do some baking and cooking as a class.





As always, well done on a brilliant week Alder Class. I have enjoyed hearing all about how you spent your week off and I can't wait to continue supporting you to achieve excellence and make amazing progress as well enjoying school life and creating brilliant memories. Have a lovely weekend and see you all on Monday for another brilliant week.

**Miss Cruse**



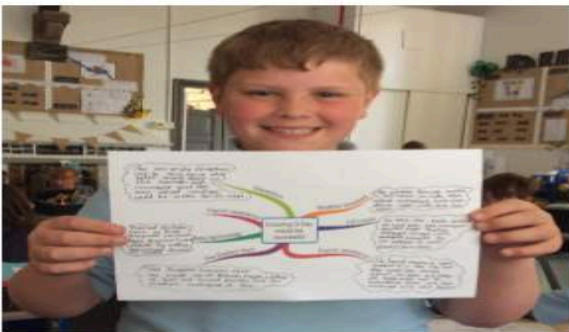
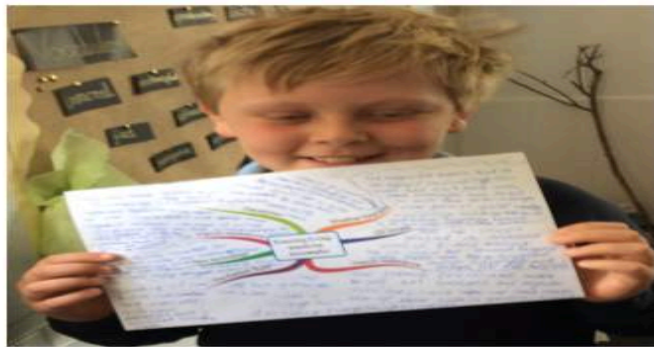
## This week in Oak Class

Well, how awesome it is to be back in Belsay! I have of course missed all of our fabulous school community, but I cannot put into words how much I have missed our fabulous children and how happy I was to see them this morning. Mornings like Thursday morning really remind you of why we do this job. However, I can not go any further without extending huge and endless thanks to all of the team who jumped in to cover me on my paternity leave. Judging by all the evidence and work that the children have produced, it looks like they have had a brilliant couple of weeks.

Yesterday, we focussed on the significance of D-Day to acknowledge the 80th anniversary of the landings and what they mean for our lives today. What was tremendous to see was just how much knowledge our guys had already had on the subject and just how keen they were to share it. Brilliant.

We have been focussing on rounding off our English unit on Pig Heart Boy. As much as it is brilliant to look back and reflect on the brilliant pieces of work we have done around this text, there is an element of sadness about this unit ending. I can not recall a class who have absorbed themselves in a text with so much interest. As I have previously posted pieces of work on here, I am sure you will agree, the children have shown themselves to be incredible independent learners throughout this unit and I am incredibly proud of them (as always!)

Finally, another massive thank you to all of you for all of your support before, during and after my paternity leave. Without parental help, this job is impossible and you guys make this job at Belsay an absolute joy! Have a great weekend everybody!



Belsay School



# In-person Learning Workshops

## Northumberland

### Are you a parent or carer living in Northumberland?

As part of the Autism Central programme, Daisy Chain are providing free learning workshops across Northumberland. We will look at how sensory differences impact autistic people.

This workshop is aimed at the parents and carers of school-aged children.

Our sessions are for parents and carers of children who display traits associated with, or have a diagnosis of, a neurodevelopmental condition including: autism, sensory processing, attention deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD), or Foetal alcohol spectrum disorder (FASD). A diagnosis is not needed.

Places must be booked: <https://daisychainproject.co.uk/product/in-person-learning-workshops-northumberland/>

[support@daisychainproject.co.uk](mailto:support@daisychainproject.co.uk) / 01642 378461

### UPCOMING SESSIONS

#### June 2024

14th June 2024 / 10am-12pm / Blyth West Family Hub, Devonworth Place, Blyth, NE245AQ

21st June 2024 / 12pm-2pm / Berwick Family Hub, Ladywell Place, Tweedmouth, Berwick-upon-Tweed, TD152AE

#### July 2024

5th July 2024 / 10am-12pm / Hexham Family Hub, Beaufront Ave, Hexham, NE461JD

12th July 2024 / 10am-12pm / Ashington Family Hub, Alexandra Road, Ashington, NE639EF

Belsay School



## Autism Family Drop In Sessions



Do you have a child aged 0-19 years? Come along for a cuppa and chat and to meet other parents. No diagnosis needed!

Join us on:

Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> June 2024 1-3pm

Hexham Family Hub - Hexham First School, Beaufront Avenue, NE46 1JD

Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> June 2024 1-3pm

Haltwhistle Family Hub - Haltwhistle Primary Academy, Park Avenue, NE49 9BA


Monday 17<sup>th</sup> June 2024 1-3pm

Prudhoe Family Hub - Broomhouse Lane, NE42 5FT

Facilitators - [robyn.robinson@northumberland.gov.uk](mailto:robyn.robinson@northumberland.gov.uk) and [adelle.hicks@northumberland.gov.uk](mailto:adelle.hicks@northumberland.gov.uk)

Inclusive Education Services



**Our people.** The heart of Northumberland 

**Our vision:** One council that works for everyone **Our values:** Residents first, Excellence and quality, Respect, Keeping our communities safe and well