



Friday Flyer

14 June 2024

Headteacher Update

Happy Friday everyone! We are ticking these weeks off at an unbelievable speed. Firstly this week I would like to say a big well done to all our children in Year 1 who have been doing their special jobs for Miss Dixon linked to phonics. They have all tried so hard with their reading and it is amazing to see just how far they have come already - you are definitely ready for Year 2.



Also this week, I had the pleasure of attending the annual Cambo football tournament on Saturday afternoon. The sun was shining and the view across the fields were incredible, the perfect setting for dazzling football. All I can say is that it was a pity Gareth Southgate wasn't watching as I guarantee we were far more entertaining than watching England! The boys played against teams from Cambo, Longhorsley and Tritlington, winning all the games including the final 3-0. Come on Team Belsay!!

Today has been non-uniform so thank you for all your donations, these will make a big difference to the Summer Fair and ultimately the school. Please remember that if you can give any time to help support the PTA at events, even 30 minutes, it would be much appreciated by us all.

Over the last month or so we have started to really focus on attendance, particularly from a class point of view. I was so pleased this week to be able to reward both Maple and Alder Class who achieved 100% last week. Well done to both classes, brilliant achievement and makes all the difference to your overall outcomes in school.

Finally, the week has been completed with our now customary Celebration Assembly and Hot Chocolate. Once again, a big well done to all our winners, you are all doing an amazing job so keep working hard.

I hope you all have a wonderful weekend and we look forward to seeing you on Monday for Bee Week.

Craig Shaw

Value of the Month - Resilience



Language of the Month - Finnish

PTA - Non Uniform Day

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

Friday - 21st June - Tombola 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.

Spring Term 2024		
Monday 17th June	9.00am	Maple Class Reading Cafe
Friday 21st June	All Day	Non Uniform Day
Monday 1st July	9am - 12pm	Alder Class Football Tournament
Wednesday 3rd July	Afternoon	Sports Day
Thursday 4th July	All day	Transition Day Y6 Transition to PHS
Friday 5th July	All day 5:30pm	Y6 Transition to PHS Night at the Museum
Monday 8th July	All Day	Alder Class Ancient Greek Day
Tuesday 9th July	3.15pm	PTA Summer Fair
Tuesday 16th July	9.15am - 10.15am	Belsay Showcase
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
Monday 2nd September		Training Day
Tuesday 3rd September		School resumes
All dates may be subject to change		

I was very happy this week when a large box of books arrived in school. You may remember a few weeks ago we all took part in the Sam Thompson 1 million steps challenge. We raised an unbelievable amount of money and as a result we were entered into a prize draw. The prize was we received all of these lovely books. All classes have benefited from new books being added to the class libraries. None of this would be possible without the generosity of all of the families who contributed towards this. Thank you as always for your support. A big thank you to Mrs Moffat who organised this event. I am a very thankful English lead and look forward to seeing the children enjoying reading these wonderful books!



Miss Houghton

Night at the Museum

There is still time to sign up to our Night at the Museum event on the 5th of July. We have had a fantastic response so far, we are positive this will be a night to remember.

SchoolGrid is open for payment for those who still want to sign up and you should have received a message from us this week with a timetable for the evening along with a link to place your [breakfast order](#), please complete this prior to the 28th of June if you haven't already done so.

We have had a few enquiries about attending the evening but not staying over, this is not a problem however we would still require payment of £10 per head. You would of course be welcome to come back to join us for breakfast the next day.

Miss Whitehouse

Belsay School



Keeping children safe online



At National Online Safety, we believe in empowering parents, carers and trusted adults with the information to hold an informed conversation about online safety with their children, should they feel it is needed. This guide focuses on one of many issues which we believe trusted adults should be aware of. Please visit www.nationalonlinesafety.com for further guides, hints and tips for adults.

12 Top Tips for BUILDING CYBER RESILIENCE AT HOME

As a society, we're increasingly using technology and tech services in the home. Digital assistants which can adjust the heating or turn lights on and off; streaming services for shows and movies on demand; games consoles; smart speakers; phones; laptops ... the list goes on. As we introduce each new gizmo to our homes, however, we increase the level of threat from cyber criminals. It's essential, therefore, that we learn to become more cyber resilient in relation to the devices and digital services that the people in our household use.

WHAT IS 'CYBER RESILIENCE'?

Cyber resilience focuses on three key areas: reducing the likelihood of a cyber attack gaining access to our accounts, devices or data; reducing the potential impact of a cyber incident; and making the recovery from a cyber attack easier, should we ever fall victim to one.

1. PASSWORDS: LONGER AND LESS PREDICTABLE

The longer, less common and predictable a password is, the more difficult it becomes for cyber criminals to crack. The National Cyber Security Centre's 'three random words' guidelines are ideal for creating a long password which is easy to remember but hard to guess.

2. AVOID RE-USING PASSWORDS

When you use the same password across different logins, your cyber resilience is only as strong as the security of the weakest site or service you've signed up for. If cyber criminals gain access to your username and password for one site or service, they'll definitely try them on others.

3. USE A PASSWORD MANAGER

A good way to juggle different passwords for every site or service you use is to have a password manager. This software stores all your passwords for you, so you simply need to remember the master password. LastPass, Dashlane, Password and Keeper are all excellent password managers.

4. BACK UP YOUR DATA

Keep a copy of your data using OneDrive, Google Drive or another reputable cloud-based storage solution. If it's extremely important or sensitive information, you could even decide to keep more than one back-up version – by saving it to a removable USB drive or similar device, for example.

5. ENABLE MULTI-FACTOR AUTHENTICATION (MFA)

Multi-factor authentication is where you need access to your phone (to receive a code, for example) or another source to confirm your identity. This makes it far more difficult for cyber criminals to gain entry to your accounts and your data, even if they do manage to get your username and password.

6. CHOOSE RECOVERY QUESTIONS WISELY

Some services let you set 'recovery questions' – such as your birthplace or a pet's name – in case you forget your password. Take care not to use information you might have mentioned (or are likely to in future) on social media. More unpredictable answers make cyber criminals' task far harder.

7. SET UP SECONDARY ACCOUNTS

Some services provide the facility to add secondary accounts, phone numbers and so on to help with potentially recovering your account. Make sure you set these up: they'll be vital if you're having trouble logging in or if you're trying to take back control of your account after a cyber attack.

12. STAY SCEPTICAL

Cyber criminals commonly use various methods, including emails, text messages and social media posts. Be cautious of any messages or posts that are out of the ordinary, offer something too good to be true or emphasise urgency – even if they appear to come from someone you know.

11. KEEP HOME DEVICES UPDATED

Download official software updates for your household's mobile phones, laptops, consoles and other internet-enabled devices regularly. Security improvements and fixes are a key feature of these updates – so by ensuring each device is running the latest version, you're making them more secure.

10. CHANGE DEFAULT IOT PASSWORDS

Devices from the 'Internet of Things' (IoT), such as 'smart' home appliances, are often supplied with default passwords. This makes them quicker to set up, but also less secure – criminals can identify these standard passwords more easily, so change them on your IoT devices as soon as possible.

9. CHECK FOR BREACHES

You can check if your personal information has been involved in any known data breaches by entering your email address at www.haveibeenpwned.com (yes, that spelling is correct!). It's useful if you're worried about a possible attack – or simply as motivation to review your account security.

8. KEEP HAVING FUN WITH TECH

Consider our tips in relation to the gadgets and online services your household uses. Protect yourself and your family, and don't let the bad guys win: devices are not only integral to modern life but also a lot of fun – so as long as you keep safety and security in mind, don't stop enjoying your tech.



Class	Attendance
Willow	95.37
Maple	97.39
Alder	96.47
Oak	97.33

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?

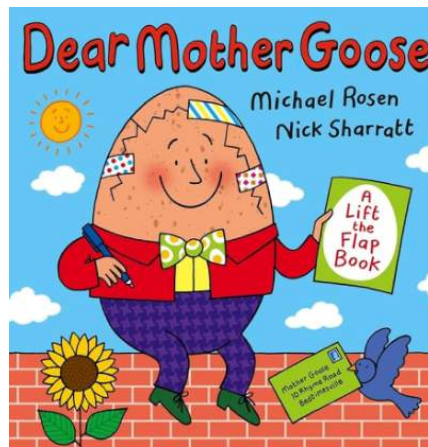
Poor attendance suggests to colleges, universities and employers that these pupils are unreliable.

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

This week we have enjoyed reading our new class book *Dear Mother Goose*. This is a story that incorporates letter writing with traditional nursery rhymes. The children have loved singing the songs together and writing lots of letters. We have been brilliant at giving out advice to the characters in the story, linked to the problems they have been having. We recommended that Humpty Dumpty sit in an egg cup rather than sitting on a wall, we told Incy Wincy to stay in the bathroom rather than climbing the drain pipes and we told Jack to be careful when jumping over candle sticks and recommended that he walk around them not over them. Some great advice. Following on from the theme of letter writing, we decided to write a letter to Miss Dixon to ask her some questions about Year 1.



We also enjoyed a transition morning with Year 1 this week and it was great to meet our new friends who we will share a class with in September. It was lovely to see the children playing together, but most of all it was great to see the children in the current Year 1 class telling Willow class all about the fun they will have in Year 1.

As well as our transition with Year 1 we have also welcomed the new Reception children into our class this week. The children were so excited to see their friends from preschool, although I am not quite sure where the year has gone. It doesn't seem like it was that long ago that the current Reception children were coming for a visit to the class. I was really proud of Willow class and seeing them helping the younger children really was fantastic!

You would think this would be enough for one week, however we know there is a special day coming up on Sunday. We have been learning about Father's day and how this is a time to celebrate with our Dad, Grandad and Uncle, showing we are thankful for the male role models in our life. We really enjoyed making a card for you and we hope you have the chance to enjoy some lovely family time on Sunday. Lots of the children have told me they are going to make breakfast in bed for their Dad, or that they will help out on the farm for the day so that their Dad can have a rest. Whatever you choose to do I hope it is something lovely.

Well done Willow class for another amazing week. You are all superstars. Let's try hard to achieve 100 percent attendance next week. I know we can do it!

Miss Houghton



This week in Maple Class

It has been a busy week in Maple Class as Year 1 have been working hard in Phonics in preparation for their Phonics Screening Check. The children have made magnificent progress this year and are very proud of their achievements in reading. In English, we sequenced the story of *Lost and Found* to make story maps, understanding that stories have a beginning, a middle and an ending. We discussed what occurs during each stage of the story and worked with partners to retell it using interesting adjectives, verbs and similes. We then used our maps as inspiration to innovate *Lost and Found* to invent a new version. We changed the main characters, the setting and parts of the plot to create our own story plans based on a lost animal from another part of the world.



In Maths, Year 1 began their measuring unit and have been learning about mass and capacity. We went outdoors to measure and compare the liquid capacity of different containers with the help of Miss McNickle and Mrs Hayes. Year 2 have been learning how to tell the time quarter past and quarter to and some of us have even begun to tell the time to the nearest five minutes!





This week in Alder Class

A very busy and active week in Alder Class this week and it has been great to get outside and take advantage of the sun we have had. We had lots of exciting things happening in school and it has been great to see everyone show off just how amazing they are.

This week in English we have been continuing our poetry and this week the main focus was on Haiku poems. We began the week by looking at the different features of Haiku poems and exploring how they would be performed. We then linked this to all our Ancient Greece knowledge by writing our own poems about Ancient Greece. Later on in the week we performed our amazing work to the class as we were so proud of our work. Some of us then took our learning outside on Thursday morning to use our Forest School area as inspiration to support us writing and performing our own Haiku poems about our area.

In Maths we have continued learning about time and it has been great to use the clocks this week to support our learning and delve into lots of practical learning. We have started to look at telling the time in minutes and also converting between a digital clock and an analogue clock.

In Science we have been continuing our work on sound and this week we were investigating how pitch changes and it was great to get lots of different equipment out to experiment what impacts pitch! We then began to consider what questions we could ask to deepen our learning.

Finally, a highlight of this week was some of us getting to spend the morning at Darras Hall Primary School taking part in an athletics competition! Everyone showed great teamwork and resilience at a tough competition and they should be really proud!



Belsay School



Well done on a brilliant week Alder Class. Continue challenging yourself and showing your amazing resilience. Enjoy your weekend and see you all for another busy week next week.

Miss Cruse and Miss Cook



This week in Oak Class

As we motor on towards the summer, we have so much to squeeze into such a short space of time. BUT, as is the way of Oak Class, that is not going to stop us powering through and packing our days with fun filled learning!

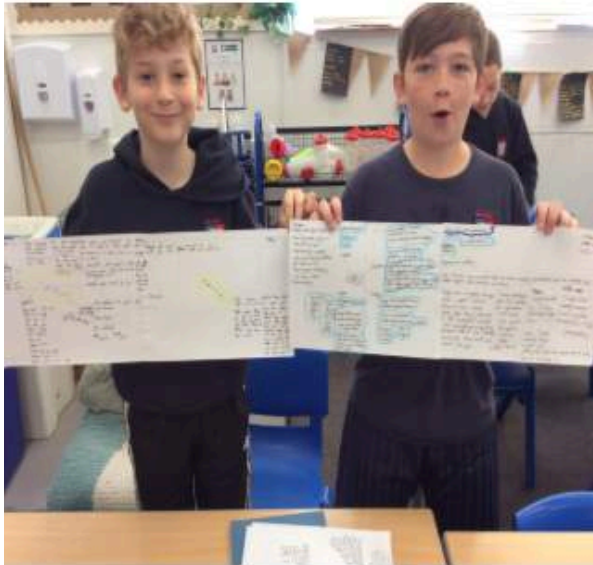
A new book has arrived and it's awesome! "Can You See Me?" follows the story of Tally, an 11 year old girl with autism who faces the biggest battle of her life as she gets ready to start high school. Obviously, this is pretty relevant to quite a lot of us at the moment but the sensitivity and inquisition that we have approached our new text with has been hugely admirable. As we have begun to study Tally, we have produced some fantastic mind maps on her troubles and strengths and have used these brilliantly to produce some wonderfully descriptive character descriptions. It is clear already that this text is going to produce some great pieces of writing. Fantastic, considering that this is our last chance to show off our skills this year in English!

Our Leavers' hoodies have arrived, which not only look fantastic, they have also prompted this teacher to begin to consider what we should be doing for our Leavers' service this year! I'd love to hear from as many of you as possible to discuss what you would like to see and how we can fit all of our children's wonderful Belsay stories into this prestigious event.

We have also got Bee Week to think about next week. As a newcomer to the trust, it has been fascinating to learn of all of the amazing things we get through in this week and I can not wait to "bee" a part of it!

With our French trip fast approaching, I know there will be lots of butterflies in tummies to contend with, along with a lot of excitement too. Just so you all know, I am here to help all of you as we approach the day of departure, parents and children alike. It is a massive thing to do as a 10 or 11 year old and I'm already so proud of how these guys are approaching the days leading up to this experience.

As always, Team Oak, have a wonderful weekend and you all know where I am if you need me!



Mr McLeod

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 / 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 4th June 2024 1-3pm

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

Wednesday 12th June 2024 1-3pm

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


Monday 17th June 2024 1-3pm

Prudhoe Family Hub - Broomhouse Lane, NE42 5FT

Facilitators - robyn.robinson@northumberland.gov.uk and 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