



# Friday Flyer

28 June 2024

## Headteacher Update

It has been a quieter week at Belsay School as the Year 6 children have begun to spread their wings and to broaden their horizons. Early last Sunday morning they travelled to France alongside their Year 6 peers from the other Pele Trust primary schools. This has given them the opportunity to explore a new country and to be part of a bigger group of travellers and to become familiar with some of the new faces who they will be with in Year 7 next year. For those of us left behind we have been working hard and we have taken the opportunity to work in different groupings across Key Stage 2. The older children have enjoyed being together and it has been great to see the years 3, 4 and 5's supporting each other, particularly with their sewing project which has required concentration and a high level of resilience to be shown. I am pleased to report that there are some fantastic final pieces of work that they can be proud of.

Year 6 has had a wonderful week in France and it has been great to see all of the updates on Class Dojo from Mr Mcleod and Mr A. Their itinerary for the week has been ambitious and it is clear that everyone has made the most of this special time together. A special thank you to Mr Mcleod and Mr A for supporting the children on the visit. Without their dedication and willingness to give up their time with their own families, this visit would not have been possible. Thank you and I hope that everyone who has been involved in the visit has a restful weekend.





Today we are saying goodbye to Miss McNickle. She joined us in September and has been working with Miss Dixon in Year 2 whilst undertaking her teacher training. Having now successfully completed her training I am delighted to report that she has secured her first teaching job for September within Northumberland. I would like to take this opportunity to thank her for working so hard this year for the benefit of the Belsay children. I know that you will join me in wishing her every success as she leaves us and I hope that this is just the start of a long, happy and successful career in teaching for her.

Next week looks set to be another busy week in Belsay. We have our annual sports day event due to take place on Wednesday. I know Mr Smith and all of the staff have been working very hard to plan a wonderful day for the children. Please check school bags to see which colour your child should wear to represent their team. If you are unsure please check with the class teacher before Wednesday. In the event of poor weather we will send an update on Class Dojo as soon as possible. Please arrive from 1pm ready for a 1.15pm start. There will be no seats provided on the field, however you are welcome to bring your own if you feel that you will need one. Thank you to the wonderful PTA who will be providing refreshments of tea and coffee on the day.

The children will also take part in the whole school transition next week. This is an opportunity for the children to spend time in their new classes, and in some cases their new classroom, getting to know their teacher and friends a little better. At Belsay we are very fortunate with our small numbers that the staff have the opportunity to get to know the children really well. Please can I ask that children go straight to their new class on Thursday morning. Children will be collected from their new class at the end of day.

Have a lovely weekend. Make the most of the lovely warm weather, as I said last week, this could be summer so we need to make the most of it

Best wishes

L Blain

*Value of the Month - Resilience*

*Language of the Month - Finnish*



### Dates for the diary...

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

Spring Term 2024		
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
<b>All dates may be subject to change</b>		

### Belsay Closet

We are looking for donations of pre-loved uniforms for our second-hand stand at the Summer Fair. If anyone has any items that no longer fit but still have plenty of life left in them please drop them into the School Office.

Many thanks in advance

Miss Whitehouse





# Keeping children safe online

At The National College, our [WakeUpWednesday](#) guides empower and equip parents, carers and educators with the confidence and practical skills to be able to have informed and age-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).

## 10 Top Tips for Parents and Educators PROMOTING PHYSICAL WELLBEING

Physical activity isn't only beneficial for our bodies; it also plays a role in promoting mental wellbeing. With both the Euros and the Olympics this summer, it's an opportunity to engage young people in regular exercise which can reduce stress, improve mood and boost self-esteem. Despite these benefits, many children face barriers to participating in physical activity.

**1 MAKE IT FUN**

Incorporate activities that children enjoy, such as playing games or dancing. Encourage participation in team sports or group activities to foster social connections and a sense of belonging.

**2 MIX MOVEMENT WITH LEARNING**

Educational settings can incorporate movement breaks and physical activities to enhance focus, concentration and cognitive function. Embedding exercise into the curriculum can also reinforce learning and stimulate creativity. Mix and match with podcasts and flashcards can benefit slow learners.

**3 CREATE OPPORTUNITIES**

Provide clear chances for physical activity throughout the day, both indoors and outdoors. Schools can encourage active play during breaks and at lunchtimes, while limiting screen time at home can help keep children up and about.

**4 PROVIDE POSITIVE REINFORCEMENT**

Praise and encourage children for their efforts and achievements in physical activity. Recognise their progress and celebrate their successes to reinforce positive behaviours. Educators could do this in several ways, such as applauding their efforts at assemblies or celebrating their accomplishments in newsletters.

**5 VARIETY IS KEY**

Introduce a selection of physical activities to keep children engaged and prevent boredom. From swimming and cycling to yoga and martial arts, trying different types of exercise can help children to discover what they enjoy most.

**6 ENJOYMENT OVER COMPETITION**

Encourage children to focus on the enjoyment of physical activity rather than winning or achieving perfection. Emphasise effort, improvement and having fun rather than outcomes, to minimise the amount of stress that children can sometimes associate with sports and other competitions.

**7 SET REALISTIC GOALS**

Help children set achievable physical activity targets based on their interests, abilities and preferences. Celebrate their progress and successes to maintain motivation and enthusiasm.

**8 MAKE IT ACCESSIBLE**

Ensure that children have access to safe, suitable spaces for exercise at home, at school and in the community. Advocate for inclusive environments which accommodate diverse needs and abilities. Be a change maker in your community if facilities aren't already available.

**9 LEAD BY EXAMPLE**

Parents and carers can be positive role models by prioritising their own exercise and involving children in their fitness routines. Shared walks, bike rides or sports activities can be wonderful opportunities for bonding and staying active together.

**10 ENCOURAGE PERSISTENCE**

Help children develop resilience and perseverance by encouraging them to overcome challenges and setbacks in physical activity. Reinforce the importance of perseverance and the value of often in achieving their goals.

### Meet Our Expert

Adam Gillett is a learning and development specialist who, as well as working for Minds Ahead, is associate vice principal for personal development at a large secondary school in Burnley. He was asked to be part of an expert research group for the Department for Education, one of only three school leaders to be asked to do so.





Class	Attendance
Willow	100%
Maple	98.07%
Alder	98.69%
Oak	83.33%

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.

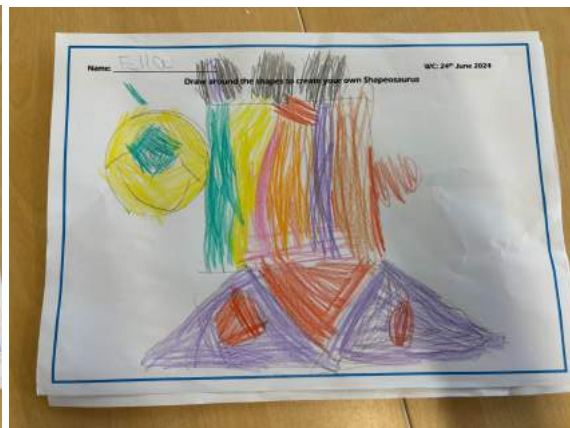
The NHS has recently published a really useful document to refer to when your child has a suspected illness and you are not sure if they could come to school. It can be found [here](#).



## This week in Willow Class

You might remember that we were attempting to make a dinosaur mask as part of our Design Technology project. Well we certainly attempted to do just that. On Tuesday we chose a balloon and then went outside. We were well prepared and had all of the equipment we needed. We set to work sticking the paper mache onto half of the balloon to make our mask. Within minutes the balloons started to pop and there was paper mache EVERYWHERE! Initially we were surprised and then afterwards we found it hilarious. Although we didn't manage to take any photos, I am sure it is a memory that will stay with us forever. The children had such a good time and laughed so much. It shows that you can still have a great time no matter what the outcome!

As part of our topic on Dinosaurs we have been looking at the different dinosaurs and trying to remember important facts about them. Their names are often very tricky to remember, however the children are always better at remembering them compared to the adults. We decided to make our own dinosaurs using shapes. We thought it would be a good idea to call it the Shapeosaurus dinosaur. It was lovely to see the children thinking carefully about which shapes they would use to represent different parts of the dinosaur bones.



Over the last few weeks we have been joined by our friends from preschool for their transition days. The children have made me feel incredibly proud of them as they have been brilliant at helping the younger children. It was lovely to see them encouraging the younger children when we visited the chickens, showing exactly why we are the best class in the school. I couldn't be more proud of them if I tried. Next week the children spend the day in Year 1 with Miss Dixon. We have talked about this and how we can support each other. We are a mix of excited, nervous and a little unsure. All of which are completely normal. We have spent time with the current Year 1 children recently and we are excited to spend more time with Miss Dixon. I cannot wait to hear all about it!

We are really looking forward to sports day next week and have been working hard in our PE lessons with Mr Smith. It would be great to see as many of you as possible on Wednesday afternoon. Have a lovely weekend!

**Miss Houghton**



## This week in Maple Class

This week Maple Class have been preparing for Sports Day! We had a fantastic time in PE practising different skills ready for next Wednesday's event. We took part in sprints, speed bounce, egg and spoon, bean bag toss, long jump and javelin activities. We definitely exemplified our school value of resilience! We were very excited to find out which country we will be representing in our mixed age teams and look forward to working with children from other classes on the day.



It was Maple's turn to care for the school chickens this week and we enjoyed taking responsibility for cleaning out, watering and feeding our feathered friends. We needed to ensure that the chickens had plenty of water this week due to the warmer weather but they seem to have enjoyed the sunshine! We collected lots of eggs which we hope to cook with before the summer holidays.



**Miss Dixon**

## This week in Year 3,4 and 5

A very busy but fun week and it has been lovely to have KS2 all together and spend time with Year 5 again.

The main focus of our week has been completing our end of year assessments and all the children have handled them with hard work, confidence and resilience.

We have completed lots of collaborative work this week and have started reflecting on our years as well as planning ahead for September. We have worked in small groups to produce short presentations to guide the year group below us through their next transition in September. We have discussed our school rules, classroom goals as well as considered the similarities and differences between each of the classes at Belsay. We were all so brave and proud at the end of the week and were able to present our work in front of the whole class.

The year 6's were in France this week so Year 5 were in with 3 and 4 with Miss Cruse and Miss Cook. One lesson we did with Miss Cook was researching different types of sewing products and writing a couple of sentences about it. The next part of our DT week we had to plan and design what we were going to sew and produce, this was something that had to be easy to sew but was also fun to make. We all tried to pick designs that represented us and our interests but also something that we could challenge ourselves with.

The focus of our DT week was learning how to cross-stitch sew but we also had the option to do running stitch. Some people found tying the knots the more challenging part but everyone worked together as a team to support as well as encourage each other.

**"This week in DT we have been sewing. This was fantastic!"**

**"Our favourite part was making knots by accident and having Miss Cruse help us fix it!"**

**"The most challenging part was when we created the knots!"**

Year 3,4 and 5 have been eager to share their week with you all and have worked as a team to create this week's Friday Flyer.

Belsay School



Well done on such a brilliant week everyone. It has been great to spend the week all together and complete some beautiful work we can be proud of. Have a brilliant weekend!

**Miss Cruse and Miss Cook**



## This week in Year 6

It may well be nigh on impossible to put this week into words, but nevertheless, we'll have a go anyway.

This week, as I am sure you are all aware, our Year 6 pupils embarked on their annual trip to Saint Omer in Northern France. Now, a trip away from one's loved ones for almost a week is a pretty massive thing for any group of 10 and 11 year olds but for our guys here at Belsay, there were additional challenges for us to overcome.

As the smallest group on the trip (only 15 of us in total), we were split over two of the three buses, and were only ever together as one big Belsay collective in the evening, at the fabulous Chateau d'ebblingham. So during the daytime, we had a lot of extra mingling to do with children from our other PELE Trust primaries, all of whom are much bigger sites with many more children. As the week went on, we saw some brilliant friendships form, which we hope our children will carry with them into Year 7 at PHS next year.

To talk you all through every single thing that we did in our time in this wonderful location would take me about 15 pages, so here is a list of highlights, supported by some pictures:

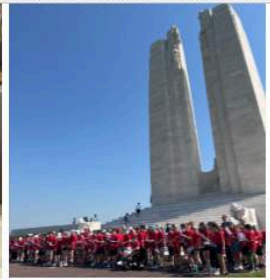
School visits, beach trips, chocolate making in Belgium, French bread baking at la boulangerie, snail farming/eating, goat milking, singing war memorial songs at Vimy Ridge, cathedral visits to Saint Omer/Amiens and supermarket visits to name but a few of the fabulous activities we took part in.

Overall, an absolutely priceless week. Cultural experiences combined with impeccable behaviour and some real resilience too. I can not begin to tell you how proud I am of each and every one of our children.

Finally, thank you so much for the patience and versatility of parents yesterday. Our travel itinerary was constantly "subject to change" with our groups eventually(!) arriving separately at 23:15 and 00.15 respectively. Your kindness and thankfulness was and is, very much appreciated.

Have an awesome (and hopefully quiet!) weekend.

Belsay School



Mr McLeod

Belsay School



# Belsay School SUMMER

# FAIR



**Tuesday 9th July 3.15pm**

**Football Tournament**

**Tea/Coffee**

**Cake Stall**

**School Closet**

**Book Swap**

**Tombola**

**Hot Dogs**

**Name the Giant Teddy**

**Glitter Tattoos**

**Games ...and more!**

**All money raised will go towards buying new equipment and resources for the school.**

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

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Here's your free copy of Family First

[CLICK HERE](#)

**Family First**  
FREE | SUMMER 2024

**KIDS**  
**EAT FREE**  
**THIS**  
**SUMMER**

**CLIMATE**  
**CHANGE**  
*challenges*  
*with The*  
*DadLab*

**Sizzling**  
**summer**  
*recipes*  
*from*  
*Annabel*  
*Karmel*

**Visit**  
**Dubai**  
*A magical*  
*family*  
*holiday*

**BEAR GRYLLS**  
*on outdoor adventures,*  
*play and learning*

RIXOS  
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*Building a happier, healthier family lifestyle*

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