



Friday Flyer

24 May 2024

Headteacher Update

In the words of Fred Flintstone "Yabba-Dabba-Doo!" We have made it to the end of another busy half term and I simply can't believe we only have 7 weeks left of school for this academic year.

We have had a great week in school which has seen so much activity in all the year groups, it really is fantastic to be a part of it all. Not wanting to take the spotlight away from Maple Class but it was wonderful to see and hear about the positive impact the Link Project has had with them as they met up with a school from Byker at the Laing Art Gallery. I know some children were very emotional leaving as they had such a good day and met some new friends.

Today we have Alder Class out on a trip linked to their topic around Ancient Greece. Once again, a truly brilliant opportunity that helps cement the learning, allowing the children to know more and remember more. We are very proud of our curriculum and as we move into the next academic year we will continue to improve it and provide more opportunities like this as it is so important for our children.

In other news this week, we are delighted to feature once again in the Pont News & Views, thanks to our amazing fundraising effort during Cash for Kids. Due to this we have also just found out that we have won, courtesy of publisher [Simon & Schuster Children's Books](#), a Library Pack of 20 books. Once again, thank you for such an amazing effort and helping to make Belsay stand out from the rest!

Our 'Night at the Museum' has had a very positive response so thank you to everyone who has signed up. More information will be shared with you after half term but so far we have approximately 120 parents and children so I have a feeling it is going to be a night to remember!

Congratulations to our weekly Hot Chocolate winners and our Outstanding Achievement nominations this week. We have had such a variety of impressive awards this half term and it is also fabulous to see pictures now being sent in for accomplishments out of school.

As we embark on our half term break, I hope that you all have a relaxing and well earned rest. I look forward to seeing you back in school on Monday 3rd June for our final half term.

Craig Shaw

Value of the Month - Honesty

Language of the Month - Danish



Dates for the diary...

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

Spring Term 2024		
Tuesday 4th June	3:15pm	PTA AGM
Thursday 6th June	Morning	Year 5 Quad Kids Athletics
Wednesday 12th June	Morning	Year 6 Basketball Tournament
Thursday 13th June	Morning	Year 3/4 Quad Kids Athletics
Monday 17th June	9.00am	Maple Class Reading Cafe
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
All dates may be subject to change		



Keeping children safe online...

What Parents & Carers Need to Know about YOUTUBE

YouTube is a video-sharing social media platform that allows billions of people around the world to watch, share and upload their own videos with a vast range of content – including sport, entertainment, education and lots more. It's a superb space for people to consume content that they're interested in, as a result, this astronomically popular platform has had a huge social impact in forming online culture as a global hub and creating new celebrities.

INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

YouTube is free and open for anyone and everyone to watch, even without creating an account. As a result, it's a great place to discover new content, but it's also a place where inappropriate content can be found. This content can be anything from explicit language to sexual content, and it's all available to anyone who searches for it. Parents and carers should be aware of this and use the parental controls available to help protect their children from inappropriate content.

CONNECT WITH STRANGERS

YouTube is a social media platform, which allows people to connect with others. This can be a great way to discover new content, but it can also be a way for children to connect with strangers. Parents and carers should be aware of this and use the parental controls available to help protect their children from connecting with strangers.

SUGGESTED CONTENT

YouTube recommends videos related to what the user has watched, based on their search history and viewing habits. This can be a great way to discover new content, but it can also be a way for children to discover inappropriate content. Parents and carers should be aware of this and use the parental controls available to help protect their children from suggested content.

HIGH VISIBILITY

Content on YouTube can be put in front of millions of people, even if it's not intended to. This can be a great way to discover new content, but it can also be a way for children to discover inappropriate content. Parents and carers should be aware of this and use the parental controls available to help protect their children from high visibility content.

TRENDS AND CHALLENGES

YouTube is a platform where trends and challenges often spread quickly. This can be a great way to discover new content, but it can also be a way for children to discover inappropriate content. Parents and carers should be aware of this and use the parental controls available to help protect their children from trends and challenges.

SNEAKY SCAMMERS

YouTube is a platform where scammers often hide their content. This can be a great way to discover new content, but it can also be a way for children to discover inappropriate content. Parents and carers should be aware of this and use the parental controls available to help protect their children from sneaky scammers.

Advice for Parents & Carers

APPLY RESTRICTED MODE

Parents and carers can apply Restricted Mode to their child's YouTube account. This will help to filter out inappropriate content and protect their child from inappropriate content. To apply Restricted Mode, go to the YouTube app or website and click on the 'Restricted Mode' button.

TRY GOOGLE FAMILY

Google Family Link allows parents and carers to manage their child's Google account. This includes setting screen time limits, app approvals, and location tracking. To use Google Family Link, go to the Google Family Link website and create an account.

CHECK PRIVACY SETTINGS

Parents and carers should check their child's YouTube privacy settings. This includes checking who can see their videos, who can comment on their videos, and who can share their videos. To check privacy settings, go to the YouTube app or website and click on the 'Privacy' button.

CHECK OTHER PLATFORMS

Parents and carers should check their child's social media accounts. This includes checking their child's Facebook, Instagram, and Snapchat accounts. To check social media accounts, go to the respective social media website and log in with the child's account details.

MONITOR ENGAGEMENT

Parents and carers should monitor their child's engagement on YouTube. This includes checking their child's watch history, search history, and comments. To monitor engagement, go to the YouTube app or website and click on the 'History' button.

LIMIT SPENDING

Parents and carers should limit their child's spending on YouTube. This includes setting a budget for their child's YouTube account and monitoring their child's spending. To limit spending, go to the YouTube app or website and click on the 'Spending' button.

Meet Our Expert

Learn more about keeping children safe online from our expert, who has over 10 years of experience in child protection and online safety. To meet our expert, go to the National Online Safety website and click on the 'Meet Our Expert' button.

www.nationalonlinesafety.com @nationalonlinesafety NationalOnlineSafety @nationalonlinesafety

Version of this guide by us of this page: 08/08/2024. For help or information, contact us at 0800 011 111 or 0800 011 111.



Class	Attendance
Willow	91.21
Maple	93.79
Alder	96.64
Oak	99.05

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

We have had another lovely week in Willow class. The children have worked really hard. Although it wasn't our turn to take care of the chickens we were lucky enough to enjoy a special treat from them. We made scrambled eggs and toast and enjoyed a lovely snack. It was great to see the children working so independently to butter their toast. Everyone enjoyed it and I know a few children are going to ask if they can make this when they get home.



It has been lovely seeing the children tell their own stories linked to our traditional tales. We have made small changes to the original stories and then wrote about them. This has been a real challenge and made us think carefully about the sentences we want to write. I was blown away by how hard the children have worked with this. The children really enjoyed looking at their writing and we then looked at the first piece of writing they completed. Some of the children could not believe that when they first started Reception they were only able to make marks, and now they can write full sentences. This shows the journey they have been on and it really has been an incredible one!

Before all this rain came, we enjoyed a lovely afternoon in the outdoor area. We were joined by pre-school and some of the older children. We had fun singing, dancing and playing with our friends of all ages. It was lovely to see a wide age range and how each child approached the situation. Thank you to our friends in preschool for joining us, we love spending time together.

We had a very special visitor in school on Thursday morning. We were lucky enough to meet Baby Lene who will join Team Belsay once she is old enough. A big thank you to Magnus and his family for this lovely experience. We loved meeting Lene and having the opportunity to ask lots of questions.

As you know school will be closed over the next week, however I hope you all enjoy some much needed family time. The children are going to keep everything crossed that the weather improves as they have already made plans to get the paddling pool out. I know lots of you are going on special holidays as well. Whatever you choose to do, have a great time, take lots of photos and share them on Tapestry as the children will love sharing this when we return to school. Have a great time and thank you for all of the support this half term!

Miss Houghton



This week in Maple Class

Maple Class had a brilliant last week of the half term doing a range of exciting activities. We began our week by celebrating World Bee Day by making craft bees. We learnt why bees are important to our ecosystem and what we can do to help the bee population. After half term, we will be taking social action as part of our Schools Linking Project to help develop school habitats for the bees and look forward to sharing our project work with St Lawrence's Primary in a whole class Zoom session.



On Tuesday we had a wonderful trip to the Laing Art Gallery to meet our penpals from St. Lawrence's Primary. We enjoyed meeting our penpals face to face for the first time and getting to know one another through circle games and a picnic lunch. We completed a range of partner activities within the art gallery and worked collaboratively with our new friends to make a 3D Art sculpture. It was lovely to see the children from both schools interact with one another so kindly and respectfully.



Maple Class also participated in a KS1 Multiskills Festival led by Year 6 on Wednesday afternoon. We took part in a range of activities to develop our skills in balance, coordination and changing direction. Year 6 were confident leaders and were very supportive in helping prepare us for Sports Day!



We worked hard all week as a class team to look after the school chickens. We took it in turns to take responsibility for feeding, cleaning and collecting the eggs. We had lots of fun spending time with our feathered friends!



Miss Dixon and Miss McNickle



This week in Alder Class

What an amazing way to end a brilliant half term and we definitely didn't let the weather dampen our spirits this week.

We started the week off brilliantly by inviting our grownups into our Reading Cafe. This was a great opportunity to show everyone what we do around reading in school and also share our favourite books. It was great to see all the adults getting involved and taking time to complete different tasks with the children and also for the children to show off their amazing progress this year. Thank you to everyone who attended, I know all the children were so excited to invite you into school and your continued support with reading at home is very much appreciated.

We had so much fun in our final rounders session this week. We were able to recap all of our skills from this half term and completed our challenges trying to beat our high score (which we beat by 10 seconds). We then played several matches in order to apply all our skills and work as a team. It was great to see so much encouragement and support from our peers and also how we have all grown in confidence over the past few weeks.

Today we are on our class trip to the Great North Museum to expand on all our knowledge around Ancient Greece from this half term. We will be exploring the museum before taking part in an exciting workshop and Q&A session with the amazing staff there. I will make sure to keep you all updated on Class Dojo with what we get up to but we have had the best time this morning already.



Thank you for an amazing half term and for all your brilliant work Alder Class. You have continued to challenge yourself to be the best version of yourself and I hope you all have a fun half term before our final half term of the year (I can't believe it is that time already). Well done!

Miss Cruse



This week in Oak Class

After such a busy week last week you would think it would be hard to beat that but not in Oak class. We have had a whole range of activities taking place and it has been brilliant to see everyone working so hard.

As part of our Maths work we have worked together to plan, design and make our own board games. It has been a great opportunity to combine our English skills by using persuasive language to write the covers for the games as well as writing the rules. It was wonderful to see everyone thinking carefully about their game. It was great to make links with board games we are familiar with and use this to help us plan and deliver our own board games. Of course we enjoyed having time to play the game to test it, before sharing it with everyone in the class. We worked our way around and tried each other's games. There was some competitiveness between them, but at the end of it all everyone had a great time. In a world where everything is driven by technology it was great to see the children step back from this and embrace the chance to play some games away from screens.



In addition, we managed to take part in our PE session, despite the rain, and we had computing, PSHE, Art and Science. Science has been particularly fascinating as we have continued to learn about the heart and how the respiratory system works.

I hope you have had a wonderful half term and find time to relax, particularly the Year 6 who can finally say goodbye to their SATs.

Mr McLeod

Belsay School



BELSAY INTERNATIONAL

HORSE TRIALS

29TH MAY - 2ND JUNE 2024

Discounted tickets can be purchased: <https://belsayhorsetrials.ticketsrv.co.uk/tickets/>

Code is – **BELSCH24**

Buy 1 Adult, Any One Day (Fri-Sat or Sun) ticket get 1 Child (16 and under) Any One Day (Fri-Sat or) free. Limit of 50 tickets available. Children of 6 and under are free.



WHO WE ARE.....

Northumberland Parent Carer Forum (NPCF) is a group of parents carers of children with special educational needs or disabilities (SEND) who work with local authorities, education settings, health providers and other providers to make sure that the services they commission, plan and deliver meet the needs of disabled children and families.

The Forum works alongside Northumberland County Council (NCC) and the Integrated Care Board (ICB) as a strategic partner.

The Forum has built strong working relationships and have a trusted role as parent carers of children and young people with SEND aged 0-25 in Northumberland.

We are experts by experience and as such, have a unique understanding of how challenging life can be raising a child or young person with SEND.

We do this by giving parent carers the opportunity to participate in a number of ways such as coffee events, conferences, social media, surveys and focus groups. This feedback can then be used to co-produce and work at a strategic level with the Local Authorities and the ICB.

WHAT CAN WE OFFER TO PARENT CARERS?

A Listening Ear

Our steering group are always happy to listen, we're all experts by experience as parent carers ourselves.

Parent Carer Conferences

We hold parent carer conferences which offer a range of workshops relating to a range of SEND specific subjects, lunch and refreshments are provided and of course the opportunity to meet and chat with other like minded parent carers

Events & Workshops

We offer a range of events and workshops, such as SEND Law, Preparation for Adulthood, Coffee Mornings with Northumberland IASS

Signposting & Information Hub

We have a network* of organisations, charities, businesses and community groups who provide groups and services to children & young people with SEND and their families and we're only too happy to share their details and signpost our members to them. Sharing is caring!

*If you run a community group and would like to know more, please get in touch

REGISTER NOW.....

Our membership is free! you'll receive our newsletter and be first to hear about any upcoming projects, as well as having priority booking for our events and workshops.



www.npcf.co.uk



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