

Belgrave Primary School July 2017 Newsletter

Dear Parents, Carers and Friends of Belgrave,

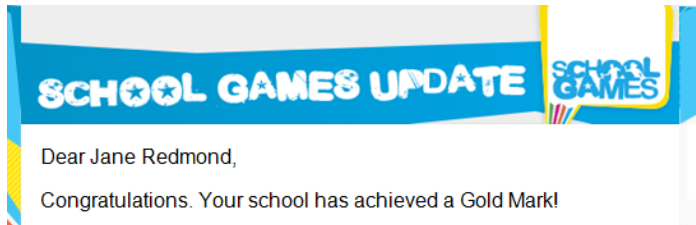
This newsletter will focus on the events of the past few weeks and some events that children can take part in during the holidays. There are many celebrations and achievements in all aspects of school life. Robin Hood and the Sherwood Hoodies is the talk of the town; everyone who saw it is in agreement that it was outstanding. We have received emails and messages with comments about the talent shown by the Year 6, the level of enjoyment and an appreciation of the work that had clearly been put into the performances. It was clear that the children loved every minute of it. The play was performed brilliantly by Year 6 with support from Year 3 as Scouts, 4 as Walls and 5 as the Spies. Mr Clifton and Mrs Hancock's inspired artistic direction and creativity was evident.



We are very proud of the Year 6 Belgrave mixed football team (4 boys 4 girls) who won the Airbus Community Cup. We hope you have noticed the banner on the fence. The school has also been given a shield to keep for the year which will be engraved with the school name and date of the competition. The team played eleven games and were the well-deserved winners.



We are delighted to be able to inform you that today we received our Gold Sportsmark for the 2nd year. Thank you to Jane Redmond and James Moss for leading the provision of gold standard sport at school.



There are many sports achievements this year which are reported weekly on the Sports Results Page of the website. This is a tab on the banner across the top of the homepage.

Thank you to the 28 pupils in Year 3 to 6 who took part in the District Athletics at Stanney Oaks Athletics Track. Congratulations to Romain who received two medals; one for the 800 metres and the other for the javelin event, and to Aymon for his medal in the long jump.

Many children were 2nd in their heat and well done to Issy who qualified for the final of the Year 3 sprint.

In the last few weeks there has been a tennis tournament at Glan Aber, an orienteering event at Overleigh and a swimming gala at City Baths. The children at Belgrave can be relied upon to give their best and to behave impeccably.

School Fayre: we raised almost 1K!



Thank you to the PTA for working hard to organise the stalls, the children who played in the band and sung in the choir and the families who supported the event. Thank you also to all the parents who helped on the day with clearing up and to Carol Parsons for organising the Tug of War. Wendy Amner's craft school was busy from 1:30 to 5pm and Cerys' tattoo and craft stall was well run and very popular.



The PTA is able to fund two interactive screens and these have been ordered for Year 1 and Year 4. These are the last two screens needed and the entire school will have had their screens replaced by the PTA during the last two years. We are so grateful. When these screens need replacing the quality of the image becomes poor and the blinds need to be pulled down which makes it difficult for children to work.

The PTA will be meeting on 12th September; please come along for cheese and wine and the sharing of ideas session. This will also be the AGM and there will be a report about the events during the year 2016-17 and the Treasurer's report. This year there have been some new events which have been led by a parent which the PTA has helped with. An example is the Fashion Show lead by Carol Parsons which raised £500 through ticket and bar sales. We are saying farewell to Martina Quinn who has been our efficient and organised treasurer. Martina's son is in Year 6 and moving on. Martina thank you from all of us!

Next year the school will be celebrating its Golden Anniversary. The school was opened in September 1968. We have decided to celebrate 50 years of Belgrave Primary School in the July as an end of year event. If you have any ideas we would love to hear about them.



Martina Quinn (Treasurer)

Kate Smith and Lucy Grattan (Vice Chairs)

Carol Parsons who organised the event.



Tracey Casey (Chair)

Laura Brown (Committee)

We have really good news about the funding for the Belgrave Year 5 and 6 woodwind and brass band which practises on Thursdays after school. There will be no need for parents to contribute towards the cost as we have received a grant from the Earl of Chester's fund. Thank you to Caroline Tudor for applying for this grant. In September pupils in Year 5 who have decided to continue with an instrument are welcome to join the band at the start of the term. Just arrive on the 7th September for registration.



By popular request the Belgrave's Got Talent event has returned to the school calendar. The pupils approached the School Council and two events were voted for by each class in the Juniors. The whole school had a wonderful time on the 23rd June when we were entertained by solo, duets and groups acts. This was a real variety show with comedy, ballet, tap dancing, dancing, instrumentals, singing and acrobatics. We can confirm Belgrave has definitely got talent!



We were very lucky to be offered the opportunity to have the author Jonathan Meres in school to promote his final book in the "World of Norm" series. He was very entertaining and talked to the children about how you develop characters when writing. He was impressed with their questions and asked us if he could extend the session. The children then stunned him by entertaining him with a song from the play. That was a first for him!



The Midsummer Watch Parade was well supported by Year 2 and their families and we hope to be invited to participate in this event next year. It is a great way to feel part of the wider community and be involved in local events.



We had an opening for the Bee Hive on Thursday after the children had voted for the name. We have had benches fitted and it will be a place where children can go and read at playtimes. The School Council will be working on the rules which will be displayed in the Bee Hive in September.

On Thursday 13th July the Year 4's and Band performed at the "Without Walls Arts Festival". The performances from all the schools were all excellent quality

and the children, teachers and the parents had a memorable afternoon. Year 4 wrote about the event as if they were reporters for a newspaper. Many of the children wrote about Eccleston's internet safety play, QPHS's convincing performances using dance, movement and voice which focussed on the impact of the war in Syria and the Catholic High School's swing band. The children's reports were very honest with someone mentioning the rushed trophy ceremony at the end. This was referred to by Gavin Cross, the compere, who admitted this was rushed as the coaches were waiting!

The Art Exhibition will be open on Tuesday 18th July until the end of term. This includes our four pieces and the ceramics made by Year 4 at the workshop at QPHS. Please contact the office at QPHS to arrange to visit.



School Assessment

There is information about 2017 statutory assessment in Early Years, Year 1 and Year 2 and Year 6 on the website. Currently this is the highlights which will be added to with a comprehensive account when all the progress and comparative information for 2017 has been received by school.

This year in our reports we used the grid to show the data that is put into Target Tracker which is the software that many of our local schools are using for tracking attainment. At the end of each term we assess pupils using a combination of teacher assessment and tests that are agreed by the school. Some of these tests of the new National Curriculum (criteria is still considered to be interim and not yet finalised) are new and we have found them to vary. In Year 2 and 6 this year (the first year of the new tests was 2016) we were able to use the SATs from the previous year in the Easter Term to give a good indication. Whereas in Year 1, 3, 4 and 5 we can only use the tests that are available and if the test is taken during the year not all the curriculum has been covered. We therefore use a combination of teacher assessment and tests. We have found the tests useful to inform teaching and they do show progress.

We will continue to use combination of assessments to inform the learning and the end results have shown us that children achieve their potential. Please refer to the website for the up to date data with comparisons to national data.

Don't miss out on these local events.Animal Agents: The Summer Reading Challenge 2017

There is a host of activities and fun available at your local library. This is free and started on the 15th July. The children are rewarded for reading by receiving incentives such as collectors' cards and a key ring. Each child who completes the challenge is invited to a ceremony where they receive a medal and a certificate.

Find out more by visiting: animal-agents.org.uk

There are also activities at libraries that you wouldn't expect such as hands on sessions with animals and artefacts. These are called **Animals Take Over** ..need to book ..and **Chester Zoo Safari Rangers**.

Visit: www.ourwestcheshire.co.uk/pages/3885/1/Summer_Reading_Challenge_2017

Tom Palmer at Waterstones in Chester on Saturday 29th July at 11:00

Tom Palmer will be signing books and talking about his Defenders series. These are spine tingling, spooky football adventures.

Staffing

We would like to thank Mrs Neilson for working at our school for the past two years. Sarah Neilson is a trained speech therapist who we were very lucky to have on the school team as one of our teaching assistants. We wish her every success with her speech therapy practice.

Our kitchen assistant Lindsey Chaloner has left to work at QPHS. We would like to thank Lindsey for all her hard work over the years. If any of our parents would be interested in working as a kitchen assistant at lunchtimes please call into the office where we will put you in touch with Edsential who employ the kitchen staff.

Classes 2017-18

On Tuesday children will be meeting their new teachers. The only change to staffing is in Year 3 which was reported in a previous newsletter. We all wish Mr Moss an exciting year and wish him a safe trip. He will be keeping in touch with school and sending us information to share with the children.

School Organisation for next year 2017-18

Reception: Miss Hopkins

Year 1: Mrs Redmond

Year 2: Mrs Bates

Year 3: Mrs Sharp

Year 4: Miss Taylor and Mrs Hancock

Year 5: Mrs Salter and Mrs Bowle

Year 6: Mr Clifton

Week beginning the 18th September

We are planning a Health Week for the whole school. There will be additional sports and health awareness activities during the week provided by the staff and the Sports Partnership. If your occupation is related to health and you could come and talk to the children that would be appreciated. If you can contribute please complete the slip at the bottom of this newsletter.

Summer Holiday Wishes

We all hope everyone has a good summer holiday and look forward to seeing all our new reception and next year's Year 1 to 6 and their families on Tuesday 5th September.

There will be more special messages to the current Year 6 at the Presentation Assembly on Tuesday at 2:30. I would like to conclude this newsletter with thanking parents for all their support and wishing all our pupils moving on every success for the future from all of the school.

Yours truly,

Deanne Garratt

Headteacher

Health Week beg. 18th Sept.

Parent/Carer's name Occupation is.....

I am available on the following days and times during the week beginning the 18th September:

Pupil's/Pupils' name (s)

Class.....

Please return to office by 6th September 2017.

DATES
2017-18

September**Tue 5th****First Day of Term**Tue 12th

Cheese and Wine PTA Events/Ideas/AGM 7.15pm

Wed 13th

Year 4 Expectation Meeting with parents 6.30pm

Thur 14th

Year 1 Expectation Meeting with parents 6.30pm

Mon 18th

Year 6 Expectation Meeting with parents 6.30pm

Wed 20th

Year 2 Expectation Meeting with parents 6.30pm

Thur 21st

Year 5 Expectation Meeting with parents 6.30pm

Tue 26th

Year 3 Expectation Meeting with parents 6.30pm

Fri 22nd

Welcome Back Event 5.30pm – 7.30pm

Mon 25th – 29th

Year 6 Residential Visit to Conway Centre

OctoberTue 3rd

Reception Expectation Meeting with parents 6.30pm

Fri 20th

Harvest Festival 9.30am Rec/KS1 & 2.30pm KS2

Mon 23rd

Reception Reading Workshop for parents 6.30pm

Thur 26th

Halloween Disco

5.30pm – 6.30pm Reception/KS1

6.45pm – 7.45pm KS2

Half Term 30th October to 3rd November**November**Tue 7th

Tempest Individual Photos 8.00am

Fri 17th

PTA Pamper Night – provisional

Mon 27th

Reception/KS1 Parent's Appointments 1.30pm – 5.30pm

Tue 28th

Year 3, 5 & 6 Parent's Appointments 1.30pm – 5.30pm

Wed 29th

All Years Parent's Appointments 3.30pm – 7.00pm

Thur 30th

Year 4 Parent's Appointments 1.30pm – 5.30pm

DecemberFri 8th

Christmas Fair

Week beg. 11th

KS1 Plays

Thur 14th

KS2 Carols

Fri 15th

KS2 Carols

Mon 18th

KS2 Carols

Tue 19th

Party Day/Panto

21st December**Last Day of Term****January 2018**Fri 26th

Key Strings

Fri 26th

PTA Quiz Night

March

Thur 22nd

PTA Disco

Tue 27th – 29th

Year 5 Residential visit to Conway

April

Tue 17th & 18th

Year 4 Residential visit to Burwardsley

Mon 23rd

Tempest – Class Groups

Fri 27th

PTA Here Comes Summer! Rainbow Raffle Draw

June

Wed 6th & 7th

Year 3 Residential visit to Beeston

July

Mon 9th

Year 6 Bikeability All Week

Fri 20th

Last Day of Term