

Dear Parents, Carers and Friends of Belgrave,



As we step into March, it's hard to believe we are already halfway through the academic year. It has been a joy to watch our children grow not only in their learning, but in confidence, friendships, resilience and all those wonderful qualities that make up their holistic development. This time of year, always brings a renewed sense of energy as the days begin to stretch out, the light lingers a little longer, and we look forward to the promise of warmer weather ahead. Thank you for your continued support - it makes such a difference to our school community.

MAIR'S REPLY FROM HER FAVOURITE AUTHOR

Mair in Year 6, along with her fellow classmates love reading! She recently decided to write to her favourite author, Sam Sedgman, who sent a warm reply back!

He thanked Mair for enjoying the Adventures on Trains series and explained that he and M. G. Leonard are currently taking a break from writing more books in that series while they each work on their own projects - Leonard on the Time Keys series and Sedgman on Isaac Turner Investigates.

Sam said he hopes they will reunite to write more adventures one day, and if they do, he would love to write about the Trans-Siberian Railway. He shared that he visited Mongolia recently and saw part of the railway there, which made him excited to travel it properly in the future.

Sam gently explained that he only dedicates books to people he knows personally, and that including real people as characters can sometimes cause problems, but he might use the name "Mair" for a character one day because it's unusual and memorable! He ends by thanking Mair again and encouraging her to keep enjoying stories and to go on her own railway adventures.

We are proud of Mair for writing to Sam with her story ideas, thoughts and advice – to receive a reply is truly amazing!



UNIFORM REMINDERS

A reminder of school uniform expectations:



- Summer dresses are yellow. We will continue to expect all pupils to wear black school shoes (boots, sandals or trainers are not permitted to be worn in school) with grey or white socks / grey tights.
- Jewellery should not be worn to school and to ensure children are safe. Earrings can only be studs, no hoops or other earrings. Earrings should be removed before P.E. or alternatively covered with surgical tape.
- We suggest that watches are worn by KS2 pupils only.
- Pupils should not wear any type of make up or nail varnish.

To read in more detail, here is a link to our Uniform page of our [website](#)

Thank you for your support.

KIND DONATION

A huge thank you to JJ and Rosie's parent who has recently donated through his work: PSR Solicitors Ltd in Chester. The kind donation has enabled us to purchase additional resources and equipment for children to use throughout school. It is very much appreciated!



YEAR 5 TRIP TO WATCH 'OLIVER'



Year 5 had an exciting trip to watch the 'Oliver' production at Queens Park High School last month. There were many Belgrave Alumni starring in the show and our pupils thoroughly enjoyed it! Here are some comments the children had after the show:

"It was really dramatic"

"I liked Oliver, he was my favourite character"

"I liked the sound effects"

"It was twisty brilliant!"

"I really liked the Dodger character"

BOOK REVIEWS

Last month, I set the challenge of writing a book review in exactly 50 words. Well done to Eliza, Pippa, Olivia, Hope and Alice who all successfully completed the task. Please read on to find out more:

Dork Diaries - Drama Queen

I like Dork Diaries [Drama Queen] because there are lots of characters with different characteristics. Some are caring, some are funny and some are unkind. Niki is my favourite because her personality is very similar to mine. She is kind and understanding. There are lots of books in the series.

By Eliza - Year 3

Unicorn Academy - Ariana and Whisper

I like Unicorn Academy because I like chapter books and unicorns. It is a good book to read at bedtime because it's interesting. Ariana and Whisper are both my favourite characters because they are kind. I love these books and there are lots of different ones. They are all different.

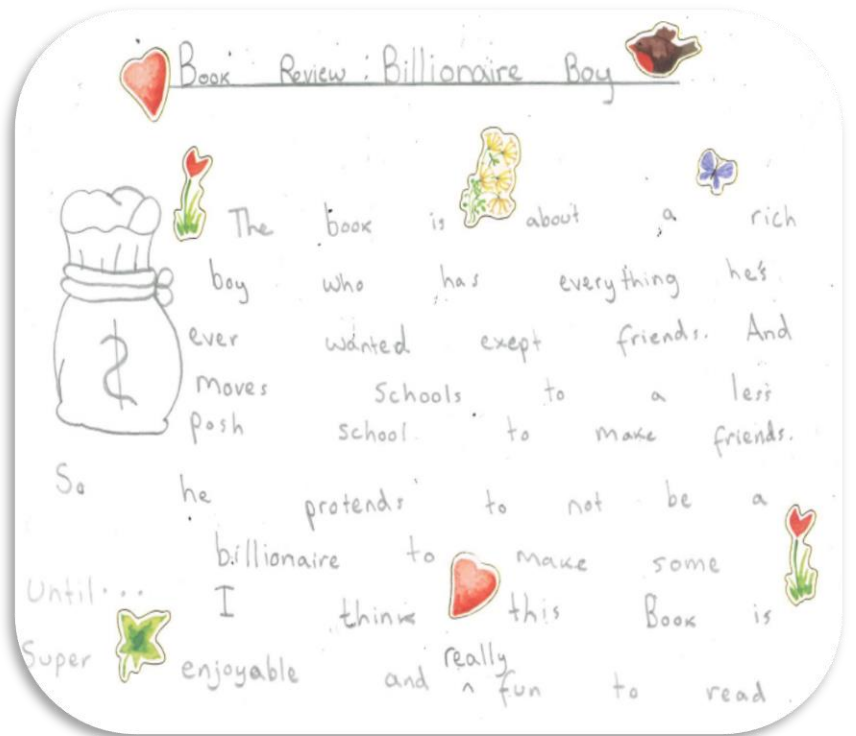
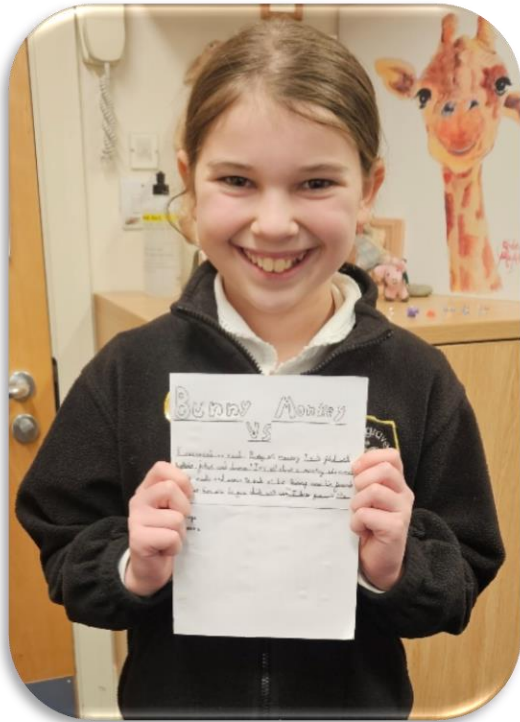
By Pippa – Reception

Alice in Year 6 has written her book review on **'Secrets of a Christmas Elf'** by Ben Miller (on the right)

Olivia in Year 6 has chosen **'Billionaire Boy'** by David Walliams (below).



Hope has written exactly 50 words on 'Bunny vs Monkey' by Jamie Smart (below).



OUR AMAZING CATERING TEAM – JAMIE OLIVER'S GOOD SCHOOL FOOD AWARDS



Jo (our school cook) and her catering assistant Sharon, exemplify excellence in school catering through their unwavering commitment to every child's wellbeing, nutrition, and enjoyment of food. They know every child by name and take time to understand their individual likes, dislikes, sensory needs, and serving preferences. This personalised approach ensures that all pupils - including those with special needs or communication difficulties - feel seen, valued, and confident accessing a healthy, nutritious meal each day.

Their warm, friendly manner creates a welcoming atmosphere in the dining hall. Jo greets children positively, encourages them to try new foods, and celebrates even small steps with praise. She models this nurturing, child-centred approach for her team, ensuring consistency and a shared belief in valuing each child's uniqueness. Through this, she fosters an early, joyful relationship with healthy eating.

Jo's commitment to excellence shines during celebration events, where she goes above and beyond to create memorable, culturally inclusive meals—whether it's her much-loved Christmas lunch or themed menus recognising festivals from across the school community. She is a true children's champion for food.

In addition, Jo provides daily catering for the after-school club, offering nutritious options that keep children energised and are greatly appreciated by working parents. Her dedication makes her an exceptional asset to our school and that is why we have recently entered her into the Jamie Oliver Good School Food Award. No matter the outcome, we are proud that we have an amazing, child-centred cook who provides the very best for our Belgrave pupils!

"School lunches are yummy, there are different choices every week. Jo is good at making really good dinners."
(Dylan Year 2)

"She does Christmas lunches and special dinners with different surprises."

(Cillian – Year 2)

"I love it when she does fish and chips because the fish is really nice." (Mabel - Year 2)

"Her food tastes better than anyone else would bake. She is the best cook in the world!" (Lia – Year 2)

"I like the spaghetti bolognese. I love all the cooking she does." (Olivia - Year 6)



"She spends so much time to make it homemade and tasty." (Annabelle Year 6)

"If you have lots of school dinners, she already knows what you want and like." "If she makes a mistake she just changes it and doesn't make a fuss, for example if she were to give us peas instead of carrots!"

"I love Jo's food, Jo's katsu curry is far better than at my high school now!" Oliver (past pupil Year 8)

JAS AWARDS

The Join in Award Scheme evolved from the Junior Award Scheme for Schools (known as JASS) in 2024. The Green Team assumed responsibility for the award in 2025. The award was created by Awards Plus (previously Friends of the Award) to encourage youth awards participation. It is a stand-alone award, as well as an ideal foundation for progressing to other awards.

Congratulations to Alice in Year six who has achieved her Green JAS Award where she had to complete 6 hours in four different areas including community and fitness.

JAS is designed to be accessible, flexible and easy to integrate with school, home education and extra-curricular activities. Activities can take place at any combination of school, home, outdoor centre, community setting based, or with support partners.



The JAS Award has 3 levels – White | Green | Gold

Each level has 4 sections which can run at the same time or one after the other, in any order. Completing the sections builds confidence, encourages teamwork and develops skills, encouraging participants to be more active and involved in their local community.

The award helps with transitions from Primary to Secondary school, provides a platform for starting vocational learning and act as a next step towards other initiatives, awards and certificates.



CHILDREN FIRST

Despite the well-documented budget challenges facing schools across the UK, we are fortunate to be part of a trust where children remain at the heart of every financial decision, ensuring that funding is directed straight back into our classrooms. Careful management of staffing and resources allows us to operate at maximum capacity while still offering valuable support programmes such as ELSA, Lego Therapy and our social pastoral groups. Our team works closely and collaboratively to provide the highest standard of academic and emotional support, enabling every child to thrive and make holistic progress.

YEAR 6 DARWIN DAY!

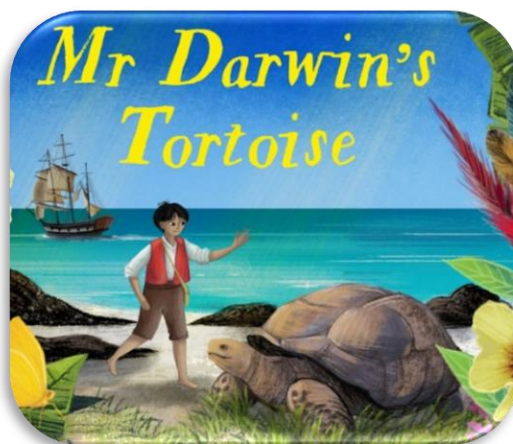


Year 6's topic on evolution resulted in pupils asking for a Charles Darwin Day – great idea said Mr Clifton! Everyone looked amazing on the day and he was delighted with the effort. Mr Clifton even grew a beard for the occasion!

The children invented their own imaginary but realistic animals - such an

Argentinian Jungle Fox or a African Desert Bear and thought about how they might have evolved to suit their environment and what adaptations they may have needed.

We had also pre-ordered the new book 'Mr Darwin's Tortoise' which arrived on the day (and was Charles Darwin's birthday) which tells of the adventures in the Galapagos Islands.



ECO COMPETITION ENTRY WINNERS



Mrs Childs and the Eco-team had the difficult decision of narrowing down the winners of the recent eco competition to create a butterfly or dragonfly from recyclable materials. They were overwhelmed with the number of entries and the high standard and creativity.

Well done to everyone who entered – all the creations are now displayed in the entrance hall. Congratulations to

Andrew in Year 2 and Summer in Year 3 who were the overall winners! They both won a magic paint nature book.



PTA MOVIE NIGHT

The PTA Movie Night for children is on Tuesday 31st March 3.30pm – 5.30pm. All children are welcome and payment needs to be made via ParentMail following the information from the PTA.



ACHIEVEMENTS OUTSIDE SCHOOL

Alfie in Year 2 has two achievements to celebrate over the last month – one was player of the week at his rugby game and also player of the match at football – double celebrations - well done!



We are really proud of Xander in Year 1 who has recently passed stage 1 in his swimming lessons. Fantastic news Xander! ☆

Ellis in Year 2 was named 'Performer of the Week' at his Performing Arts class PQA. Pictured on the right with Ollie in Year 2 who also attends and Robin in Reception. Well done Ellis!



Heidi in Year 6 took part in the NDP gymnastics competition in Cardiff in February. We watched her routine on video in our assembly themed 'Teamwork' last week to show the importance of working as a team. They were awarded bronze medals and we are very proud! Well done Heidi and your two gymnasts. ☆



MESSAGE FROM THE LOCAL GOVERNING BOARD

As you may be aware, Ofsted has introduced a new inspection framework that places a strong emphasis on high expectations for all pupils, the quality of education, and the inclusivity of school provision. As a governing body, we take these responsibilities seriously and work closely with school leaders to monitor how well the school is meeting these expectations. Governors regularly review curriculum development, safeguarding, SEND provision and overall standards to ensure that every child is supported to thrive. Our role is both to challenge and to champion the school, helping to ensure that our commitment to high standards and inclusive practice remains at the heart of everything we do.

Below is a link to a video for parents regarding the new inspection framework and how Ofsted report the findings of education inspections report cards and grades. A Guide For Parents - Ofsted [framework](#)

This half term we are focusing on inclusion looking at case studies for attendance, pupils with SEND and disadvantaged pupils.

Thank you,
Belgrave Governing Board

AND FINALLY.....

- A reminder if you are willing to come in to talk about your job during Aspirations Week on June 15th then please email the school office.
- 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

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

Juliette Benton
Headteacher



How do you know that you belong at Belgrave?

I feel welcomed.

Bruno - Year 4

Because people are kind to me.

Albi- Year 3

Because learning is fun!

Lois - Year 3

Everyone is welcoming and very kind.

Mason - Year 5

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.*

March	
Wed 4th	Year 3 trip to World Museum, Liverpool
Thurs 5th	World Book Day (More information to follow)
Tues 10 th	Year 5 trip to Xplore Science Museum
Fri 13 th	Year 1 trip to British Ironworks Centre
Mon 16 th	Year 4 trip to Tattenhall
Tues 24 th	Pupil Learning Reviews 3.30pm – 6.30pm
Wed 25 th	Pupil Learning Reviews 1.00pm – 5.00pm
Thurs 26th	Musical celebration for parents 2.00pm
Tues 31st	PTA Film Night for pupils 3.30pm – 5.30pm
April	
Wed 1 st	Last Day of Term – School Closes at 2pm (No Happy Hive after school club)
Mon 20 th	Pupils return to school
May	
Mon 4 th	Bank Holiday – no school
Wed 6th	Year 3 trip to Ness Gardens
Mon 11 th – 14 th	Year 6 KS2 SATs week
Fri 15th	PTA Own clothes Day
W/b 18th	Year 6 Bikeability
Wed 20 th	Year 5 residential visit to Conway Centre (2 nights)
Fri 22 nd	Year 5 return from residential
Fri 22 nd	Last Day of Half Term
June	
Mon 1 st	Inset Day (pupils not in school)
Tue 2 nd	Pupils return to school
Thurs 4th	Class photographs
Date TBC	Year 4 visit to Lache Library
Mon 8th	KS2 Sports Day 1.30pm
Tues 9th	Reception trip to 'Imagine That!'
Wed 10 th	Year 6 residential to London (2 nights)
Fri 12 th	Year 6 return from residential
W/b Mon 15 th	Year 5 and 6 Aspirations Week
Mon 15 th	Rec / KS1 Sports Day 1.30pm
Tues 16 th	Reserve KS2 Sports Day
Thurs 18th	Year 4 trip to Halle
Thurs 18 th	Reserve Rec / KS1 Sports Day
Fri 19 th	Year 1 trip to Prestatyn beach
Sat 20th	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)
July	
Thurs 14 th	Wider Opps music performance for Year 4 parents 2.30pm
Mon 13 th	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)