

Dear Parents, Carers and Friends of Belgrave,



I do hope that you all enjoyed some rest and family time over the festive period. Wishing you a happy and healthy new year from all of us here at Belgrave!

It was lovely to welcome pupils back to school today, refreshed and re-energised ready for new learning this term. Pupils were quickly back into routines and have already started new topics.

I spoke to the children in assembly this morning about bringing school shoes if walking to school in wellingtons, boots or snow boots. Please also ensure that hats, scarves and gloves are labelled.

### FESTIVE PERFORMANCES

Reception and KS1 performed their nativity with enthusiasm and it was heartening to see them all perform with confidence and enjoyment. KS2 were as brilliant and sang a wide range of songs alongside telling the story of *The Night Before Christmas*. Thank you to all of the families that attended to share in our festivities. Our Belgrave Choir performed at the Westminster Park Light Switch On with the Lord Mayor attending. She was very impressed and sent some lovely feedback to our choir. Thank you to Miss Edwards and Mr Young for organising this.



### SLEEPING BEAUTY AT THE PANTOMIME



Reception stayed at school for their Christmas party whilst all other pupils enjoyed a fabulous trip to the Floral Pavilion Theatre before Christmas to watch 'Sleeping Beauty'.

We always have a lot of fun at the annual pantomime and December's trip was no different! The children enjoy the live theatre, comedy and spending time with their friends in this environment and it's always delightful to see them enjoying the interactive performance. Thank you to the PTA for providing the ice creams and ice lollies for the event. Mair from Year 6 was confident enough to go up on stage to represent Belgrave and sing – well done Mair – we were very proud of you in front of such a large audience!

### PTA

We were as delighted as the PTA when hearing the news of making a grand total of £3000 from the Christmas Fair this year! It was such a buzzing vibe throughout the fair with the wrapping room, grotto and raffle always being popular! A heartfelt huge thank you to all of the PTA who helped to run the fair so smoothly. Thank you to everybody for the planning, organising, buying and tidying. There are so many parts to ensuring the fair runs smoothly and it was well worth it, so thank you!

### SUPPORT IN SCHOOL

Our school remains committed to protecting children's wellbeing and ensuring they are safe from harm. All staff members receive training in basic safeguarding to ensure they can confidently recognise and respond to concerns. In addition, we have a dedicated team of five specially trained safeguarding leads who provide further expertise and guidance across the school strengthening our capacity to ensure the safety and wellbeing of all pupils. This is overseen by Debs Forrest, our Safeguarding Governor.

In addition, as a qualified teacher, Ms Fitzgerald is close to completing her SENDCo qualification, enabling her to provide valuable support across safeguarding, special educational needs, and pastoral care. These developments reflect our ongoing commitment to maintaining a robust and supportive environment for every child at Belgrave.

## ATTENDANCE AND PUNCTUALITY

We still have a number of children who are arriving after the gates close at:

**8.55am for Reception, Year 1 and Year 2**

**8.50am for KS2 pupils (Year 3,4,5 and 6)**

Pupils who arrive after the gates close will receive a late mark in the register.

Please help your child to arrive at school on time.

All absences must be reported to the school office by 9.15am.

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.**

All 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.

**All absences must be reported to the school office by 9.15am.**

Please make any routine appointments for your child outside of the school day. Any emergency appointments need to be emailed to the school office in the same way as absences.

### 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 arrives 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.

## FOOTBALL SUCCESS



Before the Christmas break, our football team represented Belgrave at the Chester Schools Tournament showing great team spirit in all their games. Well done everyone!

A couple of our games were cancelled before Christmas but Mr Moss is working hard to reschedule the games this half term.

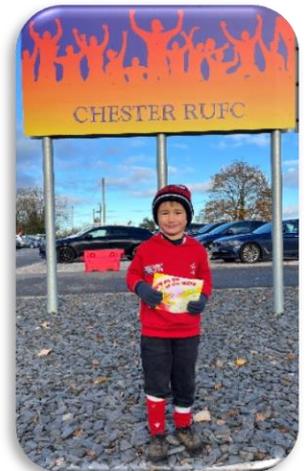
## ACHIEVEMENTS OUTSIDE SCHOOL



Finley in Reception achieved Star of The Week at Rugby in November – well done to Finley and it's great to hear how well he is doing! ☆

Logan in Year 4 won player of the match for his football team- Westminster Park Wolves U9s. This was for 'a solid performance and positive attitude throughout' – an excellent achievement for Logan – well done! ☆

Lia in Year 2 achieved player of the match award for her football club - Westminster Park Lightning Wolves U7's. This is super and I enjoy hearing all about Lia's love of football after the weekend games! ☆



Max in Year 5 has recently passed his Drumming RSL Entry Level exam with a distinction. He has worked really hard to pass the exam and demonstrated a real drive to improve his drumming. He's now working towards his Level 1 exam. This is fantastic to hear Max – well done! ☆

Florence in Year 1 and Rowan in Reception started a dance class this year and performed in their first dance show in December. They did two group dances to a big audience and received a medal for taking part. Well done to both of you! ☆



Betty in Year 1 has recently achieved her 10-metre swimming badge. She looks extremely proud and rightly so – well done Betty! ☆



Heidi and Hope (both in Year 6), Rose in Year 4, Alexandra and Matilda in Year 3, and Lia and Aoife in Year 2 all took part in the Saltney Gymnastics Christmas show. They all worked really hard in the lead up to a full weekend of Christmas shows. Their performances were amazing and received lots of cheers from the crowd. Well done all of you! ☆



## KIND DONATION

A huge thank you to Mrs Mak (Mum to Annabelle in Year 6) who has recently donated her match funding from work (Lloyds Bank) to our PTA to enable more money to go into the library fund.

We are really appreciative to parents who have match funded this academic year.

# HAPPIER JANUARY

## Happier January 2026

MONDAY



TUESDAY



WEDNESDAY



THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY

SUNDAY

5 Look for the good in others and notice their strengths

6 Take five minutes to sit still and just breathe

7 Learn something new and share it with others

8 Say positive things to the people you meet today

9 Get moving. Do something active (ideally outdoors)

10 Thank someone you're grateful to and tell them why

11 Switch off all your tech at least an hour before bedtime

12 Connect with someone near you - share a smile or chat

13 Take a different route today and see what you notice

14 Eat healthy food which really nourishes you today

15 Get outside and notice five things that are beautiful

16 Contribute positively to your local community

17 Be gentle with yourself when you make mistakes

18 Get back in contact with an old friend

19 Focus on what's good, even if today feels tough

20 Go to bed in good time and allow yourself to recharge

21 Try out something new to get out of your comfort zone

22 Plan something fun and invite others to join you

23 Put away digital devices and focus on being in the moment

24 Take a small step towards an important goal

25 Decide to lift people up rather than put them down

26 Choose one of your strengths and find a way to use it today

27 Challenge your negative thoughts and look for the upside

28 Ask other people about things they've enjoyed recently

29 Say hello to a neighbour and get to know them better

30 See how many people you can smile at today

31 Write down your hopes or plans for the future



ACTION FOR HAPPINESS

Happier · Kinder · Together



## MESSAGE FROM THE LOCAL GOVERNING BOARD

Happy new year 2026! We hope that you all had an enjoyable Christmas. We were delighted to be invited to the joint Trust inset day yesterday where over 400 staff, governors and trustees joined together in a collaborative day of workshops, inspiring key speakers and networking meetings. All four schools' staff attended for this conference with the theme: **Together We Learn: Human Collaboration - Intelligent Tools**. We are meeting at the start of February following visits to school this month.

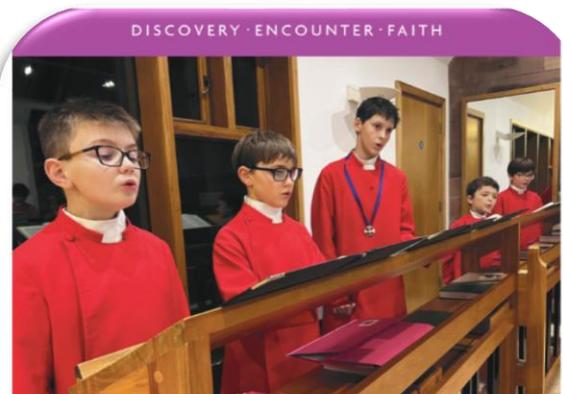
Thank you,  
Belgrave Governing Board

## BE A CHORISTER FOR A DAY AT CHESTER CATHEDRAL

Does your child love to sing? Join us for an afternoon of singing, games and find out more about this free, world-class musical opportunity. Be a Chorister for a day at Chester Cathedral – The popular chorister experience days are back and open to all primary school age children!

Boys: Sat 17 Jan, 1.30-5pm

Girls: Sat 24 Jan, 1.30-5pm



DISCOVERY · ENCOUNTER · FAITH



### BE A CHORISTER FOR A DAY

BOYS | SATURDAY 17 JANUARY | 1.30 – 5PM  
GIRLS | SATURDAY 24 JANUARY | 1.30 – 5PM

Does your child love to sing?

Chester Cathedral is seeking boys and girls aged 5-11 to join the prestigious Cathedral Choir.

Enjoy a fun-filled afternoon of singing games and rehearsals culminating in a service of Choral Evensong at the end of the afternoon.

All welcome, no experience necessary.

For more information and to register for this free event, please contact Dan Mathieson on dan.mathieson@chestercathedral.com

chestercathedral.com f @ i n s

## AND FINALLY.....

- Staff news: We are delighted that Miss Hayden is now working as a Teaching Assistant in school. She will be supporting Year 1 and Year 3. We also welcome Mrs Milano who will be working part-time as a Teaching Assistant.
- 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)

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

Juliette Benton  
Headteacher



What's good  
about being  
back at school?

I like learning.

George - Year 2

Seeing my  
friends. I missed  
seeing Ezra.

Harlen - Year 1

Playing with my  
friends.

Reggie - Year 1

I am happy!

Orlaith -  
Reception

Learning and  
reading.

Alex Mc - Year 3

# Belgrave PTA Events 2025/26

~~OCT  
24  
Break the Rules Day~~

~~DEC  
5  
5 PM TO 7 PM  
Christmas Fair~~

JAN  
30  
Own Clothes Day

MARCH  
31  
330PM TO 530PM  
Film Night

MAY  
15  
Own Clothes Day

JUNE  
25  
5 PM TO 7 PM  
Summer Social



**DIARY DATES**

*Confirmed dates are listed below.  
Please note that some dates may be subject to change.*

<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
Wed 21 <sup>st</sup>	Year 4 Let's Walk
Mon 26 <sup>th</sup>	Year 5 and 6 trip to Safety Central
Thurs 29 <sup>th</sup>	Year 4 Let's Walk
<del>Wed 28<sup>th</sup></del>	<del>Year 3 trip to World Museum, Liverpool</del> - see amended date below
Fri 30 <sup>th</sup>	PTA Own clothes day
<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>	
Wed 4 <sup>th</sup>	Year 3 trip to World Museum, Liverpool
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
Tues 31 <sup>st</sup>	PTA Film Night for pupils 3.30pm – 5.30pm
<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
Fri 15 <sup>th</sup>	PTA Own clothes Day
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
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
Tues 9 <sup>th</sup>	Reception trip to 'Imagine That!'
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
Thurs 25th	PTA Summer Social (Rainbow Raffle to be held)
<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
Fri 17th	Year 6 Leavers Trip bowling
Mon 20th	Year 6 Leavers Assembly for Parents
Tues 21st	Last Day of Term – School Closes at 2pm (No Happy Hive after school club)