



AUTUMN TERM EDITION

To the Belmont Family,

A warm welcome to the final Belmont Buzz of 2025 (Where did that year go?!)

As we come to the end of the Autumn Term, Belmont has continued to glow with a wonderful spirit of community, a word which really does apply to the Belmont family as a whole. It is in that spirit that we began the week, with the whole school packed into the hall at the top of the school to celebrate the first community assembly of the year, an event which gives the children a chance to nominate their peers for their approach to the Belmont values. This "player's-player" vote is especially meaningful to the children, and their reactions to the names being called out were a delight to see - so from me, another congratulations to all of the winners for their kindness, compassion and care towards their fellow learners - well done!

The final week before Christmas is always a magical time in school, and this week has been no exception! I would like to thank you all for your attendance in such wonderful numbers at our Carol Services at St. Alban's, where we were so kindly hosted by Reverend Nichola Moy and her team at the church. A particular well done to all of the children who performed in the choir, the band or as instrumentalists - your performances were so powerful and moving, creating a wonderful atmosphere of holiday spirit in the church which has stayed with us all long after the final round of applause has faded. I would like to take this opportunity to again congratulate and thank Mrs Miles for her wonderful leadership of the choir, who have been beating a path to different events throughout recent weeks - it takes a significant amount of behind-the-scenes organisation and co-ordination to bring such wonderful events together - thank you Mrs Miles, and all of the staff who have supported the outstanding music offer here at Belmont. That Christmas spirit continued back in school with the children tucking into a wonderful Christmas dinner (though Year 6's decision to not give this Headteacher all of their pigs in-blankets will not be forgotten...) provided by our wonderful catering team, with the Christmas jumpers and music only adding to an already delightful atmosphere - thank you team!

I would finally like to say a huge thank you to all of the parent community for your continued engagement with the school - those big headline events like the Christmas Fair, Nativity and Carol Concerts are incredibly important, but so too is your presence at the many enrichment club "final shows" that wrap up the different activities children have been doing throughout the term, or those who take part such as the competitors (and, sadly, runners-up!) who joined in our parents/staff vs children chess tournament or who have joined us at Wilderfest to support our ongoing efforts there. I would like to take this chance to thank the parents who joined myself, Mrs Boyadjian and Mrs Kierzkowski in our Communications focus groups which have been incredibly productive, and those parents who have stepped up to take their places in the Belmont PTA committee, while I would also add a thank you to the outgoing members of the committee - your work and efforts have been hugely appreciated. Each of these elements above, and so many more that I cannot name, help ensure that we are all able to contribute and work together to continue to keep Belmont moving forward and striving for the very best for the children in our care, and I look forward to the New Year and the new opportunities it will bring for us all.

On behalf of all of the staff here at Belmont, I wish you and your families a very Merry Christmas, a Happy New Year, and we will see you in 2026!

Best Wishes,

Michael Venn-Coffey
Head Teacher

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Choir - Hogarth

On Saturday 13th December, 25 members of the choir, from Year 4 to Year 6, participated in a Christmas Concert at St Michael and All Angels Church. Together with the Hogarth singers, they lifted spirits in their rendition of "A Christmas Sh-na-na", before performing four of their own festive numbers, including "Walking in the Air" and "Believe". The children delighted the audiences with their angelic voices, and heartily joined in with the congregation songs. The children themselves were equally impressed with the performances from the Hogarth singers – one child was especially taken by the organ! We hope to join them again next year.



PE - Mr Powell

We have had a fantastic first term with a range of pupils attending different sports competitions against schools in Hounslow.

To mark the end of term pupils in Year 5 & 6 participated in the first Inter-House Football Competition of the year. Boys and girls combined within their respective houses competed against each other for the glory of House winners for Autumn. All matches were played 7v7 and after a gruelling round of fixtures it was Gunnersbury House who came out on top. Well done to all pupils who have been attending weekly football training and a huge thank you to Coach Andy who has worked hard running these sessions.

Well Done

James Cummins, Year 6, successfully auditioned for the St. Michael's Players Christmas pantomime of Snow White and the Seven Superstars! The youngest member of the cast, James landed the role of Freddie Mercury (and his mum was Madonna!), performing in all six shows, gratefully supported by many Belmont families. James has now been invited back to perform in the Terrance Rattigan play Cause Celebre showing at St. Michael's Centre, Chiswick, in April.

Lilly-Rose, Year 4, performed in her first GDO (Global Dance Open) world competition in December and made it through to the semi finals out of three large groups in her age group. Amazing for a first timer in a very big competition, well done!

Nursery

For the start of Anti-Bullying Week we had 'Odd Socks Day' to celebrate individuality and promote kindness by wearing mismatched socks, encouraging the children to use their "Power for Good" to challenge bullying.



The children have enjoyed lots of festive activities over the past couple of weeks – making their own Christmas decorations, designing their own snowflakes, having fun with 'the snow' and lots of festive colouring.



Nursery & Reception

The children were very excited to receive a fun visit from the Naughty Elf with lots of mischief making in Santa's workshop!

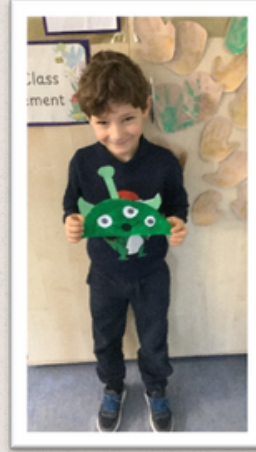


We finished the term with our wonderful Nativity show with beautiful angels, twinkly stars, plodding donkeys and flickering flames.

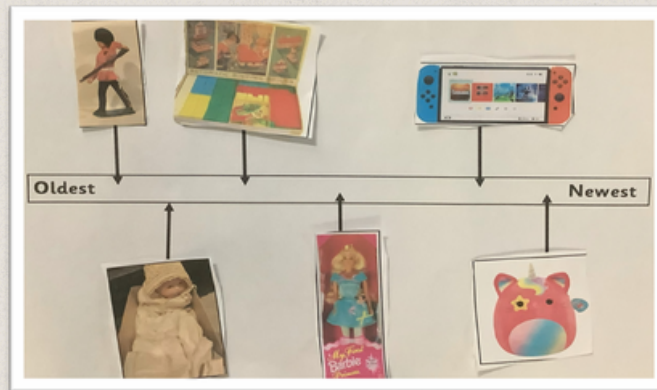


Year 1 - Cherries & Pears

Our new topic this term has been Old and New Toys. In English, the children have been learning about verbs and how they are used when writing instructions. They practised ordering instructions correctly before following them to make their own creations – including an alien inspired by Toy Story. The children did a fantastic job following each step carefully, and we were very impressed with their finished products.



In History, we explored toys from the past. To conclude the topic, the children used their research to sequence toys from the oldest to the newest. They were fascinated to discover that toy soldiers were once painted with lead paint, which would now be considered unsafe to play with. This led to some thoughtful discussions about how toys have changed over time and how modern toys are made much safer today.



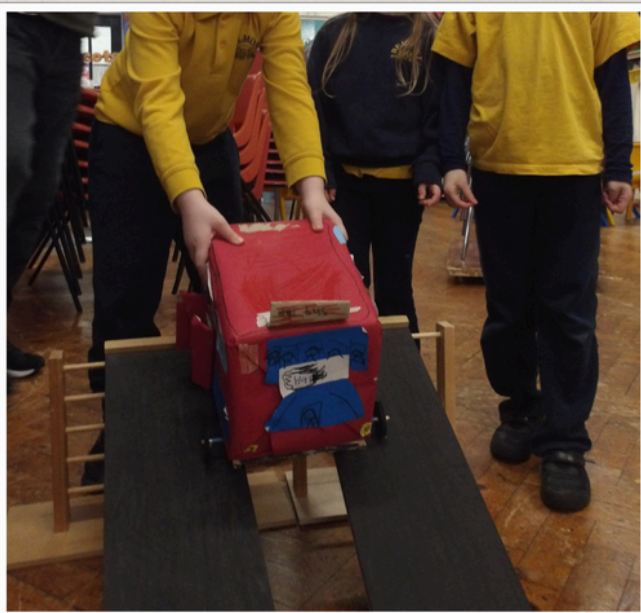
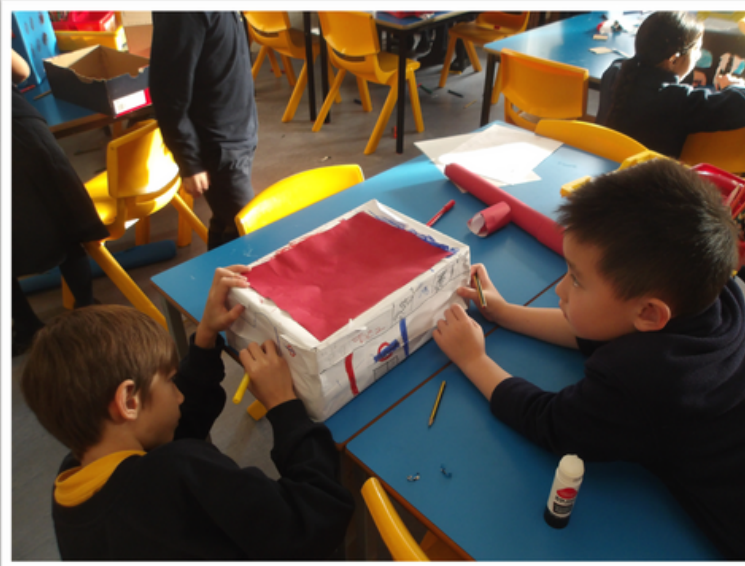
We have also thoroughly enjoyed learning outdoors. In Science, the children have been exploring the signs of autumn and winter, as well as taking part in our weekly Forest School and gardening sessions. One of the highlights was using natural resources to create pictures, as well as applying their knowledge of 2D and 3D shapes to build models using materials found in the Wilderness Garden.



Year 2 - Damsons & Apricots

Year 2 have had a busy Autumn Term and have enjoyed their topic of I Love London - including our visit to St. Paul's Cathedral.

We have been researching and designing moving vehicles as part of our DT topic this term. The children worked in small teams and created a London or New York themed vehicle which needed to have a secure chassis, an axle and moving wheels. Children enjoyed carefully using junior hacksaws, bench hooks and gluing their products together. The classes then tested their finished work by rolling it down the ramp to see which team could get theirs to roll the furthest. Some teams even managed to get past 3 metres! Lots of teamwork, maths, science, creativity and perseverance all rolled into a Design & Technology lesson.

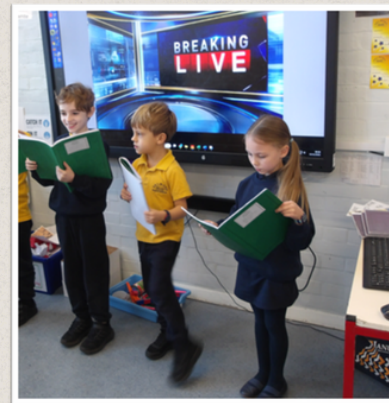


Year 3 - Willow & Elm

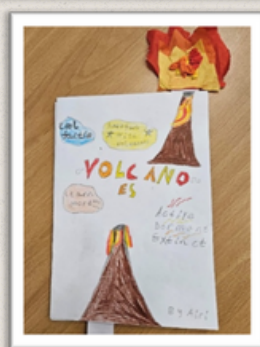
It has been an action-packed few months for Willow and Elm class! Year 3 concluded their Autumn Active Planet topic by sharing their creative home learning. It was wonderful to see a diverse range of activities completed at home, including an outstanding chocolate volcano cake, enjoyed by Belmont staff!



The children learnt how to write news scripts and interviews. They then got into role as a news reader, a reporter and a survivor to present their news scripts about the Christchurch earthquake in New Zealand.



In DT, the children learnt how to create moving mechanisms including levers and pivots. They made their own pop-up books based on the themes of volcanoes and earthquakes.



Year 4 - Maple & Rowan

Last week, Year 4 attended a production of The Railway Children at the Tabard in Chiswick.

The storyline was engaging and the children were moved by the performance. It was a memorable experience for everyone.



Year 4 have designed, planned and made their own Anglo-Saxon soup in DT. We used a range of skills including peeling, cutting and grating to prepare our soup ingredients. We taste tested it afterwards. Many of us found it so delicious that we want to make it again at home!



Year 5 - Chestnut & Sycamore - World at War

To begin to understand what it was like living in WW2, Y5 started their World at War unit of learning this term with a challenge to make air raid shelters as quickly as possible when they heard the sirens sound in the playground.



At the end of September, Year 5 visited London's Imperial War Museum. They learnt about the different homes people lived in during World War 2, they saw examples of Anderson and Morrison shelters, learnt about codes used to help the war effort, and saw a real-life spitfire aeroplane.



Next, Rainbow Theatre visited to provide Y5 with an interactive, immersive workshop teaching the children what it was like to be a child during the war – among the things they brought to life were rationing, the Blitz and evacuation.



Then it was time for the Y5 Presentation to parents. The children celebrated all of their learning by sharing their incredible singing, confident acting skills and even an expressive dance routine that brought a tear to more than one audience members' eyes.



Year 6 - Hawthorne & Oak

This term, Year 6 have been extremely busy and have achieved so much across the curriculum. Our learning has been exciting, creative and hands-on, and the children have shown fantastic enthusiasm throughout.

One of the highlights of the term was our trip to the British Museum, where we took part in an engaging Greek workshop. The children explored ancient artefacts, learned a huge amount about Greek life and history, and had the opportunity to sketch Greek vases, just like real historians and archaeologists. It was a memorable day that truly brought our learning to life.



Back at school, we enjoyed a STIXX workshop, where the children worked in groups to roll newspaper into strong sticks. These were then used to construct Greek temples, encouraging teamwork, problem-solving and creativity.



We were also visited by Rainbow Theatre, who delivered an interactive Ancient Greek workshop that each child had a part to play in. To make the day even more special, the children dressed up as Ancient Greeks, fully immersing themselves in the experience while learning through drama and storytelling.

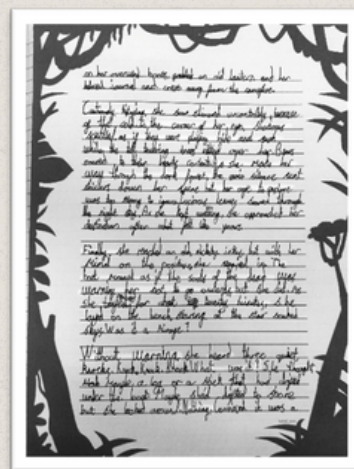
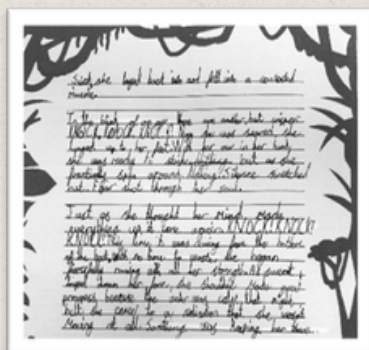
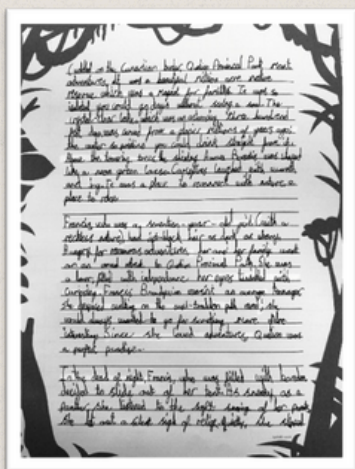


Year 6 - Hawthorne & Oak

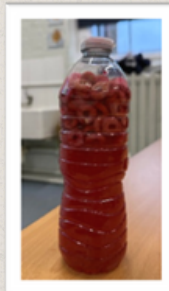
As part of our design and technology learning, the children worked in teams to design and build their own Greek temples. They investigated key architectural features, created detailed designs, combined ideas within their groups and then brought their plans to life. Along the way, they developed practical skills such as measuring, sawing and glue gunning, while showing excellent teamwork, resilience and cooperation. The finished temples were impressive—do take a look at some of their fantastic work!



In English, Year 6 explored suspense writing, which they thoroughly enjoyed. Through immersive lessons, the children learned how to lull readers into a false sense of security, build tension using a range of suspenseful techniques, and use figurative language to bring their stories to life. The resulting writing was gripping and highly engaging. Take a look!



In Science, the children learned all about the circulatory system. The highlight of this unit was making their own model of blood using a plastic bottle. Yellow food colouring in water represented plasma, Cheerios stained with red food colouring showed red blood cells, marshmallows represented white blood cells, oats represented platelets, and salt was added to show electrolytes and nutrients carried around the body. This hands-on activity helped the children clearly understand the different components of blood and their roles, making the learning engaging, practical and memorable



Overall, it has been a fantastic term full of curiosity, creativity and collaboration. Year 6 have worked incredibly hard, and we are extremely proud of all they have achieved so far this year as we look ahead to an exciting new term.

Children vs Parents Chess Match

On Tuesday 16th December, we held our termly Children vs Parents chess match, and it was a fantastic event with around 30 players taking part. The field included seasoned competitors alongside children who have only just started playing chess this term. Belmont alumni and members of staff were also well represented, making it a truly inclusive occasion.

With plenty at stake, the children made an excellent start, racing into an early two-game lead. However, the parents showed their experience and determination, gradually clawing their way back until the match stood level at 6–6 with just two games remaining. Nervous looks were clearly visible among the parents as the final boards got underway!

The children held their nerve superbly, winning both remaining games to secure an 8–6 victory. The children were understandably delighted with the result, while the parents—less so—will no doubt be plotting their revenge next term.

Despite this result, the overall score across the series of matches now stands at 7–4 in favour of the parents. We look forward to the next event and another exciting encounter over the chessboard.



Attendance Celebration

A huge well done to Rowan who are our class attendance winners for the Autumn term with a very impressive **98.40%!!**

Rowan celebrated this morning with a double playtime, juice and biscuits. What a great way to end the week!

MCAS Update

To help us ensure every child has a lunch ready for the term ahead, please make sure you have booked your school dinners for January. This can be done easily via the app or the MCAS website and can be done for the entire term. If a lunch hasn't been booked by midnight the night before, we kindly ask that you provide your child with a packed lunch for the day. Unfortunately, the school isn't able to book lunches on a daily basis, so if a child arrives without a lunch, we'll need to contact parents/carers to bring one in.

We would also recommend regularly checking for trips permissions and giving the relevant consents on time. If your child doesn't have consent to attend a trip/event, they may be unable to go. Please don't rely on the school office to chase you.

Key Dates for the Diary



Monday 5th January - Inset Day (School Closed)



Tuesday 6th January - First day of Spring Term



Tuesday 6th January - Clubs & Music lessons start



Thursday 8th January - WilderFest Final Date (due to postponed event in December)

