



BELMONT NEWSLETTER

7th September 2026

Welcome back to a new school year!

It has been wonderful to welcome everyone back to Belmont for the start of another exciting school year. I hope you all had a restful and enjoyable summer break and are feeling refreshed and ready for the year ahead.

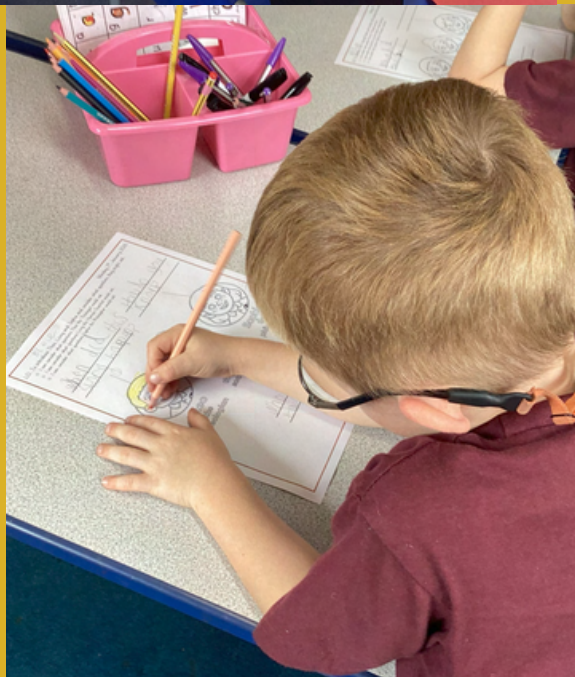
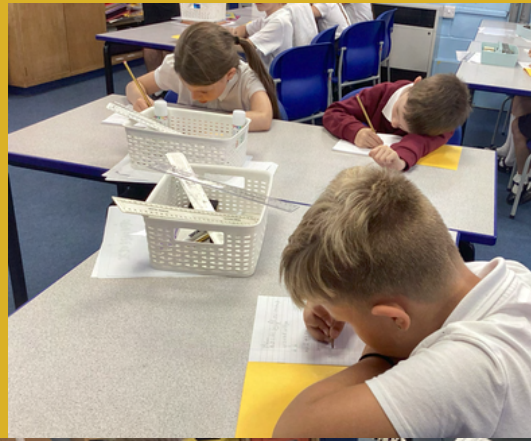
There is always something special about the beginning of a new school year. New friendships are made, new challenges are embraced and every child has the opportunity to learn, grow and discover something new. It has been a pleasure to welcome our new Reception children and their families to Belmont, and they have already made a fantastic start. Across the school, the children have settled back into their routines brilliantly and it has been lovely to see the enthusiasm and excitement they have brought with them.

I am particularly excited about what lies ahead this year. We have so much planned to enrich the children's learning and create experiences and memories that they will treasure. From exciting trips and visits, to residential, sporting events, competitions and a whole host of other opportunities, there will be plenty for our children to look forward to.

Of course, at the heart of everything we do is learning. We want every child to be curious, enthusiastic and proud of what they achieve, while developing the knowledge, skills and confidence they need to thrive. I am looking forward to seeing the children rise to new challenges, discover their talents and make progress throughout the year.

It promises to be a fantastic year at Belmont, and I can't wait to see what we achieve together.

Mr Allsopp





LATEST DATES

<u>When</u>	<u>What</u>
Tues 8 th Sept	Year 3 meet the teacher meeting
Thurs 10 th Sept	Year 4 Rand Farm and meet the teacher
Fri 11 th Sept	Year 6 meet the teacher meeting
Mon 14 th Sept	Year 2 meet the teacher meeting
Tues 15 th Sept	Year 5 meet the teacher meeting
Wed 16 th - Fri 18 th Sept	Year 4 residential trip to Rand Farm
Thurs 17 th Sept	Year 1 meet the teacher meeting
Tues 22 nd Sept	Flu immunisation
23rd Oct	End of term 1
2nd Nov	Start of term 2
Weds 4 th - Fri 6 th Nov	Year 6 residential trip to Whitby
Mon 16 th - Wed 18 th Nov	Parents' Evenings

Belmont Deer Value of the term

Our value this term is respect. At Belmont, we want children to understand that respect is shown in the way we treat ourselves, each other, our school and our wider community. It means listening to others, using kind words, valuing different opinions, looking after our environment and making thoughtful choices.

We will launch our value in assembly on Friday and will be awarding extra Dojos for acts of respect throughout the term. We will also have weekly respect challenges and opportunities for children to recognise and celebrate respectful behaviour in others.

Term time holidays

By law, there is no entitlement to take children out of school for holidays during term time. As Headteacher, I am not permitted to authorise absences for holidays or similar activities, unless there are exceptional circumstances. Term time holidays would not normally fall into this category. For this reason, any requests for holidays during term time will be declined, and any absence taken will be recorded as unauthorised. Please be aware that unauthorised absences may lead to a penalty fine.

To avoid any confusion, we kindly ask that holidays are arranged outside of school term dates. Thank you for your continued support in helping us to maintain good attendance for all our pupils.



REMINDERS!

Labelling Water Bottles

We kindly ask that all water bottles are clearly labelled with your child's name. This helps staff to identify bottles easily during the school day and ensures that children are able to use the correct bottle.

Clearly named bottles also help to prevent items from being misplaced or accidentally taken home by another child.

School Uniform

To help develop independence and confidence, we kindly ask that children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 carry their own school bags once they have arrived at school and walked into the front playground.

Encouraging children to manage their own belongings is an important life skill and supports them in becoming organised and responsible as they begin the school day.

Labelling Clothing

Please remember to clearly label school jumpers, cardigans and PE hoodies with your child's name. Named clothing can be returned quickly when misplaced and helps to reduce the amount of lost property we collect throughout the term.

Taking a few moments to label items makes a big difference and helps children keep track of their belongings.

Meet The Teacher Meetings

Our Meet the Teacher meetings are a great opportunity for parents and carers to meet their child's teacher, find out more about how the class works and learn about the routines and expectations for the year ahead. There will also be an opportunity to ask any questions you may have. Meetings will be held straight after school. Please check the latest dates page for information about when your child's class meeting will take place.

School Uniform

A gentle reminder regarding our school uniform expectations. Please ensure that children attend school in the correct uniform each day, including school shoes on non-PE days and a plain, non-branded PE kit for PE days. Please note that football shirts, branded sportswear, and hoodies with logos are not part of the school uniform. More information can be found on the school website

www.belmontprimary.com/school-uniform-2



ARRIVAL AND PICK UP

Please remember that the school gates will be closed at 8:55am, so please ensure that your child arrives on time so that lessons can commence promptly at 9am after registration.

The health and safety of the children of Belmont is of the highest importance and therefore I ask parents not to enter the school building at the beginning of the school day.

If you have a message for the class teacher please tell a member of staff on the door or gate and they will pass the message on to the class teacher as soon as possible.

Alternatively, you can speak to the office staff or email enquiries@belmont.lincs.sch.uk

Please can we ask that Key Stage 2 children are not left unattended before the gates open at 8:45am. This is because it is not possible for us to safeguard the children before the start of the school day. Key Stage 2 children have the option of coming to homework club from 8:30am. A member of staff will ask any children who do come early to school to join homework club. This will allow us to ensure the children are safe.

Addresses/Telephone Numbers

Please remember to inform the school office if you have changed your address and/or phone number (including mobiles).

After School Clubs

After school clubs will be announced this week on Parent Mail and clubs will start from week commencing 15th September.

Star Achiever Assemblies

Parents of children who have received a star achievement award are welcome to attend our Star Achiever assemblies which will be held on a Friday afternoon at 2:45pm in the school hall. There will be 3 awards per class each week—one award will be linked to a school value, one award will be linked to excellence in learning and one award will be chosen by the children in the class. If your child has been chosen for an award, you will receive a Parent Mail.



Accelerated Reader

at Belmont

Supporting independent readers in Years 2 – 6



Accelerated Reader®
A Renaissance® Solution

Helping every child become a confident and enthusiastic reader.

What is Accelerated Reader?

Accelerated Reader (AR) is a computer programme from **Renaissance** that helps us support and monitor your child's independent reading.

Children in **Years 2–6** choose books at their own reading level, read them and then take a short online quiz to check how well they have understood the book.

AR motivates children to read more, helps them find books they enjoy and builds their confidence, vocabulary and understanding.



How does it work?

It's as easy as 1, 2, 3, 4...

1 Choose a book



Your child chooses a book within their reading range (known as their ZPD).

2 Read the book



Children read their book and complete an AR quiz **every morning** in school.

3 Take a quiz



They take a short online quiz to show how well they have understood the book.

4 See their progress



They earn points for successful quizzes and work towards their personal reading target.

How you can help at home



Make sure they take home a book within their ZPD.

This gives them the best chance of success and enjoyment.



Encourage regular reading.

A few minutes each day makes a big difference.



Talk about what they are reading.

Ask questions about the characters, what they enjoyed and what might happen next.



Please sign their reading record.

We ask that parents/carers sign the reading record to confirm that their child has been reading at home.

Reading at Belmont



We read and quiz every morning.

Children have a dedicated time each day to read and complete an AR quiz in school.



For children in Years 2–6.

All children from Year 2 to Year 6 take part in Accelerated Reader.



Personalised targets.

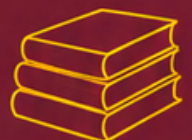
Each child has their own reading target, based on the points they earn from quizzes.



A wide range of books.

We have a carefully selected range of books in school, and children can also use **AR BookFinder™** to check if a book has an AR quiz.

Every Child Matters. Every Moment Counts. ♥



THE BELMONT WAY

Fantastic Manners



★ Know that our manners show the kind of person we are.

As part of the Belmont community, we use fantastic manners to show kindness, respect, gratitude and pride.

This means we:

- ★ Talk to all pupils and staff with kindness, respect and confidence.
- ★ Compliment and encourage each other.
- ★ Say please and thank you.
- ★ Show our appreciation by thanking staff for all they do for us.
- ★ Take pride in our school and look after the things we have.
- ★ Show gratitude and appreciate the people and opportunities around us.

We know that...

★ **Fantastic manners show our character.**

The way we speak and behave towards others helps to create a happy, positive and welcoming school community.

★ **Fantastic manners become a habit.**

When we practise them every day, they become part of who we are and the way we naturally behave.

★ **Fantastic manners help us to be global citizens.**

Kindness, respect, gratitude and good manners are important wherever we go and whoever we meet.

★ **Fantastic manners are life skills.**

They help us to build positive relationships, make others feel valued and stand out for all the right reasons.



Fantastic Walking



★ Know that we walk around school using Fantastic Walking.

★ Know that Fantastic Walking means:

- ★ Facing forwards
- ★ In a straight line
- ★ Hands by your side naturally
- ★ Walking calmly and quietly

★ Know that we use Fantastic Walking to keep everyone safe in school and to make sure the learning of other children is not disrupted as people move around school.



Fantastic Listening



★ Know that when in class, we use Fantastic Listening.

★ This means that we:

- ★ Face forwards, hands together or empty
- ★ Always sit up straight
- ★ Never interrupt
- ★ Track the speaker

★ Know that we all do Fantastic Listening to ensure everybody can learn without distractions.



Be Respectful



- ★ Say please and thank you
- ★ Hold doors open for adults and each other
- ★ Talk kindly to other pupils
- ★ Say good morning/afternoon to adults and engage in conversations with them
- ★ Say thank you to staff at the end of the day

Be Responsible



- ★ Completing homework on time
- ★ Remembering to bring equipment to school and look after resources given to you by school
- ★ Tidying up your own workspace and the classroom
- ★ Accepting responsibility if you make a mistake and saying sorry



Be Ready to Learn



- ★ Sitting still
- ★ Listening carefully to the teacher
- ★ Giving the teacher 100% of your attention
- ★ Working hard on tasks given
- ★ Being in the right place at the right time



REFLECTION TIME

A chance to pause, reflect and be ready to learn.

The Belmont Way

OUR BEHAVIOUR PROCESS

1

GENTLE REMINDER



2

WARNING



3

REFLECTION

What happens if the principles aren't followed?

The consequences have been agreed and understood by all staff and children.

This allows children to make a personal decision about the type of behaviour they will choose in the full knowledge of the consequences of their choice.



SHORT REFLECTION (UP TO 20 MINUTES)

For low-level behaviours that affect learning but do not warrant a full hour of reflection.

Examples include:

- Calling out
- Low level disruption
- Not following instructions
- Other minor behaviours that impact learning.



Parents/carers will be informed via Class Dojo when a child receives reflection minutes (up to 20 minutes).



Reflection allows time to reset, reflect and return ready to learn.



LONGER REFLECTION (UP TO 45 MINUTES)

For more serious behaviours.

Parents/carers will be informed by the class teacher.



If a child repeatedly receives reflections, a meeting will be arranged with the class teacher.



COMPLETING LEARNING

Children may also go to reflection for a short time to complete learning they have not finished due to a lack of focus in learning time.



OUR AIM

Reflection time helps children to:

Reflect on their behaviour

Make positive choices

Complete their learning

Return ready to learn.

NEW FROM SEPTEMBER 2026

Free School Meal eligibility has been expanded. Children from households receiving Universal Credit can now qualify regardless of household earnings.

Who can receive benefits-based free school meals?

Free school meals are available to pupils in receipt of, or whose parents are in receipt of, one or more of the following benefits:

• Universal Credit	• Income-related Employment and Support Allowance
• Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999	• The guaranteed element of Pension Credit

From September 2026 there are two categories

TARGETED FSM	EXPANDED FSM
The existing threshold remains. This covers pupils in households receiving Universal Credit with annual household earnings of £7,400 or less.	A new category for pupils who do not qualify for Targeted FSM but are in households receiving Universal Credit.

ALL TARGETED AND EXPANDED FSM-ELIGIBLE CHILDREN RECEIVE A FREE SCHOOL MEAL.

If your child is eligible for Targeted FSM, Belmont will receive additional funding called the [Pupil Premium grant](#).

WHY SHOULD I APPLY? Even if your child already receives a free meal, registering for benefits-based FSM can help Belmont access additional funding and may also make your child eligible for other support.	APPLY ONLINE Lincolnshire County Council
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Free meals for younger children at Belmont

Universal Infant Free School Meals (UIFSM) are available to all children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2.

RECEPTION	YEAR 1	YEAR 2
FREE SCHOOL MEAL	FREE SCHOOL MEAL	FREE SCHOOL MEAL

THIS APPLIES TO EVERY CHILD — REGARDLESS OF HOUSEHOLD INCOME.

At Belmont Community Primary School, every child in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 receives a free school meal. Your household income does not affect this entitlement.

Universal Infant Free School Meals are different from benefits-based free school meals. If your family may be eligible for benefits-based FSM, it is still important to apply because your child may qualify for additional support and, where eligible for Targeted FSM, Belmont can receive Pupil Premium funding.

COMING SOON...

OPAL

is coming to Belmont!

Play
Explore
Make friends
Be active
Have fun!

All-weather
play!

Outdoor Play and Learning – watch this space! ♥

Bigger
Brighter
Happier
Playtimes ♥

We've had our very first OPAL meeting – and we're SO excited! OPAL helps schools make playtimes more active, adventurous and fun for every child. **There's nothing you need to do yet – just watch this space for more news!**



All-weather play!

Rain or shine,
every day is a play day.



2,000+ schools

already loving OPAL
across the UK.



80% fewer accidents

reported by schools
using OPAL.

What happens next?

1



Our staff take part
in OPAL training over
the coming weeks.

2



Full launch plans shared
straight after
October half-term!

3



Nothing to do yet –
just watch this space
for updates!



WELLIES WANTED!

OPAL means lots more outdoor play, whatever the weather! Please could you:

- ✓ Buy a spare pair of wellies to keep at school, and/or
- ✓ Donate any outgrown wellies in good condition

Please name them and hand in to your child's class teacher – thank you!



Want to read ahead? Check out OPAL's Parent FAQs:

outdoorplayandlearning.org.uk/opal-programme/fag-for-parents

More news – including our full launch date – coming straight after October half-term!

Every Child Matters. Every Moment Counts. ♥