



## 12th December 2025

What a fantastic week it has been once again at Belsay Primary School. Even though we are edging ever closer to the end of term, the children have continued to work incredibly hard. Classrooms have been full of focus, enthusiasm and effort, and it has been wonderful to see pupils enjoying their DT time across school – designing, creating and making products with such imagination. It's always a lovely feature of this time of year.

Our week began with a truly magical moment on Monday when we were visited by the big man himself – Santa Claus! A huge thank you to *S. Cuthbert Joinery* for their incredibly generous donation of selection boxes for every child in school. They went down an absolute treat and the excitement on the children's faces said it all. Santa's visit certainly added some sparkle to the start of our week.

Today, we enjoyed our own festive feast here in school. A huge thank you to Mrs Hayes, who was in bright and early to prepare such a delicious Christmas dinner. The food looked fabulous, tasted even better and the portions certainly didn't disappoint! Children and staff alike thoroughly enjoyed the meal – it was a real treat to round off the week.



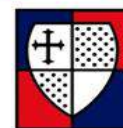
This afternoon, we also took part in our Santa Dash, giving everyone a chance to work off a little of that Christmas dinner! Whether walking, jogging or running, it was lovely to see the children taking part with smiles on their faces and festive music playing in the background. A perfect way to release some energy and keep the Christmas spirit alive.

To end the week, we celebrated our final Hot Chocolate Friday of 2025 – well done to all of our winners. We also enjoyed our celebration assembly, marking the achievements, kindness and hard work shown throughout the school.

I look forward to welcoming everyone back on Monday for our final week before we break up for the Christmas holidays at **1pm next Friday**.

**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.

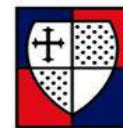
**Current Whole School attendance is 94.71%.** Our **NEW** target for Whole School Attendance is 95%.

Class	Weekly attendance	Annual attendance
Willow	75.71%	94.85%
Maple	92.31%	94.82%
Alder	88.40%	92.88%
Oak	100%	96.55%

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 a wonderful week we've had!

We've been working incredibly hard to stay focused and complete our assessments. Everyone showed great effort and determination. I am so proud of how well the children concentrated and gave their best.

A very special highlight this week was our magical visit from Santa. The children were so excited and shared lots of smiles and festive cheer! Additional photos have been shared on Tapestry.

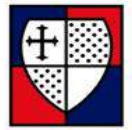


In DT, we've been busy completing our exciting project linked to designing and making houses. The children showed fantastic creativity, problem-solving skills and teamwork.

We've also had a great week filled with Christmas crafts, creating beautiful decorations and spreading festive joy around the classroom.

Thank you for a brilliant week together. We can't wait for more festive fun on ur final week of the term before the Christmas break!

**Miss Houghton**



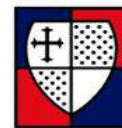
## Classroom updates - Maple Class

Maple Class had an exciting start to the week with a very special surprise visit from Santa on Monday! He was thrilled to see all the children working so hard and shared in our excitement for Christmas. In English, the class took on a secret mission to write letters to Santa. Everyone put great effort into their writing and presentation, and Miss Houghton was very impressed with the results. The morning was made even more festive as we listened to Christmas songs while carefully crafting our letters.

In DT, Maple Class explored the history of mince pies and why they are a traditional Christmas treat. We planned our own pies by listing ingredients and equipment, drawing designs, and deciding what shape to place on top. On Thursday afternoon, we worked hard with Miss Checkley and Mr Atkinson, using skills like rolling, cutting, and scooping to make our pies. We also discussed the importance of hygiene while cooking, making sure our hands and surfaces were clean. The pies received mixed reviews when tasted, but the majority were delicious! Finally, we came together as a class to critique our creations and celebrate our hard work.



Miss Dixon



## Classroom updates- Alder class

What a week we've had Alder Class!

We've been busy this week showing off all the learning that we have done this half term with maths, reading and writing assessments. The children have done us proud with the focus and effort they have put into everything.

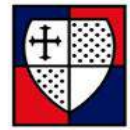
Our afternoons have been filled with DT and making our very own Anglo Saxon shields complete with a clay boss! The children have enjoyed researching, designing and making their shields and creating our own class shield wall today!

We continued to get well and truly into the Christmas Spirit this week with a visit from Santa Claus and some Christmas crafts.

Have a lovely festive weekend everyone and we look forward to seeing you all next week.

**Mrs Aynsley & Mrs Rutter**





## Classroom updates - Oak Class

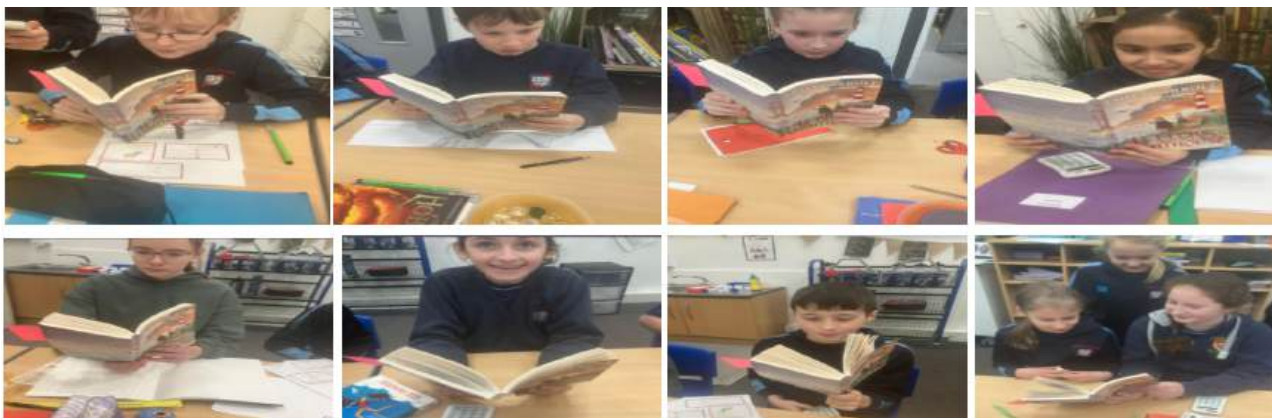
This week in English we finished reading *Letters from the Lighthouse* by Emma Carroll and the class showed such maturity as they tackled some of the deeper themes in the final chapters. We talked about hope, sacrifice and the importance of kindness even when times are difficult. The children impressed us with the way they connected the ending to ideas we have discussed all term and their reflections were thoughtful and really well expressed.

In Maths we have been developing our fluency in multiplying and making sure we can choose the most efficient method for different types of questions. We have practised spotting patterns, checking answers logically and using reasoning to explain why a strategy works. In Science we explored the relationship between light sources and shadows and experimented with how distance and angle can completely change a shadow's size and clarity. The children worked carefully when predicting results and then comparing them with what actually happened.

In Geography we learned about the formation of UK coasts and how they are always changing due to erosion deposition and weathering. The children made links to places they have visited in the North East and we had some brilliant conversations about cliffs, stacks, bays and headlands. Their curiosity about how our landscape evolves over time really shone through.

On Thursday we had a full day of Art where we completed our printing unit which was a massive achievement for everyone. The focus and creativity across the whole class were fantastic and the final pieces showed a real sense of pride. It has been lovely to see pupils build their skills across the unit and produce work they are genuinely proud of.

Thanks as always for your amazing support and let's get festive for our final week. The excitement is building nicely, the children are buzzing for the Christmas activities ahead and we are looking forward to celebrating the final few days of term together.



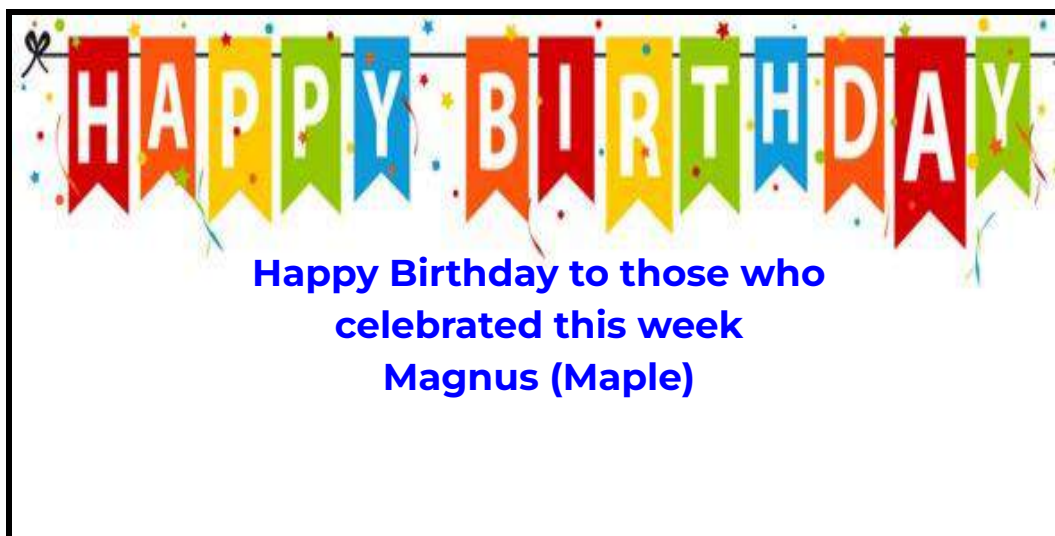
Mr McLeod



## Dates for your Diary

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

Date	Time	
Monday 15th December	3.15pm	PTA Christmas Jingle
Tuesday 16th December	8:30am	Whole school trip to the Pantomime
Wednesday 17th December	Afternoon	Alder and Oak Christmas party
Thursday 18th December	Afternoon	Pele Trust Christmas Concert at St Mary's Church (for those in choir and band)
Thursday 18th December	Afternoon	Willow and Maple Christmas party
Friday 19th December	1.00pm	School closes for the holidays



Belsay Primary School

# Friday Flyer

Belsay School



We kindly remind you that the school car park should not be used between 8:20am - 9:10am and 2:50pm and 3:30pm. During these times, our buses and taxis need clear access to park and manoeuvre safely so that children can board and disembark without risk.

Thank you for your cooperation in helping keep the car park safe.

The flyer features a central illustration of a school building with a sign that says 'SCHOOL'. In front of the school, a diverse group of people is shown, including a person on a bicycle, a person in a wheelchair, a person pushing a stroller, and several children. To the right of the school is a triangular warning sign with a red border and a white background, showing two children walking, with a rectangular sign below it that says 'School'. Below the illustration, a yellow zigzag line separates the scene from a red background. The text 'SCHOOL — KEEP — CLEAR' is written in yellow above this line. On the red background, there are two white car icons, one on the left and one on the right, each with a driver and passengers. The text 'As a driver you have a responsibility to park in a safe and considerate manner. Park with care and help make the area near and around our school a safer place for everyone.' is written in white on the red background.

## Safer Parking around our school

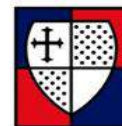
SCHOOL — KEEP — CLEAR

As a driver you have a responsibility to park in a safe and considerate manner.  
Park with care and help make the area near and around our school a safer place for everyone.

Belsay Primary School

# Friday Flyer

Belsay School



# BELSAY



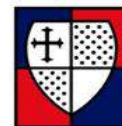
## BABY & TODDLER GROUP

Every Monday (during term time)  
in the school hall • 10am - 11am

Come along to a relaxed  
and friendly group

**EVERYONE WELCOME**

**£2.50 PER FAMILY**



# Friday Flyer



## LOVE RUGBY SERIES

A nationwide series of **girls-only** festivals, joining up girls aged 8-11 new to rugby with those already playing for a fun, friendly and positive experience

### Key Information

- 40+ festivals taking place from November to June
- Girls in U9-U11s (Year 4-6)
- All abilities welcome
- Coaching workshops and game play

### Kick-off Events

Date	Location	Time
13/12/25	Kingston Park Stadium – Home of Newcastle Red Bulls	10am-12pm

**Want to join in?**

1. Find an event you are interested in
2. Sign up using the link below
3. Keep an eye out for upcoming events on [findrugby.com](http://findrugby.com)



Sign-up to your local event here !

Belsay Primary School

# Friday Flyer

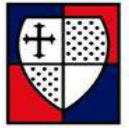
Belsay School



Belsay Primary School

# Friday Flyer

Belsay School



**PMC** | Ponteland  
Methodist Church  
**Christmas 2025**

**14<sup>th</sup> December at 10am**

## Christingle Service

All are welcome  
Christingles provided

