

Belmont Newsletter

Term 1 2023



Best foot forward!



Belmont was delighted to welcome Cheltenham's Mayor, Councillor Matt Babbage to school earlier this term. Councillor Babbage has launched the Mayor's Mile Challenge, inviting Cheltenham's schools to walk, run or cycle a mile as a class. Belmont was able to showcase our Daily Mile routine in support of the Mayor's health initiative for young people.

A message from the Head

Well, it may well have been an eight-week term, but it certainly didn't feel that way! Term 1 was launched with incredible enthusiasm from both students and the staff team, and the great support we have come to expect and enjoy from all our families. We welcomed 36 new pupils across the school, and I am delighted to see that so many of them have settled well and are enjoying their school life here. A warm welcome too, to our 11 new staff who are already an integral part of our Belmont family!

Our leadership and Local Advisory Board have been very quick to acknowledge and deal with the difficulties encountered with taxis and transport at the very start of term. We are continuing to work with Gloucestershire County Council's transport team on this, seeking their explanations and assurances of a smooth-running protocol from now on. Can I thank all those families who were affected for their input and patience as we worked towards a resolution.

My thanks also go to all the families who came into school, or arranged a virtual call for the Learning Conversations this term. We were absolutely delighted that 98% of parents and carers were able to attend; your participation is vital to achieving the best possible outcomes for the children, and we are pleased to work so closely together. The feedback from our questionnaire was also very encouraging, and we remain committed to continuous improvement.

I hope you have a restful break, and look forward to seeing the students back in school on Monday 6th November.

Kevin Day & Team Belmont

NOTICES

KEY DATES

Term 2: Monday 6th November 2023

F@B Winter Fayre: 1pm – 4pm
25th November 2023

End of Term 2: 21st December 2023

REMINDERS

Uniform suppliers: Monkhouse Schoolwear, 252 High Street, Cheltenham GL50 3HF

[Belmont School \(URN-147577\) \(monkhouse.com\)](http://Belmont School (URN-147577) (monkhouse.com))

School website: Belmont School

Please remember that the speed limit on site is 5mph. Please be aware of students here for activities outside of normal school hours.

We are a 'No Nuts School'! Please be aware of this when sending snacks/ lunchboxes to school.

As the weather gets colder, please ensure pupils have a coat, hat & gloves and wellies in school for outdoor learning and play.

A Wonderful Term One!

Our pop-up pool during the summer holidays, and into Term 1 made a huge splash with the students! This was funded by the Department for Education working with Active Partnerships, and plans are in place for a return visit next summer! Huge thanks to Becca, Lesley and the swim team who not only taught many of our young people how to swim, but also taught them valuable water-safety skills.



Not so much a chicken coop, as a chicken palace! Our resident chickens are now the proud recipients of a superb run, and are enjoying the freedom to roam in a safe and secure environment. The run was constructed by the amazing Men in Sheds, encouraged by the chief chicken carers in Secondary.





A great new initiative from our Fabulous Friends@Belmont!

F@B now has its very own page on the Cheltenham Lottery, where you can buy a ticket with a chance to win some great prizes – and know that 50% of your ticket price will go to support our Belmont students! Buy your ticket now, and tell all your friends and families!

[Support Friends at Belmont PTA when you play Cheltenham Lottery - Cheltenham Lottery](#)

DONATIONS NEEDED

Friends at Belmont are kindly asking for donations for this years Winter Fayre

- BOTTLES**
 - Any new or in date/unopened bottles
 - Alcohol/soft drink /toiletries
 - Big or small!
- CHOCOLATES/SWEETS**
 - Any new or in date/unopened chocolate/sweets
 - Bars/bags/boxes
 - Big or small!
- TEDDIES**
 - New or pre-loved in nice clean condition
 - Big or small (again!)
- BRIC-A-BRAC**
 - Any new or pre-loved
 - Toys
 - Games
 - Books
 - All in good/clean/working condition please!



Thank you!!!

Fun Fitness

Our ActivAll arcade-style boards are a recent addition to Belmont facilities, encouraging active plan during breaktimes and increasing physical activity across our school.

Thanks to local company, Slimbridge Health Ltd., an appointed representative of the WPA Healthcare Practice, both Belmont and Bettridge schools received a generous donation from the WPA Benevolent Foundation towards the cost of the ActivAll boards.

Director of Slimbridge Health, James Weaver visited the schools this week to see the impact the equipment is having. 'We were delighted to be able to support this project. It is underpinned by all the values we share with both of these special schools, particularly the need to offer opportunities for children to be physically active and stay focused on a healthy lifestyle', he said.

The ActivAll offers an interactive arcade-style activity which students can play outdoors, individually or as teams. It increases co-ordination and motor skills, encourages competitive teamwork, and enhances opportunities for students to build their social and communication skills.



Belmont Art

View some of our wonderful art displays from around the school.

