

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 happy and productive atmosphere around the school building and grounds.

The Trust Site Team have been busy with internal works during the holidays with us having a brand new hall floor and two additional intervention rooms within our existing building. Children were excited to see the changes on Tuesday!

It's great to have all pupils back and our new

Reception pupils who are now in full time routine this week.

A very warm welcome to any new families starting at Belgrave!



### NO AUTHORISED HOLIDAYS DURING TERM TIME

Parents have a [legal duty](#) to make sure that their child aged five to 16 attends school. No holidays during term time will be authorised. We are now required that should you still choose to take a leave of absence with your child, the Local Authority will be informed as this will constitute an unauthorised absence. A Fixed Penalty Notice (FPN) will then be issued in accordance with section 444 of the Education Act 1996. The law stipulates that the current penalties payable by parents are £160 if paid within 28 days reducing to £80 if paid within 21 days **per parent/carer per child**.

Any requests for term time absence (paper forms in the office or download from school website) will be responded to with a formal letter of notification of the above. We will continue to issue letters at the end of each term for attendance and punctuality which is causing concern, and this is reported and monitored to our Cheshire West School Welfare Officer.

We still have a number of children who are arriving after the gates have been locked. Pupils arriving after this time will need to come to the main entrance and will be recorded as late on the register. **All absences must be reported to the school office by 9.15am.**

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.**

#### Attendance matters!

**Don't underestimate the importance of 100 percent attendance.**

**Even one day missed can have an effect on learning:**

- **98 %** attendance means **four** school days missed
- **95 %** attendance means **10** school days missed
- **90 %** attendance means **19** school days missed
- **80 %** attendance means **38** school days missed

#### Lateness

- Good attendance doesn't just involve being present in school – it also involves punctuality. You also have a responsibility to ensure that your child arrive at school on time.
- All pupils are expected to be in their classrooms by 8.50am/8.55am. If pupils are not in their classrooms by this time, they receive a late mark – this is an **unauthorised absence**.
- Five minutes late each day means **three school days** missed over the year.

## BEES

This week, classes have been exploring our school emblem of bees and our BEES motto **Belong, Enjoy, Enthuse, Succeed**. We had our whole school assembly on Tuesday about expectations and rules. All pupils have had age appropriate discussion around our behavioural expectations (Relationships Policy) in classrooms which set out our aims, core values and implementation of behaviour here at Belgrave: <http://www.belgrave.cheshire.sch.uk/page/behaviour/14737> Sanctions and consequences are based around our three school rules:

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

## COMMUNICATION

It is the monthly newsletter which will provide the information, achievements and diary dates for the forthcoming year. We aim to provide you with dates as far in advance as possible. Some dates are subject to change. PTA will send more information before those events, all dates are on the list for you to save in your calendars! This newsletter 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](mailto:admin@belgrave.cheshire.sch.uk) and Mrs Morgan will arrange for you to be contacted by the appropriate staff member. **Please do not use Class Dojo to message staff.** Celebration assemblies will resume on Friday afternoons for one year group per week; you will receive a message on the Wednesday of that week if your child is sharing their work during that assembly to give you the opportunity to come and join us. All pupils will share their work over the course of the academic year. Later today, all year groups will send out their curriculum overviews through Class Dojo for the year to help you support your child with their learning.



## MOBILE PHONES REMINDER FOR PUPILS IN YEAR 5 AND 6



Quick reminder to the Year 5/6 children - mobile phones should not be visible on the playground before or after school. Keep them in your bags please until you leave the school grounds! As tempting as it may be to share the latest video or meme, this should not be happening on school premises. If parents could reinforce this at home it would be greatly appreciated. All children bringing a mobile phone to school need to have a completed Mobile Phone Parental Permission letter. Mobile phones must be handed to Mr Clifton or Miss Edwards on arrival at school and are locked away safely for the school day. Phones are returned before being dismissed at the end of the day.

## NUT ALLERGIES

A reminder from July newsletter that we are now a Nut Free & Sesame Free School as we have a number of children with severe allergies at Belgrave. Although we recognise that this cannot be guaranteed, Belgrave aims to be a strict Nut-Free and sesame free school to reduce the risk to those children and adults who may suffer a reaction if exposed to nuts to which they are sensitive.

Please do not allow nuts or nut products in lunch boxes or as a snack that are brought in from home. Our "Nut and Sesame-Free School" means that the following items should not be brought into school:

- Packs of nuts
- Houmous
- Peanut butter sandwiches
- Chocolate Spread (made with nuts) sandwiches
- Fruit and cereal bars that contain nuts / sesame
- Chocolate bars or sweets that contain nuts / sesame
- Sesame seeds i.e., rolls (children allergic to nuts may also have a severe reaction to sesame)
- Cakes made with nuts
- Cakes or biscuits made with coconut oil (children allergic to cashews may also have a severe reaction to coconut)



We do not use sesame nuts in any of the food prepared on site at our school. Our suppliers provide us with nut and sesame-free products. It is acceptable to send food in from home where the ingredients say 'may contain'.

Pupils have been informed that break time snacks are fruit and vegetables only. This does include 100% fruit snacks such as Yoyos or Fruit Strings. Please help us by sending your child into school with only fruit or vegetable snacks to eat at break time. This could be: raisins, grapes, carrot sticks, strawberries, celery sticks etc.

## FIRST AID

Our First Aid system will alert parents by email (not a phone call) if there is a head or facial injury. Not all first aid concerns will be shared with parents, only significant ones. It would not be possible to manage sharing all first aid reports as there are many bumps and scrapes each day.

Parents will be contacted by phone if an injury is serious enough for hospital treatment. It is important that you keep us updated with any changes to emergency contacts (minimum of two adults) and up to date phone numbers so that the office can contact you.

We can only administer medicine when a course of antibiotics is four times per day. All medicines must have a pharmacy label with the child's name on and parents must complete a form digitally with a member of the Senior Leadership Team. Please do not send medicines of any sort in with your child.



## DONATION

Hugest thanks to Craig (Ossain's Dad) who has kindly organised a donation from the company he works for: Bar Lounge. We are delighted to have received a brand-new

table tennis table which is being

used outdoors. Pupils are having a lot of fun being able to play table tennis at break and lunchtimes!

We really appreciate this generous donation which will benefit children from all year groups for years to come.



## ACHIEVEMENTS OUTSIDE SCHOOL



If you are new to Belgrave, we welcome parents sending in any photographs / information of achievements outside school so that we can share them in our newsletters. Please send them by email to [admin@belgrave.cheshire.sch.uk](mailto:admin@belgrave.cheshire.sch.uk)

Ada in Year 1 received a medal achieving beginner with confidence level swimming 10 metres with no support! ☆

Aoife in Year 2 was the first person to complete the Gladstone library junior reading challenge and receiving her goodie bag! She went along once a week to choose and read books from Gladstone Library. ☆



At the end of the summer term Thomas (now in Year 4) and Daniel (now in Year 2) did brilliantly in their Mini-Gladiators grading, showing off their Taekwon-do skills. Abigail in Year 6 gained her red-stripe belt, impressing the examiner with her kicks and patterns. If any children would like to try Taekwon-do they can have a free session, Monday evenings 6:05pm at Catholic High School.





<https://www.tkd-chester.co.uk/index.html>

Alice in Year 6 was invited as a junior member of Everton to be a mascot for the first night game and the first cup game at the new stadium. She was picked out of 5000 members and had an amazing experience; meeting the players, getting a ball signed by them and getting to run out with the players at the start of the match. ☆



Alice has also achieved the highest Brownie award - the Gold Award. She has completed over 6 interest badges, 6 skills builders and hours of meeting activities to gain all 6 theme awards leading to Gold! ☆

Alba in Year 2 and Florence in Year 1 moved up from Squirrels and took their Beaver promise just before the summer holidays, here is a photo on them at their enrolment! Well done girls! ☆

If your child has taken part in the Summer Reading Challenge at the library then they can bring their medal in to share in assembly on Monday 8<sup>th</sup> September.



### GROUNDS DAY – SATURDAY 27<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER 10AM – 12PM

This is a popular family event which helps us to maintain the school grounds and bring some more colour to the areas around school. Please come along with your family on Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> September between 10am and 12pm, even if you can only spare quarter of an hour – every pair of hands helps! We would be very grateful for any donations of plants for the pots and shrubs

that would be suitable for the woods and pots as well as any bulbs ready to bloom in Spring and bags of compost. Please could these be dropped off by Friday 26<sup>th</sup> September if you are unable to attend and can donate. Alternatively, we are in need of any small trowels! Please bring your own tools, gardening gloves and paintbrushes. We do own some gardening tools at school but not enough for everyone! PTA will be providing much needed refreshments. There are so many jobs to do. Some examples include: Pruning, weeding, re-laying bark on the paths and play area in the woods, planting bulbs around school, planting up the pots / new barrel planters, filling the skip; sweeping and tidying. All family members are welcome to join us!



### SCHOOL UNIFORM

Pupils were really smartly dressed in full school uniform this first week back at school. 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 (including water bottles).

**Safety Earrings:** We have had this product brought to our attention, available from Amazon. It may be a useful alternative to earrings, which are required to be covered up/taped over for PE at school. Search for "Plastic

Earring Posts Clear Rubber Safety Eardrop Backs” if you think they may be of use for your child. We cannot take earrings out or put them back in for any pupils.

PE Kits / footwear need to be labelled and in school in a small draw- string bag to fit in lockers (Year 1-6).



### MESSAGE FROM THE LOCAL GOVERNING BOARD

Welcome back everyone!

We look forward to meeting new parents at events during the school year.

The LGB are meeting later in September. This first meeting of the year is notably when we plan and schedule our visits to the school, which we use to review the school strategic priorities with subject leaders.

Please see the poster **How can I help?** below about how you can make a difference in school as a parent / carer or make the school an even better environment for all pupils. The PTA AGM is on Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> September 3.30pm at school. We hope that many of you will be able to join us. The PTA are always looking for new parents to help.

Thank you, Belgrave Governing Board

### EXTRA FUNDING FOR YOUR CHILD

As I am sure you are aware, all infant pupils are entitled to a free school meal. This type of free school meal is called the **Universal Free School Meal**.

There is also another type of free school meal available to some families based on household income. For each child eligible for Income-Based Free School Meals, the school receives additional funding which could be used to provide support such as extra support or intervention and after school activities. Your child could also benefit from all trips and residentials being paid for through the funding.

Families who receive certain benefits may be eligible for free school meals. Your child is eligible for Income-Based Free School Meals if you're in receipt of one of the following benefits:

- Universal Credit with an annual net earned income of no more than £7,400.
- Income Support
- Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- Support under Part 6 of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- The guarantee element of Pension Credit
- Working Tax Credit run-on (paid for the four weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit)
- Child Tax Credit (with no Working Tax Credit) with an annual income of no more than £16,190



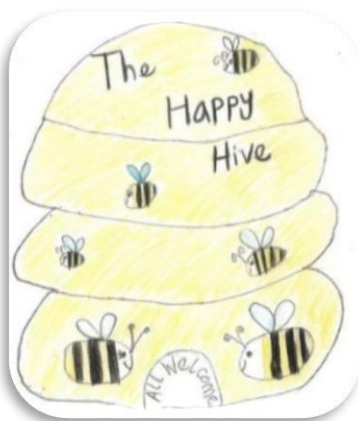
This additional money is available from central government for every child whose parent is receiving one of the benefits listed above. To check if your child is eligible, simply follow the link below:

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

If you have any questions or need any support with this, we will be holding a drop-in session on Thursday 11th September, 2:30pm – 3:30pm when you can come and speak confidentially to a member of the Senior Leadership Team about whether you may be eligible for this funding. Alternatively, please feel free to email the school:

[admin@belgrave.ccheshire.sch.uk](mailto:admin@belgrave.ccheshire.sch.uk)

## IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT THE HAPPY HIVE



Please ensure that all bookings for Happy Hive before and after school clubs are made in advance (at least 24 hours). There are a limited number of places available and these fill up quickly.

**Pick up until 4.15pm:** (Monday – Thursday):

Children in Reception and KS1: Middle door Y2 entrance on front playground

Children in KS2: Y4 entrance on Community Centre playground

Friday: All pupils to be collected from Y4 entrance on Community Centre playground by 4.15pm.

**Pick up after 4.15pm:** All children from the hall entrance via the main gate on front playground.

Any cancellations can be made on the App but must be made at least 24 hours in advance.

If we have an event on at school and the hall is being used, a message will be sent that day on Class Dojo. Please check before picking up your child.

If you need to get in touch with The Happy Hive staff after 4.15pm when the school office is closed then please phone the dedicated phone number: 07586 539417

## CONGRATULATIONS TO MISS KNOWLES!

Congratulations to Miss Knowles who got married over the summer and is now Mrs Miller. Mrs Miller will be working with us until October when she will be off on maternity leave to welcome her new addition to the family!



## AND FINALLY.....

- 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 playing in the Forest School area after the gates close as they are on an automated timer.
- School attendance is mandatory for all pupils of compulsory school age. Please report all pupil absences to the school office by email or phone 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](mailto:admin@belgrave.cheshire.sch.uk)
- Term dates are on the school website and a copy is below. **Please note that this term we have an Inset day on Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> October where school is closed for all pupils.**

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

Juliette Benton  
Headteacher





### SCHOOL TERM DATES 2025-26

	Close at 3.10/3.15 p.m. Except for end of school term closing at 2.00pm	Open at 8.45 a.m.
Summer 2025		Tuesday 2 <sup>nd</sup> September 2025
Autumn half term	Friday 24 <sup>th</sup> October 2025	Monday 3 <sup>rd</sup> November 2025
Christmas 2025	Friday 19 <sup>th</sup> December 2025 Close 2pm	Tuesday 6 <sup>th</sup> January 2026
Spring half term	Friday 13 <sup>th</sup> February 2026	Monday 23 <sup>rd</sup> February 2026
Spring Break 2026	Wednesday 1 <sup>st</sup> April 2026 Close 2pm	Monday 20 <sup>th</sup> April 2026
May Day 2026	Friday 1 <sup>st</sup> May 2026	Tuesday 5 <sup>th</sup> May 2026
Summer half term	Friday 22 <sup>nd</sup> May 2026	Tuesday 2 <sup>nd</sup> June 2026
Summer 2026	Tuesday 21 <sup>st</sup> July 2026 Close 2pm	

### INSET DAYS

Monday 1st September 2025

Friday 3rd October 2025

Monday 5th January 2026

Monday 1st June 2026

Wednesday 22nd July 2026



## How can I help?

Parents, carers, extended family and close community are all Friends of Belgrave. Many among you will want to know how you can help the school to be an even better environment for all pupils.

### Belong

We all belong to the Belgrave community and must work together to ensure all the pupils achieve the best outcomes. There should be no 'them' and 'us'. Any concerns should be raised with a positive and open-minded approach, trusting the good intentions of everyone involved, and keeping the well-being of our students as our top priority.

### Participate

Our community is much more fun and cohesive when everyone joins in. Our Parent Teachers Association (PTA) works very hard to organise events that bring everyone together. The pupils love seeing their adults being involved with the school, getting to know their teachers and teaching assistants as well as their friends' families. Teachers will often encourage parents and carers to engage with a piece of homework, be it reading with the kids, or being quizzed on history or even maths. Please join in, don't be shy or afraid to show how much or little you know: simply joining in their learning journey has been proven to bring huge educational benefits!

### Volunteer

It takes a lot of time and effort to keep a school community thriving, and we will sometimes ask for volunteers to help us run a PTA event, ferry kids to a sporting competition or even dig out a playground or repaint a wall. If you can help, please do. We also welcome people who can tell a good story, explain what they do at work, or run a craft session. If you think you have something to offer, please reach out and we'll see whether we can use your help.

But please don't over promise, and be clear and honest about what and how much time you can commit, which is essential for our organisers to work their magic.

### Organise

Our PTA consists of a formal committee (chairs, secretary and treasurer) elected at the Annual General Meeting (AGM) held in early September, and a network of class representatives. Together they organise a busy calendar of fundraising events throughout the year, and will regularly ask for volunteers to pitch in. Remember the PTA cannot do this on their own and rely on parents, carers and families to help run these events as well as participate.

We also have a Local Governing Body (LGB) who sets and monitors the strategic progression of the school. This too consists of volunteers, who serve 4 year terms. New parent governors are elected every year or so, and we welcome parents and carers from all walks of life to put themselves forward for elections and help keep our LGB fresh and representative of the whole school community.

### Contribute

It is a sad fact that schools are continuously asked to do more with an increasingly insufficient budget. We rely on the funds raised through PTA events to buy equipment we can no longer afford with our government funding, such as the new years 3-6 playground, or the iPads used in the classrooms. We are a registered charity (Nº 701864) and if you can afford to donate, or buy that cup of sweets, that burger, that beer, that second hand teddy, please do with the assurance your donation will go directly to improve the children's school day as well as their educational outcome.



## DIARY DATES

*Confirmed dates are listed below. More dates for the academic year will be added / confirmed as we receive them including all PTA dates.  
Please note that some dates may be subject to change.*

<b>September</b>	
Tues 2 <sup>nd</sup>	Pupils return to school
Mon 8 <sup>th</sup>	Year 5 swimming starts
Thurs 11 <sup>th</sup>	Free School Meals Drop in 2.30pm – 3.30pm (see information above in newsletter)
Tues 16 <sup>th</sup>	PTA AGM 3.30pm at school
Fri 19 <sup>th</sup>	PTA Coffee morning for Reception parents at drop off 9am – 9.45am in school hall
Tues 23 <sup>rd</sup>	Year 6 trip to Stockport Air Raid Shelters
Sat 27 <sup>th</sup>	Grounds Day 10am – 12pm
<b>October</b>	
Fri 3 <sup>rd</sup>	Inset Day (pupils not in school)
W/b 6 <sup>th</sup>	Year 5 trip to River Dee
W/b 13 <sup>th</sup>	Year 1 walkaround trip around local area
Mon 21 <sup>st</sup>	Year 4 swimming starts
Tues 21 <sup>st</sup>	Year 4 Roman trip to Chester
Tues 21 <sup>st</sup>	Phonics and Reading Workshop for Reception and Year 1 parents 4.30pm
Fri 24 <sup>th</sup>	Last day of half term
<b>November</b>	
Mon 3 <sup>rd</sup>	Return to school
TBC	Year 3 visit to Lache Library
Wed 5 <sup>th</sup>	Year 2 trip to Lady Lever Art Gallery
Fri 7 <sup>th</sup> – Wed 12 <sup>th</sup>	Scholastic Book Fair
Tues 11 <sup>th</sup>	Pupil Learning Reviews 1.00pm – 5.00pm
Wed 12 <sup>th</sup>	Pupil Learning Reviews 3.30pm – 6.30pm
Fri 14 <sup>th</sup>	Children in Need day
Fri 21 <sup>st</sup>	Individual and Sibling Photographs
Thurs 27 <sup>th</sup>	Year 4 Lantern Parade in Chester 6.30pm (TBC)
<b>December</b>	
Mon 1 <sup>st</sup>	Flu vaccinations for pupils
Tues 9 <sup>th</sup>	Rec / KS1 Christmas performance 1.30pm
Wed 10 <sup>th</sup>	Rec / KS1 Christmas performance 9.45am
Mon 15 <sup>th</sup>	KS2 Christmas performance 5.00pm
Tues 16 <sup>th</sup>	KS2 Christmas performance 9.30am
Wed 17 <sup>th</sup>	Christmas dinner
Thurs 18 <sup>th</sup>	Reception Christmas party at school
Thurs 18 <sup>th</sup>	Y1 – 6 trip to Pantomime 'Sleeping Beauty' at Floral Pavillion, New Brighton
Fri 19 <sup>th</sup>	Last Day of Term – School Closes at 2pm (No Happy Hive after school club)
<b>January 2025</b>	
Mon 5 <sup>th</sup>	Inset Day (pupils not in school)
Tues 6 <sup>th</sup>	Pupils return to school
Tues 13 <sup>th</sup>	Year 2 visit to Lache Library
Mon 26 <sup>th</sup>	Year 5 and 6 trip to Safety Central
Wed 28 <sup>th</sup>	Year 3 trip to World Museum, Liverpool
<b>February</b>	
Fri 13 <sup>th</sup>	Last Day of Half Term
Mon 23 <sup>rd</sup>	Pupils return to school
<b>March</b>	

Thurs 5 <sup>th</sup>	World Book Day (More information to follow)
Tues 10 <sup>th</sup>	Year 5 trip to Xplore Science Museum
Fri 13 <sup>th</sup>	Year 1 trip to British Ironworks Centre
Tues 24 <sup>th</sup>	Pupil Learning Reviews 3.30pm – 6.30pm
Wed 25 <sup>th</sup>	Pupil Learning Reviews 1.00pm – 5.00pm
Date TBC	Year 4 trip to Tattenhall
<b>April</b>	
Wed 1 <sup>st</sup>	Last Day of Term – School Closes at 2pm (No Happy Hive after school club)
Mon 20 <sup>th</sup>	Pupils return to school
<b>May</b>	
Mon 4 <sup>th</sup>	Bank Holiday – no school
Wed 6 <sup>th</sup>	Year 3 trip to Ness Gardens
Mon 11 <sup>th</sup> – 14 <sup>th</sup>	Year 6 KS2 SATs
W/b 18 <sup>th</sup>	Year 6 Bikeability
Wed 20 <sup>th</sup>	Year 5 residential visit to Conway Centre (2 nights)
Fri 22 <sup>nd</sup>	Year 5 return from residential
Fri 22 <sup>nd</sup>	Last Day of Half Term
<b>June</b>	
Mon 1 <sup>st</sup>	Inset Day (pupils not in school)
Tue 2 <sup>nd</sup>	Pupils return to school
Date TBC (Summer term)	Reception trip to 'Imagine That!'
Thurs 4 <sup>th</sup>	Class photographs
Date TBC	Year 4 visit to Lache Library
Mon 8 <sup>th</sup>	KS2 Sports Day 1.30pm
Wed 10 <sup>th</sup>	Year 6 residential to London (2 nights)
Fri 12 <sup>th</sup>	Year 6 return from residential
Mon 15 <sup>th</sup>	Rec / KS1 Sports Day 1.30pm
Tues 16 <sup>th</sup>	Reserve KS2 Sports Day
Thurs 18 <sup>th</sup>	Reserve Rec / KS1 Sports Day
Fri 19 <sup>th</sup>	Year 1 trip to Prestatyn beach
Sat 20 <sup>th</sup>	Year 2 Midsummer Watch Parade in Chester TBC
Date TBC	Year 2 trip to Jodrell Bank
<b>July</b>	
Thurs 14 <sup>th</sup>	Wider Opps music performance for Year 4 parents 2.30pm
Mon 13 <sup>th</sup>	End of year reports sent out
Tues 21 <sup>st</sup>	Last Day of Term – School Closes at 2pm (No Happy Hive after school club)