

[Newsletter for the week ending 26th January 2024](#)

PARENT WORKSHOPS

This week we held an **Online Safety** session for parents. Online safety is very important so we do hope that everyone who attended found this valuable. Towards the end of February we will hold sessions for parents on **Zones of Regulation**. More information will be sent out soon. We are also delighted to inform you that we have two information sessions about **bullying** arranged – one onsite and one online. I encourage you to attend one of these sessions. Please see the flyer attached.

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AMBITION

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



At BWA we are so very fortunate to have specialist teachers teach a wide range of subjects. We want our pupils to have the very best provision. One of my highlights this week was listening to pupils in 4B singing during their music lesson. It was incredible. During this spring term, pupils in Year 4 will develop their vocal ensemble skills and their grasp of harder rhythmic concepts, whilst learning about the language and culture of Jazz music. Pupils were so engaged in their learning whilst having a wonderful time. Pupils in 1B learnt about the work of Claude Monet with our Resident Artists. They thought carefully about how different pieces of art made them feel and then created their own amazing, wintry art of a robin on a fence. Pupils really enjoyed looking at everyone's artwork and talking about what made each one special. I'm sure you agree that this piece of art in the photograph is truly magnificent.

Pupils at BWA get two hours of PE a week taught by specialist teachers. This week our PE teacher selected nine girls from Year 5 and 6 to participate in a football tournament at Southfields Academy, organised by AFC Wimbledon. Our BWA team had one win, two draws and one loss – a fantastic result. Pupils put a lot of effort into every game. It was a massive defensive effort by the girls keeping three clean sheets out of the four games played. We are so proud of their team work and how they represented BWA. Thank you to our parent helper Myles for coming along and supporting the girls to do their best and have fun on the day.





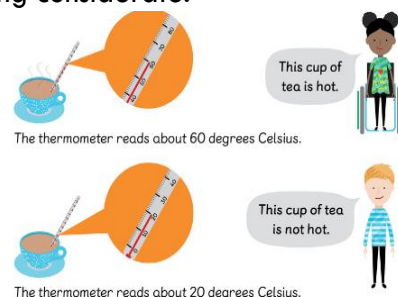
It has been hotting up in Nursery this week with the grand unveiling of their very own fire station, complete with fire engine. For our People Who Help Us topic, pupils are learning about what fire fighters do to help us and the qualities it takes to be one. They are so excited to be visiting a real fire station today. I think the fire fighters will be so impressed by the knowledge the pupils already have of the equipment they use and the job that they do.

Pupils in RW have been enjoying talking about their favourite books and what they like about them. They discussed the idea of reading in different places and had the opportunity to explore reading in new places around the school. Pupils enjoyed exploring the stories by their Star Author, Sue Hendra. Leo told us he likes the character 'Supertato' because 'he has shiny teeth'. Hamish likes the character 'Evil Pea' because 'he beats Supertato!'



This half term Year 1 are learning about Christianity. They have looked at important Christian symbols and this week learnt about the Bible. Pupils read the story of The Good Samaritan and acted it out to embed their understanding. Then they discussed how this shows Christians the importance of being kind to everybody before linking this to our own school CARE values, in particular being considerate.

During their Maths this week, pupils in Year 2 enjoyed learning about temperature. They looked at different types of thermometers and discussed how to measure it in degrees Celsius. Everyone could identify what cold, warm and hot temperatures feel like and thought about real-life examples (ice-cream, swimming-pool, bath water...) as well as the temperature inside and outside. Some pupils concluded that it must have been very cold last week as they had seen frost on the car windows or frozen puddles at the common, when temperatures were minus 0 degrees Celsius.

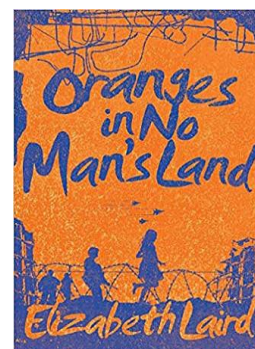


This week, pupils in Year 3 explored the hardness of different types of rocks. Pupils carried out a comparative test by scratching each type of rock with their fingernail, 2p coin and a steel nail. They recorded how difficult each one was to scratch and used a rough score from the Mohs scale to decide which rock was the hardest.



In Year 4 this week, pupils looked at a case study of life in Greenland to further their understanding of the Polar Regions. After researching how people lived in the Arctic country, pupils thought about how their lives in London differed from those in Greenland.

Pupils in 4B have been exploring the digestive system in science this week. To test what happens to teeth when they are not brushed, pupils designed an experiment. They placed eggs into various liquids and will observe the eggs over several days to see the effects they have on the shell.



5B wrote a setting description in the style of Elizabeth Laird - author of Orange's In No Man's Land. They imagined themselves in the place of our narrator, Ayesha, walking through a palace that had once been grand and beautiful and now left in tatters after a war.



This week in PSHCE in 5S, pupils have been learning about road safety. They used Google Maps to explore our local area and discussed top tips for planning a journey and crossing busy roads. In Science, they have been investigating the most effective thermal insulators. Pupils wrapped frozen balloons in a fleece, tin foil and newspaper to see which balloon would stay frozen for the longest. As you can see from these happy faces, pupils are really enjoying their chemistry learning this term.

Pupils in 5LT also enjoying investigating the various properties of materials. They were put into teams to test which material would be the best thermal insulator for ice balloons. Pupils were able to discuss lots of different variables and how we could make our experiment a fairer test next time.

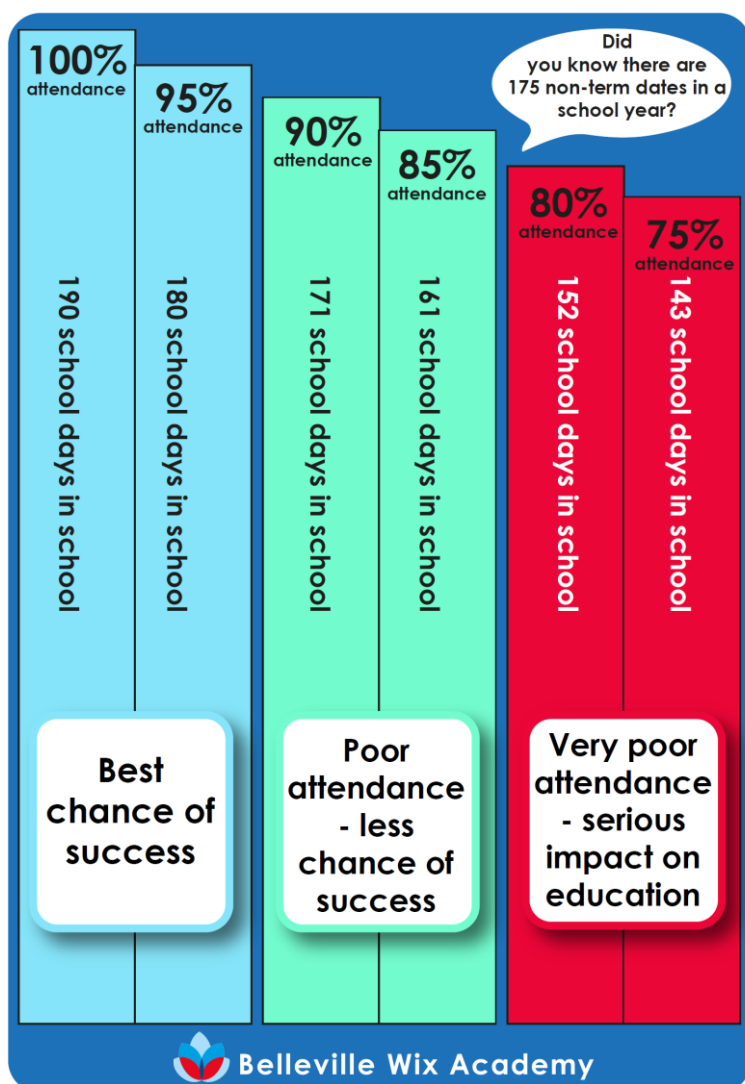


During English this week, pupils in our Year 6 class have been planning and writing advertisements for running trainers, inspired by the titular character of their current book: 'Ghost' by Jason Reynolds. They have written slogans, shown understanding of USPs and considered who may endorse their product. The class have shown that they can be incredibly persuasive.

Excellent Learners

Congratulations to all our Excellent Learners this week.

Excellent Learners			
Abi	RW	Philippa	4B
Agathe	Y1	Ryan	5LT
Elliot	1B	Ollie Ray	5S
Nayane	Y2	Hector	5B
Adam	Y3	Maya	Y6
Noah	Y4		



Attendance

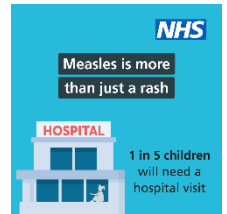
Attending school every day is very important. Pupils should be in school every day. If a pupils has attendance of 90% and below they are a Persistent Absentee.

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.

Our attendance is also affected by families taking extended holidays in term time. Holidays should be taken out of term time only. Medical appointments should also be made out of school hours.

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.



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

Spring Half Term – Monday 12th February

End of Spring Term

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

Please do sign up for the English Stream Parent Teacher meetings planned for the week before half term if you haven't already.

Wishing you all a lovely weekend.

Miss Henry