



17th July 2026

Headteachers Update

We've done it! We've reached the end of another academic year and what a fantastic year it has been.

As I reflect on the year and look back through our Friday Flyers and ClassDojo posts, I am reminded of just how much we have achieved together. There have been so many moments worth celebrating – from academic successes and sporting achievements to memorable trips, visits and countless moments of laughter, joy and friendship. Our children have been truly amazing throughout the year and we are incredibly fortunate to work with such a wonderful group of young people every day.

As always, our final week has been a busy one! Firstly, I would like to say a huge thank you to our PTA, who once again pulled out all the stops to deliver a fantastic Summer Fair on Wednesday afternoon which raised an amazing £413.45. It was wonderful to see so many people come together to create such a fun and enjoyable event for our children. Thank you also to all of our parents, carers and members of the wider community who came along to support the event. As I often say, without your support these events simply would not be possible and the funds raised would not be available to benefit our children and school. Your continued support makes a tremendous difference, and we are incredibly grateful.

While thanking the PTA, I would also like to thank them for treating every child in school to an ice cream this week, sadly I was not in school for this one! It was lovely to welcome Tony back into school and see the smiles on the children's faces as they enjoyed a well-deserved end-of-year treat.

A huge well done must also go to our Year 5/6 children who took part in the Make £5 Grow Project, which culminated at the Summer Fair. It was fantastic to see so many creative and entrepreneurial ideas brought to life through their stalls. Thank you to everyone who supported the children and helped make the project such a success.

Over the last few weeks, we have welcomed our new Reception children into school to spend time with Miss Houghton. This week was their final session and they have settled in remarkably well and have approached every visit with confidence, enthusiasm and excitement. As I mentioned in my letter earlier this week, this is another example of the strength of the partnership we have with our preschool, ensuring children are ready and excited to begin school and that the transition into Reception is as seamless as possible. We cannot wait to welcome you all properly in September.

This week you should also have received your child's end-of-year report. Thank you for the many kind comments we have received from parents and carers. These reports are a reflection not only of the children's achievements but also of the dedication, commitment and care shown by our staff throughout the year. The successes we celebrate are not achieved by chance; they are the result of hard work, expertise and a genuine commitment to ensuring every child thrives. Thank you to all of our staff for everything they do to make Belsay Primary such a special place to be.



Books have now been sent home and I hope you enjoy taking the opportunity to look back through your child's work and see the progress they have made over the course of the year. There is always something special about seeing just how far they have come.

On Thursday morning we held our Leavers' Assembly and as always it was a privilege to be part of such a special occasion. Our Year 6 children are an exceptional group who have left a lasting legacy at Belsay. Over the last three years, I have thoroughly enjoyed getting to know them and feel incredibly privileged to have been part of their journey. As they move on to Ponteland High School, I hope they never become strangers and continue to pop back and share their successes with us. Based on everything they have achieved academically, socially and personally, I have no doubt they will go on to accomplish wonderful things. We are all incredibly proud of them and wish them every success for the future.

Today we held our final Celebration Assembly of the year, providing one last opportunity to recognise the many achievements of our children. Congratulations to those children who achieved 100% attendance throughout the year and received their Amazon vouchers – a fantastic achievement. Well done also to our Bookworm Challenge winners. I hope you enjoy spending your vouchers wisely! A special mention must go to Maple Class, who had an incredible 14 children reach the 200 Reads Challenge and earn a place in the prize draw. Although we could not reward everyone, this is a remarkable achievement and demonstrates a real love of reading that will continue to benefit them throughout their education.

Finally, I would like to congratulate our Year 6 pupils on their SATs results, which were released this week. The children achieved some truly fantastic outcomes and we could not be prouder of the effort, determination and resilience they demonstrated throughout the year. Every child should feel incredibly proud of what they have achieved.

I would also like to extend a special thank you to Mr McLeod for his relentless hard work and commitment. His dedication, support, interventions and countless additional hours have played a significant role in helping our children achieve their very best and we are extremely grateful for everything he has done.

As we reach the end of another school year, I hope you look back with the same sense of pride that I do. Belsay Primary School continues to go from strength to strength and that is thanks to the combined efforts of our exceptional staff, our wonderful children and our incredibly supportive families and wider community. Together, we create something very special.

I would like to wish all of our children, families and staff a wonderful summer break. Whether you are travelling away, spending time with family and friends or simply taking the opportunity to relax and recharge, I hope the next six weeks are filled with happiness, fun and memorable moments.

Thank you for your continued support throughout the year. Have a fantastic summer and we look forward to welcoming everyone back in September for another fun year!

Mr Shaw



Safeguarding

Belsay Primary School is committed to keeping all children safe. Our staff regularly participate in safeguarding training and are fully aware of how to keep our pupils safe and what signs to look out for. Our pupils know they can share any concerns and we have robust policies and procedures in place which underpin safeguarding. It is our paramount priority to keep all children healthy and safe. Remember our Designated Safeguarding Leads (DSL) in school are **Miss Dixon, Miss Houghton and Mr Shaw.**





Attendance

As parents and carers we want to share our attendance figures because it is you who can make the big difference. Our children are entitled to a full and balanced education and at Belsay we feel we provide one of the best experiences possible.

Current Whole School attendance is 95.68%. Our **NEW** target for Whole School Attendance is 95%.

Class	Weekly attendance	Annual attendance
Willow	90%	95.5%
Maple	92.4%	95.3%
Alder	95.6%	94.9%
Oak	88.3%	97.3%

Days of school add up to lost learning						
Days in school	190	186	180	175	171	170
Percentage attendance	100%	98%	95%	92%	90%	<90%
	Excellent	Excellent	Good	Caution	Cause for concern	Serious concern

Absence Procedures if your child is ill, please keep them at home until they are well enough to return to school. Please notify us by phone call or email before 9.15am if your child is to be absent, and continue to inform us on a daily basis if they continue to be ill.

We have a continual focus on attendance and punctuality and this is of the utmost importance in your child's education. Please remember that our school gate closes at 8.55am as this is when our lessons begin. Anyone arriving after this time is classed as late and will miss valuable learning opportunities which take place immediately after registration, such as phonics.



Classroom updates - Willow class

What an incredible final week we have had! It has been a wonderful time of reflecting on all the positives from this year and looking back at just how much we have achieved together. From the very first day of school to now, the children have grown in confidence, kindness and knowledge. I could not be prouder of their hard work and progress!

To celebrate our amazing journey, the children enjoyed a delicious end-of-year ice cream treat earlier this week. Thank you to the PTA for this wonderful treat! There were plenty of smiles, sticky fingers and happy memories made.



We certainly ended the term on a high note! The classroom was filled with music, laughter, and classic party games as we celebrated our end-of-year party in style. It was the perfect way to let off some steam and celebrate the wonderful friendships built this year. Thank you to everyone who contributed to the party food.

Thank you for an amazing first year of school together. Your support, engagement and partnership have meant the world to me. It has been an absolute privilege teaching your children and watching them flourish.

Have a lovely, safe, and wonderful summer holiday! I look forward to seeing you all refreshed and ready for the new school year in September. Please remember to download your Tapestry account as it will be deleted over the summer holidays.

Miss Houghton



Classroom updates - Maple class

This week has been a fantastic way to round off a wonderful year in Maple Class! We started the week with a very exciting surprise visit from Tony the ice cream man. The delicious ice creams were the perfect treat on a hot summer afternoon and helped us all cool down. The children were thrilled, and it was a lovely way to begin our final week together.

In Science, we teamed up with Willow Class to carry out a leaf enquiry around the school grounds. Armed with magnifying glasses, we carefully examined a range of different leaves, comparing their shapes, sizes, veins and textures. We discovered just how many different types of trees grow around our school! Back in the classroom, everyone selected a leaf to study in more detail and produced some fantastic observational drawings. We also enjoyed harvesting the cress we had grown in Science before using it in Design and Technology to make delicious egg and cress crackers for our brunch – they certainly went down a treat!

On Thursday, we celebrated the end of a fantastic year together with our class party. The highlight of the afternoon was an exciting water fight with the teachers on the school yard before we tucked into party food and relaxed with some Julia Donaldson tales. It was the perfect way to celebrate a year full of learning, laughter and friendships. Thank you, Maple Class, for being such an incredible group of children. It has been an absolute privilege to teach you this year, and I am so proud of everything you have achieved. I wish you all a wonderful, restful summer holiday with your families, and I can't wait to hear about your adventures when we meet again.



Miss Dixon



Classroom updates- Alder class

What an absolutely incredible year it has been! Our classroom has been filled with so much laughter, growth, and discovery. The children have worked incredibly hard all year long, and this final week was the perfect celebration of all their hard work and brilliant learning.

We kicked off our final week by completing a final piece of writing for the year; an explanation text for how to care for an animal. From feeding schedules to habitat needs, their reports showed just how much they have grown as writers this year. Monday afternoon started in the best way possible! We were incredibly lucky to have a surprise visit from the ice cream van, which was a well-deserved treat for all.

On Tuesday, we put our minds to the test with our final maths focus on time. The children worked brilliantly on reading clocks, calculating elapsed time, and solving time-based word problems. It was wonderful to see their confidence shine through! The classroom was buzzing on Wednesday for our highly anticipated Lego Day! The children took part in a creative carousel of activities, which included painting Lego inspired artwork, designing and decorating all things lego and collaborative building challenges.

On Thursday, we ended the year with our class party on the school field. We enjoyed music and a highly competitive game of Capture the Flag. There was excellent teamwork, plenty of running and lots of laughter.

As we head into the summer holidays, a huge thank you to everyone in Alder Class for the energy, curiosity and absolute joy that you have brought into our classroom every day this year. To our wonderful parents, thank you all for your support in making this year so incredibly special. We are so proud of everything the children have achieved.

Have a safe, happy, and absolutely wonderful summer break! We look forward to seeing you all refreshed and ready for your next adventure in September.

Mrs Aynsley and Mrs Rutter





Classroom updates - Oak class

As we reach the end of another school year, it is hard to put into words just how much we have shared and achieved together. It has been a year filled with hard work, laughter, creativity, friendship and so many special memories. From our Shakespeare performance to SATs and everything in between the children have continually risen to every challenge and should feel incredibly proud of themselves.

Our KS2 party on the field was a wonderful way to celebrate. It was lovely to see the children relaxing, laughing and enjoying one another's company after such a busy year. The happy atmosphere captured the sense of friendship and togetherness that has made this group so special.

The Leavers' Assembly was another unforgettable occasion. It was wonderful to welcome so many Year 6 parents and family members into school, and incredibly moving to see the pride on everyone's faces. The children performed with confidence, humour and maturity, making it a fitting celebration of their time at Belsay.

Our Year 6 pupils have been a truly fantastic group of children. They are funny, thoughtful, talented and full of personality, and it has been a genuine privilege to teach them. They have worked hard, supported one another and grown enormously, both academically and personally. They will be missed more than they probably realise, and the school will certainly feel different without them in September.

To our Year 6 parents and families, thank you sincerely for all your trust, encouragement and support. Your children are a credit to you, and you should be enormously proud of everything they have achieved.

To the children themselves: thank you for the laughter, the hard work and the countless memories. Keep believing in yourselves, keep being kind and never forget how capable you are. We wish every Year 6 child and their family the very best as they begin the next step of their educational journey. Thank you all for making this year so completely special. And for the Year 5s? Let's do it all again next year. I can't wait! Cheers all!



Mr. McLeod





Dates for your Diary

Events could be subject to change and will be communicated if required

Date	Time	
Tuesday 1st September	All day	Teacher training day
Wednesday 2nd September	8.45am	School opens for all children

Wishing our Summer Children a very Happy Birthday

🎁🎉 **Wishing you all a fantastic time celebrating** 🎂🎈

Hugo (Alder)

Bradley (Maple)

Henry (Oak)

Poppy (Oak)

Isobel (Alder)

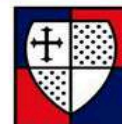
Toby (Oak)

Betsy (Alder)

Sophie (Alder)

Daisy (Oak)

Marina (Oak)



Belsay Daycare brings you...

Summer Holiday Club 2026

Mondays – Wednesdays • 9am – 3pm • Ages *2 – 12

Running weeks 1, 3 & 5 of the summer holidays * Limited places for 2 years olds due to staff ratios

Week 1

**Mon 20th –
Wed 22nd**
July

Week 3

**Mon 3rd – Wed
5th**
August

Week 5

**Mon 17th –
Wed 19th**
August

Every Wednesday is a themed special!

£35
per child
per day

- Book single days or full blocks
- Snacks will be provided
- Packed lunch needed each day

**Full payment
required in
advance**

Places are limited!

Book online ↗



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For further information and terms & conditions [click here](#) ↗

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