

Dear Parents, Carers and Friends of Belgrave,



Welcome back to the new academic school year. We all hope you had an enjoyable summer break. It's been a lovely return to school with a buzz of busyness and happiness around the school building and grounds. It's great to have all pupils back at school and our new Reception pupils who are in full time from tomorrow. We are excited to start buddying Reception with the older children as soon as possible.

A warm welcome to any new families starting at Belgrave!

All classes are starting the academic year by focusing on a whole school book 'Tom's Magnificent Machines' by Linda Sarah - an emotionally charged and highly imaginative book that explores themes of love and support but is also great fun, with incredible inventions, crazy contraptions and a wonderfully inspiring pioneering spirit at its heart. Classes will also be exploring the life of bees and our motto Belong, Enjoy, Enthuse, Succeed as well as having age appropriate discussion around our behavioural

expectations (Relationships Policy which sets out our aims, core values and implementation of behaviour at Belgrave <http://www.belgrave.cheshire.sch.uk/page/behaviour/14737>) sanctions and consequences following our three school rules:

Be Safe; Be Kind; Be a Good Listener and Learner

These all in conjunction with our three habits of mind encouraging our pupils to be:

Independent, Creative, Resilient

COMMUNICATION

A reminder that it is the monthly newsletter which will provide the information, achievements and diary dates for the forthcoming year. This is in addition to Class Dojo and emails that we use to send letters instead of paper copies. Class Dojo is the first form of communication for messages and notifications from staff. If you need to contact staff at school, please email admin@belgrave.cheshire.sch.uk and Mrs Morgan or Mrs Pilling will arrange for you to be contacted. Please do not use Class Dojo to message staff as we cannot guarantee that messages will be read. Celebration assemblies will resume on Friday afternoons for one year group per week and you receive a message if your child is sharing their work during that assembly to give you the opportunity to come and join us.

RESIDENTIALS THIS YEAR

We consider residential visits to be a really important part of the academic year. Visits have been preliminary booked for Years 3 -6 and we ask that you attend the pre-residential meeting (dates / times to follow) so that you understand the expectations for your child to be able to attend. Staff give up their time voluntarily to attend residential and without this we would be unable to facilitate these amazing experiences and opportunities for our pupils. Codes of Conduct will need to be agreed to before your child can attend an overnight visit.

An extra-curricular clubs timetable has been sent out this week for you to book onto clubs. Please ensure you follow the instructions for registering as many are external providers and not dealt with through the school office.

ACHIEVEMENTS OUTSIDE SCHOOL

Well done to Alice in Year 3 who has completed all the badges required from 6 different areas at Rainbows which means she achieved the highest award possible and was presented with her Gold Award badge at a special gold themed party!





Emily in Year 6 completed all the badges required from 6 different areas which means she achieved the highest award possible at Brownies and was presented with her Gold Award badge at a special campfire on her last night at Brownies!

Santi has achieved a fantastic musical achievement with support from his lessons at school. He passed both clarinet and guitar grade 1 with merit – brilliant news Santi – well done!



Over the holidays, Eleanor in Year 4 held a book sale of her old books and raised £30 which she has donated to the West Cheshire Foodbank. This is an achievement to be very proud of – well done Eleanor!



SCHOOL UNIFORM

Pupils were really smartly dressed in full school uniform this week. Please can I remind you that children should not wear nail polish or false nails to school. Jewellery permitted is a watch and stud earrings only. Open toe sandals or boots are not appropriate for school wear. It is not compulsory for uniform to have a Belgrave logo. Please ensure that all items brought into school are clearly labelled.



SCHOOL TIMES

Reception and Key Stage One pupils: Gates open at 8.45am and close at 8.55am.

Key Stage Two pupils: Gates open at 8.45am and close at 8.50am.

Pupils arriving after this time will need to come to the main entrance and will be recorded as late on the register.

MESSAGE FROM THE GOVERNING BOARD

We hope that you and your children have had a wonderful summer break and that your children are settling back to school well.

We are pleased to announce that we have a new parent governor. Linsey Carroll is parent to children in Year 5 and Reception and we look forward to her skillset enhancing our board.

Belgrave as part of The Learning Trust are still in communication with the Local Authority following our consultation period regarding Moat Park satellite provision on Wrexham Road. We have not yet submitted a Full Business Case review and will keep you updated of any progress in future correspondence.

We would like to take this opportunity to wish you all a very good start to the new academic year.

Thank you, Belgrave Governing Board

PTA

All new parents automatically become part of the PTA. The PTA work tirelessly to raise money for school and have raised money for various resources, trips and celebrations. A huge thank you to the Ashton family for their kind donation of £150 towards the new playground equipment that the PTA are saving for.

Look out for PTA events coming up in the Autumn term.

Save the date: Christmas Fair Friday 9th December 2022.

COST OF LIVING

With the cost of living increasing and changes in circumstances since Covid, we are encouraging parents to apply for Free School Meals. All Key Stage One pupils automatically receive a free meal each school day but school can also claim additional funding which can help towards equipment and resources for your child.

To see if you qualify, follow this link:



<https://www.cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk/residents/education-and-learning/free-school-meals>

Please let the school office know if you qualify for Free School Meals. If you require any help with this process then please contact the school office.

HOMEWORK

The homework debate is never much out of the news and school discussions. Should homework be banned? Is homework at primary school a waste of time? Do our children get too much homework? Do they not get enough? There are no current guidelines on how much homework primary school children in England should be set; individual schools should decide what their policy on homework will be and what's set.

Homework can also act as a point of communication between home and school, helping parents feel part of their child's schooling which is something that we do via our Dojo communication in every year group. It is vitally important to have a balance between homework and other activities. At Belgrave, we are focusing on what really matters.

In Early Years and Key Stage 1 (Reception, Year 1 and Year 2) homework is to read on a daily basis (minimum 5 times per week) and Phonics activities. Reading may be enjoying a book together, picking out key sounds or words, talking about the story, finding initial sounds, retelling the story etc. Parents can record this in the Home / School book.

In Key Stage 2 (Years 3 – 6) homework may include reading on a daily basis, guided reading tasks, spellings and times tables (Times Table Rockstars). Please see individual year group letters (to be posted on Dojo on Friday 9th September) to ensure that you are familiar with the expectations / routines in each class.

If you choose for your child to have additional tasks to complete at home you can find a wealth of extra activities available on our website: <http://www.belgrave.cheshire.sch.uk/page/home-learning-and-websites/124548>

and / or if you found the CGP books (available for Year 1 – 6) useful for your child's learning and you want to purchase any of the books for use at home then I have included the link here:

<https://www.cgpbooks.co.uk/primary-books/back-to-school-primary>

Spending quality time after school and at weekends talking with your children, participating in hobbies and extra activities, sharing books and enjoying time with family and friends is integral to children's development.

AND FINALLY.....

- A warm welcome to Mrs Worsfold and Ms Fitzgerald who have both joined the Belgrave team as Teaching Assistants this academic year and will be working mostly in Key Stage One.
- Dogs are not permitted on school grounds; this includes all playgrounds. Please ensure that if you are leaving your dog at the school gate, they are not obstructing families passing in and out of school. Gates will be locked 10 minutes after the end of the school day. Please ensure that your children are not climbing on top of the train in the Forest School area.
- School attendance is mandatory for all pupils of compulsory school age. Any holidays in term time cannot be authorised. Please report any pupil absences to the school office by 9.15am.
- Please continue to let us know of any achievements made outside school so that we can share them in our newsletters. Please send them by email to admin@belgrave.cheshire.sch.uk
- Please do not use Class Dojo to message staff. If you need to get in touch then email the school office: admin@belgrave.cheshire.sch.uk who will contact the appropriate person.
- Please ensure your SchoolMoney account is in credit for the start of the new school year.

As ever, we really appreciate your support, enthusiasm and partnership.

Juliette Benton
Headteacher



DIARY DATES

DIARY DATES	
September	
Mon 5 th	Pupils return to school
October	
Fri 21 st	Last day of half term
Mon 31 st	Return to school
November	
Fri 4 th	Year 6 trip to Western Point Museum TBC
W/b Mon 14 th	Pupil Learning Reviews
December	
Fri 9 th Dec	PTA Christmas Fair
Wed 14 th	Christmas dinner
Thurs 15 th	Y1 – 6 trip to Cinderella Pantomime at Floral Pavillion, New Brighton
Fri 16 th	Last Day of Term – School Closes at 2pm (No Happy Hive after school club)
January '23	
Tue 3 rd	Inset Day
Wed 4 th	Pupils return to school
February	
Fri 17 th	Last Day of Half Term
Tue 28 th	Pupils return to school
March	
Fri 31 st	Last Day of Term – School Closes at 2pm (No Happy Hive after school club)
April	
Mon 17 th	Pupils return to school
May	
Mon 1 st	Bank Holiday – no school
Tue 2 nd	Return to School
Mon 22 nd	Year 3 residential visit to Delamere (1 night)
Mon 22 nd	Year 5 residential visit to Conway Centre (2 nights)
Tues 23 rd	Year 3 return from residential
Wed 24 th	Year 5 return from residential
Fri 26 th	Last Day of Half Term
June	
Mon 5 th	Inset Day
Tue 6 th	Pupils return to school
Mon 12 th	Year 6 residential to London (2 nights)
Wed 14 th	Year 6 return from residential
July	
Fri 21 st	Last Day of Term – School Closes at 2pm (No Happy Hive after school club)