

Newsletter for the week ending 15th March 2024



I hope that you all had a very special Mothering Sunday last week. Today we welcomed Mothers and Others from 1B, 4B & 5B. It was such a pleasure to see you with the children in classrooms and we hope you wore your rosette with pride today.

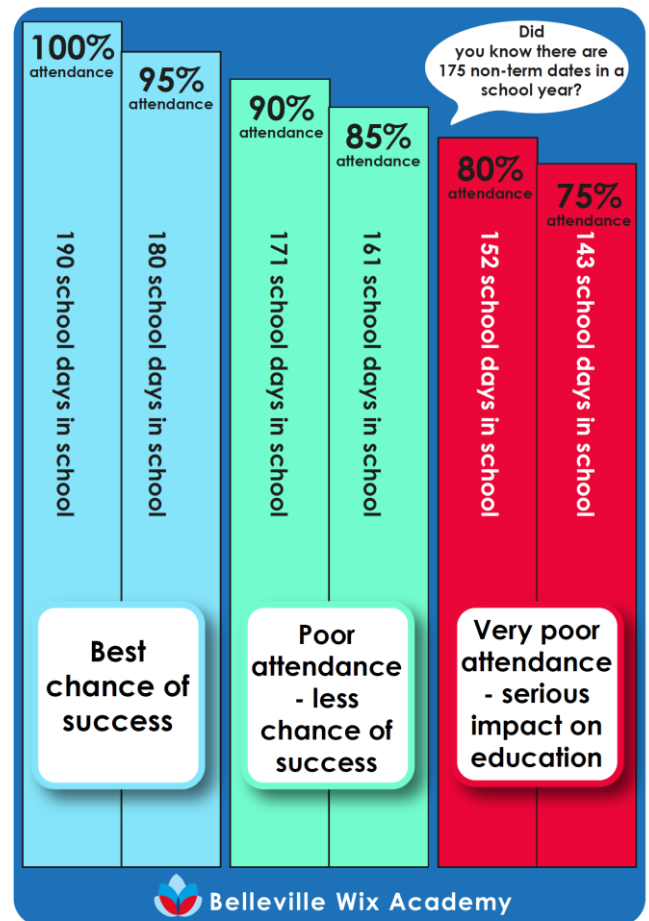
Attendance – we need your help!

Attending school every day is very important. Every child should be in school every day. Missing time out of school can have a negative impact on their confidence and the progress they make.

Our attendance is currently affected by families taking extended holidays during term time as well as sickness.

- Holidays should not be taken in term time. There are 175 days for families to go on holiday outside of the school year.
- Medical appointments should be made out of school hours.
- We know that pupils get sick and will need to rest to recuperate. Please do use this [NHS guidance](#) to help you make decisions when your child is ill about whether they should attend school or stay at home.

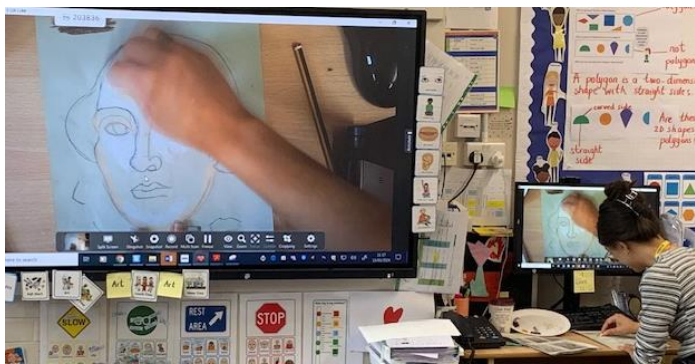
If a pupil has attendance of 90% or below they are a classified as a Persistent Absentee. They are missing half a day of learning every week.



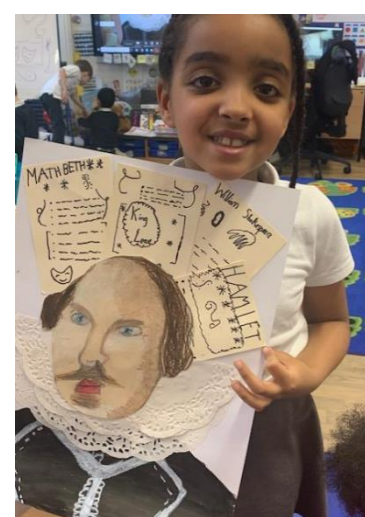
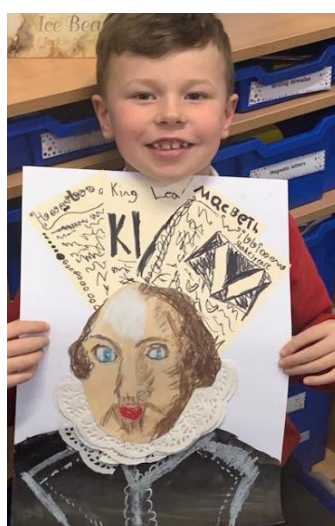
AMBITION

- the highest expectations of what all children can achieve
- expanding horizons though research and sharing of best practice

In our LEARN Statement, A stands for Ambition. We are ambitious for every pupil at BWA. Here are some of our highlights of the week.



Year 2 were thrilled to be learning new art skills as well as developing ones they have already when they were working with our resident artists this week. Their special art project was inspired by National Shakespeare week. Pupils looked at the proportions of a face, colour mixing and blending techniques in oil pastels to create marvellous portraits of William Shakespeare. They also used mixed media such as paper and doilies for the top half of the body, as well ink. Year 2 were thoroughly engaged at every step of the process and absolutely loved their brilliant historical portraits!



Excitingly, pupils in our Nursery began learning phonics at the start of this year and we are so proud of them as they have learnt eight sounds: s, a, t, p, i, n, m and d.

This week, pupils enjoyed having a big tray of letters to find the ones they know and start getting curious about the ones that they haven't yet learnt. Pupils were also very curious about the similar shapes and had fun putting the letters the right way round.

This week, pupils in our Reception class have been learning about the Three Billy Goats Gruff. They have had great fun outside building a bridge with bricks for the goats to climb over. Pupils displayed excellent emotional understanding when acting out the roles of various characters in the story - particularly performing the angry growl of the troll. Here is a photograph of a pupil using boxes to create their own Three Billy Goats Gruff scene. They could choose straws, lollipop sticks or pipe cleaners to help make a bridge for the goats to cross.



Pupils in Year 1 went on a very exciting trip to Chelsea Physic Garden, where they stepped into the shoes of 'plant hunters', just like the explorers who brought a huge range of plants to the gardens in the 17th century. They learned about the amazing properties and purposes of plants, from banana trees to vanilla pods and lots of different medicinal plants as well. The pupils tested their ability to sort, classify and observe and deepened their knowledge of the parts of the plant



Pupils in our 1B class have been excellent learners this week. Every time I have been in their classroom they have modelled all the traits of an Excellent Learner. Pupils have been really excited to watch the beans they planted grow bigger and bigger. There might be some giant beanstalks in 1B soon! They have also been learning about the different parts of plants and trees and what each part of a plant does.

Year 2 have been having lots of fun in their French lessons this half term as their topic is all about superheroes! This week they have been busy revising colours and learning key vocabulary to describe a superhero's costume.

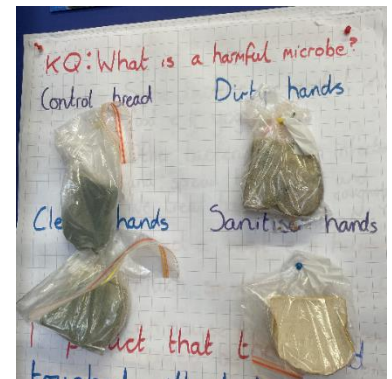


We celebrated British Science Week at BWA this week. It's the 30th anniversary of British Science Week and this year's theme celebrates the passing of time since British Science Week began 30 years ago, as well as looking at what the future may hold for us and our planet. Pupils completed a variety of experiments in the classroom and learned about women in STEM during whole school assembly.



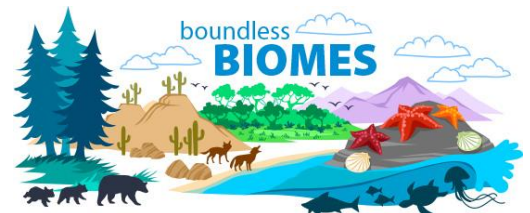
Pupils in 4B have been busy dispelling myths about the Vikings. Did you know that their helmets never historically contained horns? This was something later added by people when they were telling stories about how fierce the Viking invasions could be in order to make them sound even scarier.

This week, pupils in Year 4 compiled their findings after their investigation on microbes. In a previous Science lesson, pupils took turns touching bread with both dirty hands, clean hands, sanitised hands and also a piece of bread not touched at all. The results show how important using hand sanitiser is as this piece of bread had the least amount of mould on it.



In Year 5 pupils have been learning all about Baghdad in their History lessons. They learnt about the benefits of its location and influence as a centre of learning and culture. Pupils created impressive posters to demonstrate their learning.

In Geography, 5B used the internet to gather information and research a biome of their choice. The information they found was used to create information posters filled with key details about the biome. Pupils enjoyed being creative with the presentation of their poster, using flaps for fun facts, illustrations and experimenting with different fonts for effect.



This week, pupils in our Year 6 class researched the story of Floella Benjamin, to learn about her journey from Trinidad to the UK, in 1960, and the adversity that she faced. Pupils were inspired by her life as a children's presenter, actress, author and politician. They read 'Coming to England' as a whole class in order to extend our knowledge of the Windrush generation. Year 6 loved learning about the amazing Baroness Benjamin of Beckenham.

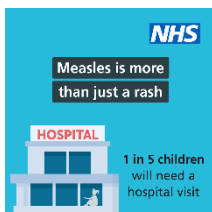
Next Tuesday we are looking forward to the Year 5 and 6 Spring Music Recital. From Abba to Adele, Year 5 and 6 are truly sounding brilliant ahead of next week's performance. With a little extra practise at home this weekend, they will be ready to put on a show for their family and friends.



Excellent Learners

Congratulations to all our Excellent Learners this week.

Excellent Learners Can learn by themselves			
Kadijah	RW	Penelope	4B
Oscar	Y1	Scarlet	5LT
Chloe L.	1B	Luca	5S
Aman	Y2	Sara	5B
Caterina	Y3	Ibrahima	Y6
Evie	Y4		



Information on Measles / MMR vaccination – message from the NHS

Measles cases are rising across the country, with over 102,000 children starting primary school in England being at risk of catching the disease. We are asking education settings to share key messages from the NHS about MMR / measles and how to get vaccinated.

The [Back to school MMR Guidance](#) from the NHS includes information to share, as well as example social media posts which can be found here: [NHS Vaccine Poster](#) and [NHS MMR Poster](#).

Measles is highly infectious and if left unvaccinated nine out of ten children in a classroom can catch the disease if just one child is infectious.



Birthday Treats

When it is a child's birthday during the school term, parents and carers can choose to celebrate this special occasion by bringing in food to share with the class if they wish. This food is given out at the end of the school day so that parents and carers can decide if their child consumes it. If you do choose to bring in food for the class, we would really appreciate it if, in addition to nut-free, consideration could be given to other allergies, religious and dietary preferences, so that all children can share in the class celebration.



Communication

Our [communication table](#) should signpost you to the right person to deal with any queries you have, no matter how small or trivial you think they may be.



Nut Free School

Please remember that we are a Nut Free site. There are pupils onsite with allergies and we must all do our best to keep these pupils safe at all times when onsite.



Prepared for the Day

Please ensure your child has suitable clothing in school. Getting outside remains very important at BWA and we plan to have both PE and play outside in all weathers.



Is your child a budding Banksy?

At Belleville Wix, we are so proud of the beautiful art produced during our resident artist visits. We would like to showcase our talented pupils even more and have found an exciting opportunity!

You may be aware that each year the Royal Academy of Art holds a Summer Exhibition and alongside they also hold a Young Artists Summer Show.

<https://youngartists.royalacademy.org.uk/> Submissions are currently open and we invite you to send in submissions of art that your child has produced.

Registration and submission is open until March 27th 2024. Good luck!



Dates to Remember

End of Spring Term

- **English Stream** - Thursday 28th March at 1:45pm
- **Bilingual Stream** - Thursday 28th March at 3:15pm

Wishing you all a very peaceful weekend.

Miss Henry