

# NEWSLETTER

AUTUMN TERM 2 2023

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## MESSAGE FROM THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE

Welcome to the Christmas edition of our newsletter, which showcases some of the fantastic work going on in school, and the brilliant achievements of our young people over the last half-term.

We have welcomed inspection teams from Ofsted at two of the trust's schools this term. We await publication of the inspectors' report for Belmore Primary and celebrate the inspection outcome at William Byrd – now officially an Ofsted 'good' school.

The inspection report for William Byrd opened with the line "Pupils feel safe and are kept safe at this happy school". This is both richly deserved recognition of the great work of the team at William Byrd, and a powerful reminder of what we want our schools to be – safe, nurturing environments in which all of our children can thrive and succeed. You can read the full report [here](#).

Congratulations to all the pupils who supported Children In Need this year. All of our schools helped to raise funds, with Barnhill raising an impressive £1,400! A big thank you to everyone involved.

*B. Spinks*

**MR B SPINKS**

Chief Executive



## MESSAGE FROM THE HEAD OF SCHOOL

Dear parents and carers,

It has been an incredibly busy autumn term again here at Belmore and at the three schools across the Trust especially with all the end of term performances and parties. I would like to say thank you to everyone who supported and attended the PTA's Winter Fair. The PTA have been incredibly proactive and have helped raise funds for the school. If you are interested in how you can further support the school then please do sign up to support the PTA as they are always looking for new members email [belmorepta@gmail.com](mailto:belmorepta@gmail.com)



I also hope parents had a chance to enjoy our Christmas performances. It was wonderful to see all the children singing and enjoying the shows and again thank you to parents for supporting.

Finally, both primary schools across the trust received visits from Ofsted this term and I would like to congratulate the team at William Byrd for their positive outcome. However, we are still awaiting the publication of the report at Belmore and Ms Taunt will share the outcome with you as soon as possible in the new year.

As always at the end of term there are members of the school staff who are leaving Belmore. I would like to wish Ms Demirci all the best in her new school, good luck to Ms Elahi from Nursery and Reception and I wish all the best to two members of our inclusion team who are moving onto pastures new, Ms Birch and Miss Osborne, I wish you all the best in your new roles.

On that note, I would also like to say a big thank you from myself to every member of our school community for all your hard work and support since I started at Belmore. I wish the children, parents and staff all the best for the future and I am sure that the school and the children and families it serves will go on to achieve great things. I also wish Ms Taunt all the best in her new role as Head of School at Belmore.

Have a wonderful holidays and a Happy New Year with all of your friends and families.

Warmest regards,

*L. Hyatt*

MR L HYATT  
Head of School



## NURSERY THIS TERM

In Nursery, this term we began with the change of weather, talked about 'Autumn' and looked for signs of changes in our environment. We started our new project 'Sparkle and Shine' learning all about light festivals and celebrations. We have dressed up for Diwali, made our own diva pots, watched fireworks and made lots of firework arts and crafts. For our 'Birthdays' celebrations we made cupcakes and enjoyed tasting foods from around the world when learnt all about festivals around the world.

A lot of practice and hard work has gone into our Christmas performance preparations. Christmas has truly arrived in Nursery!

We have had Christmas card workstations, a post office and wrapping stations. A very busy time in the Belmore nursery workshops.

We are looking forward to our Christmas parties. What a fun packed term it has been!





## RECEPTION THIS TERM

Reception have once again had a very busy term learning about lots of fairy stories and traditional tales such as 'The Three Little Pigs' and 'Goldilocks and the Three Bears'. They have particularly enjoyed role playing as Goldilocks, bears, pigs and in particular the Big Bad Wolf! They have also been busy planning and drawing which house they would build for the three little pigs as well as building bridges for the troll to live under in 'The Three Billy Goats Gruff'. Reception celebrated the end their topic and all their learning with a 'Once Upon a Time - Experience Day'. They came to school dressed as a King, Queen or other fairytale tale or book character and made crowns, wands, royal portraits of themselves, magic potions and enjoyed a royal tea party with decorated biscuits.

To end the term before Christmas, Reception immersed themselves in the project 'Sparkle and Shine' where they learnt about different festivals and celebrations. They made celebration cards and wrote wishlists for Father Christmas. The children looked at different materials and sorted them into which ones were shiny and not shiny. The children will have their last experience day before Christmas to end this project in the last week of term which the children will attend 'Elf School' for the day learning all the activities it takes to be a successful elf in Santa's workshop taking part in present wrapping, wrapping paper printing, decoration making and elfie selfies!

Nursery and Reception put on a very festive performance of some Christmas songs and poems. They did so well with all the singing, actions and wonderfully decorated hats. Nursery and Reception would like to thank all the staff involved to make this possible and to all the parents who attended - thank you for being a brilliant audience! We are so proud of all the Nursery and Reception children.



## YEAR 1 THIS TERM

In Year 1 this term the children have been designing their own play den. Firstly, the children decided which materials they thought would be most suitable. They showed a good understanding of working safely during the making stage. Each group was given a different material and freedom to choose how they constructed this play den as long as they could meet the criteria. Children were questioned throughout the process and made regular changes to their shelters as they went on. We then tested the design criteria using water, wind and checking if 4 children could fit. The children loved this experience and were fully immersed.





## YEAR 2 THIS TERM

We have been so busy this term in Year 2

Firstly, we would like to say a big thank to all the students for upholding the school's Core Values every day. During our early morning activities we think about different ways that we can follow the school's 5 five values.

Well done to all the children who took part in the Nativity this year, you really did a fantastic job!

In Geography, we have been learning about why and how England and Somalia have different climates. We conducted a field study where we went out into the school grounds to look at the different types of houses and the materials in which they are built. We compared these to some pictures we had on Somali houses, which people construct out of natural materials like a hay and mud mixture that dries very hard because of the arid climate.



## YEAR 3 THIS TERM

Year 3 has wrapped up a busy yet fantastic term filled with exciting learning experiences.

In literacy, we delved into the narrative 'Wisp', exploring the life of a refugee child named Idris. We got the chance to express our own empathetic insights into the emotions of a refugee child by writing an account of Idris' experience.

In Maths, we completed our addition and subtraction unit and have learnt how to use the column method to add and subtract 3 digit numbers with/without exchange.

Our scientific journey this term led us into the captivating world of animal and human skeletons, distinguishing between vertebrates and invertebrates. To bring this learning to life, we had the opportunity to examine real animal x-rays, which was extremely fascinating!

In geography this term, we looked at land use in the UK. One area that we engaged with really well was the exploration of compass points and 4 figure grid references as it turned learning into a lively and interactive experience. In our PSHRE sessions, Year 3 had a lot of discussions around becoming the best versions of themselves.

In RE, we pondered over the question 'Has Christmas lost its true meaning?' and explored both the religious and non-religious aspects of Christmas. Finally, in D&T our young chefs-to-be took a flavourful adventure into the world of tacos. We planned delicious fillings and watched and learned from cooking demonstrations online.

All in all, it's been an enriching term for Year 3 across the curriculum and we can't wait for future learning adventures next term.





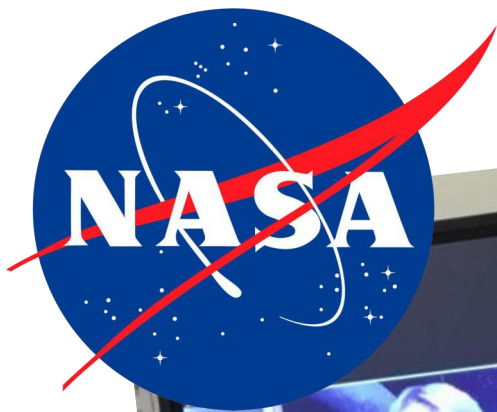
## YEAR 4 THIS TERM

Year 4 have had another fantastic half-term. In Literacy, we created our own version of 'The Journey'. We then moved on to writing our own newspaper report on plastic pollution. During Mathematics, we developed our skills in multiplying and dividing. In Geography, we explored Megacities. We identified the largest cities around the world using our map reading skills and compared the advantages and disadvantages of living in a city. In Science, Year 4 enjoyed learning about sound- how it travels and the difference between pitch and volume.



## YEAR 5 THIS TERM

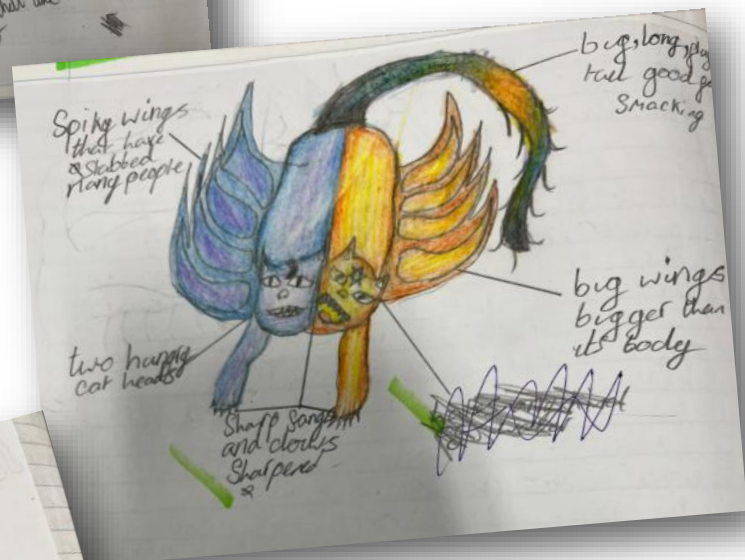
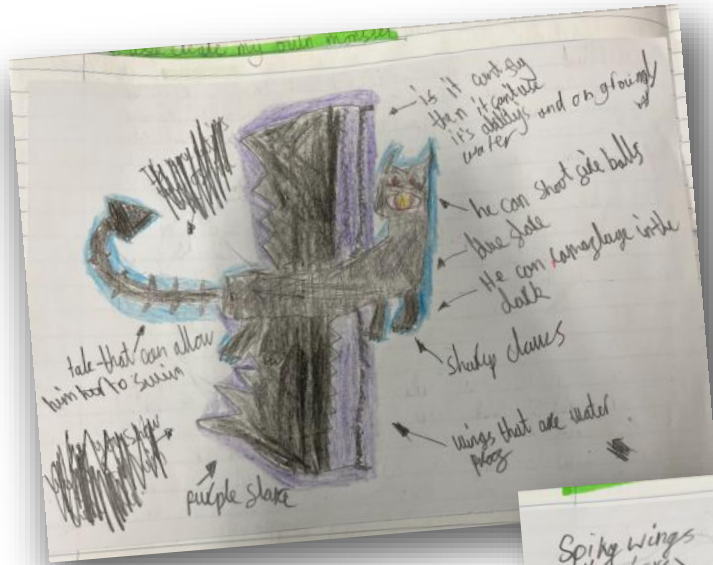
This half term in Year 5, we have had some very exciting opportunities. We we're lucky enough to talk with Howard HU, an engineer who works for NASA. We joined a zoom call with him all the way from the USA! This linked perfectly with our Science topic, Earth and Space. In our classes we listened to his stories about the upcoming space missions planned for 2024. We were able to put forward our questions to the space engineer, taking part in discussions and quizzes about becoming space engineers of the future. Year 5 have also been understanding, designing and creating an animal using a pneumatics system in our DT unit!





## YEAR 6 THIS TERM

This half-term, Year 6 have been creating wanted posters for monsters that live in the world inspired by J.R Wallis' novel *The Boy with One Name*. We designed our own creatures that dwell and hunt in the darkest of places and annotated our fantastic drawings with information about the beasts' key features. Take a look at our designs – you wouldn't want to bump into these monsters!



## YEAR 5 & 6 STEM WORKSHOP

This term some of our Year 5 and Year 6 children were selected to take part in a STEAM (Science, technology, engineering, arts and mathematics) workshop run by Brentford FC. The aim of the workshop was to encourage children to aspire towards a future career in science, engineering and sustainability. The children took part in a number of practical and hands-on activities which involved a lot of team work and even got the chance to have a Q&A session with 2 chemical engineers, who work for a company called Worley. It was a great experience for all!

*"The workshop opened my eyes to more STEM related jobs I can take on in the future"*

Rakeb

*"Be a doer, not a viewer! Which means to take part in things and not just watch"*

Sindy

*"I enjoyed this event as it was practical because we had to use our hands A LOT! Kind of stressful because we had to complete the challenge under a timer and entertaining because we all enjoyed it! I hope we can do it again next year"*

Emily





## WE ARE MAKING NEWS!

The Year 6 students at Belmore Primary Academy have been attentively listening to an anti-discrimination workshop for 30 minutes. However, with one simple question, the classroom descends into anarchy.

*“Do the boys let the girls play football with them at lunchtime?”*

[Click here](#) to read the full article by Jay Harris.





## REMEMBRANCE DAY

On Friday 10<sup>th</sup> November children and staff across the school observed a 1 minute silence at 11am to remember those that gave their lives in war. Children produced some lovely artwork and made poppies during the day.

We managed to raise a fantastic £365.64. Thank you to all our families and friends for your generous donations.



## DIWALI DAY

On Friday 10<sup>th</sup> November we celebrated Diwali, the festival of lights, at our school. Children and staff came to school wearing their Diwali/party clothes, and they looked fantastic.

During the day, children across the school learnt about the festival and its significance. They carried out various activities, including making rangoli patterns and decorating divas.





## CHILDREN IN NEED

On Friday 17<sup>th</sup> November children came to school dressed in spots and non school uniform to support children in need with a small donation towards this amazing charity.

In the morning there was an assembly which had a focus on charity. In the afternoon teachers used resources and activities from BBC Children in Need, and children completed these in class. We managed to raise a fantastic £298.22! Thank you to everyone who generously donated to this great cause.





## LOCAL SINGING

Well done to all the children who sung Christmas songs to members of the community at Yeading Library, the audience thoroughly enjoyed the children's singing and even requested to hear Jingle Bells as an encore. The children were super stars and even battled the pouring rain to arrive there on time. Thank you to the staff and parents who helped out with the visit. Please remember to visit your local library during the holidays they always have lots of events and it is great place to discover new books for free!

## CHRISTMAS DINNER

Thank you to the catering team at "Dolce" for providing pupils with their Christmas lunch it was super tasty and the children and staff thoroughly enjoyed, massive thank you to all the staff who made it happen, it was a truly wonderful day packed with Christmas Jumpers, performances and a lovely lunch to fill us all up. The children enjoyed their Christmas crackers and reading the Christmas themed jokes.





## CHRISTMAS PERFORMANCES

Reception and Nursery did a brilliant performance of Christmas songs with lots of actions! They also learned Christmas poems about Father Christmas and Christmas trees. Nursery and Reception spent lots of time practising and learning the words and actions, they loved performing to their families. A big thank you to all those who came to watch and the staff who organised such a lovely event.

Year 1 - 6 took part in a whole school Christmas concert each class performing some Christmas songs, there was a mixture of traditional hymns and funky pop songs to get us all in the Christmas mood. Year 2 joined in with all the songs and also performed the Nativity, learning lots of words and standing on the stage in front of parents and family members. Well done to all the children and staff for a fantastic event, it was so popular they had to perform it 4 times! As ever we thank our families for all their support with these events and wish everyone a happy Christmas.



## NSPCC VISIT OUR SCHOOL

This term we had two assemblies from the NSPCC. These assemblies were to KS1 and KS2 and to inform child about what they can do if they have any concerns or worries. Within the assemblies we spoke about who can help in school and about child line.

# NSPCC

Members of staff from the NSPCC also delivered workshops to year 2, Year 5 and Year 6 to continue the work around the NSPCC and who children can go to for support. Pupils were then provided with resources that they could take home.



## PTA WINTER WONDERLAND

On Saturday 9th December, the PTA committee held our first ever Christmas event at Belmore Primary. Children were able to take part in gingerbread men decorating, Christmas card writing, face and nail painting and of course, a visit to Santa's Grotto! A huge thank you to Door2Door Gaming for setting up a very popular gaming room and to Usborne Books for joining us too! We would like to extend a heart felt thank you to all the Belmore staff who supported us on the day and to parents for coming along with your children and making all our efforts worthwhile.

The children left with their hands full and parents left with faces smiling - it was certainly a very successful Winter Wonderland and we are already looking forward to putting on more events to raise funds for the school in 2024.





## KEY DATES

EVENT	DATE
INSET Day - No school for children	Monday 8 January
INSET Day - No school for children	Tuesday 9 January
First day of Spring Term	Wednesday 10 January
Year 5 Brentford FC Workshops	Wednesday 17 January
Y5 & Y6 Cyber Crime workshops - Police	Friday 19 January
Power Positive Parenting Seminar - TBC	Monday 22 January
Y6 Trip to RAF Bunker	Wednesday 24 January
Y6 Trip to RAF Bunker	Tuesday 30 January
Half Term	Monday 12 February - Friday 16 February
World Book Day	Thursday 7 March
Comic Relief	Friday 15 March
Last Day of Spring Term	Friday 29 March - 1pm finish
Easter Holidays	Monday 1 April - Monday 15 April

**BELMORE PRIMARY ACADEMY**

Belmore Primary Academy, Owen Road, Hayes, Middlesex UB4 9LF  
enquiries@belmore.school | 01895 462 364 | www.belmore.school

**MIDDLESEX LEARNING PARTNERSHIP**

Middlesex Learning Partnership, Yeading Lane, Hayes, Middlesex UB4 9LE  
enquiries@mlp.org.uk | 020 8839 0600 | www.mlp.org.uk



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