



## “Inspiring Learning”

### HEADTEACHER MESSAGE

We were delighted to receive our 2019 Ofsted report, rating Bellingham Middle School as **good** in all categories, recognising our many strengths and signposting our next steps. The Ofsted framework changed from September to put a new emphasis on how we are delivering the curriculum. We are pleased that inspectors noted that our curriculum review is already well underway to make your child’s educational experience even better. Most importantly, inspectors felt that children here are safe and happy. Thank you to all staff, governors, families and pupils who help to make BMS a special place to be.

In light of the above, there will be a celebration school disco on Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> October between 6 and 7.30pm. Children must be picked up by an adult or bring a note giving permission for them to walk home. Tickets are £1, with all proceeds put towards future enrichment for current pupils. All pupils are welcome.

As part of Democracy Week, we welcomed five councillors from Northumberland County Council into school to work with all of our Y7 pupils on Friday. This opportunity provided children with a chance to ask the questions they wanted pose on a wide range of local, national and global issues, including plastic pollution, transport links, agriculture and education. Well done to all pupils for speaking confidently and clearly in front of an audience, and thank you to Ms Wilson for helping her class to prepare so thoroughly. We are also grateful to the local councillors who gave up their time to work with our pupils.

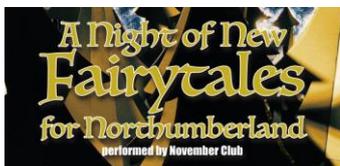
On behalf all the staff, may I wish you all a lovely half term holiday with your family. There is a staff training day on Monday 4<sup>th</sup> November. Pupils return to school on Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> November.

Kind regards,  
Helen Samuels,  
Acting Headteacher

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### LOOKING FOR SOMETHING TO DO TOGETHER THIS WEEKEND?

#### COMMUNITY NEWS AND EVENTS



**Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> October: Taret Village Hall.** Experience a new collection of local stories inspired by traditional fairy tales. This brand-new production *A Night of Fairytales for Northumberland* is suitable for 8 years plus. Sit back and experience the magic of our county, its people and challenges brought to life through puppetry and performance, music and wonder. Tickets £5/£4 child or £15 family. Book online: [Tickets](#)



**Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> October: Hexham Spook Night** Halloween themed event taking place in Hexham around Beaumont Street, Market Place and the Abbey Grounds with fairground rides, hot food, fancy dress competitions for all ages (there’s even a best-dressed pet category!), pumpkin and turnip carving and spooky dancing around the bandstand. Suitable for all the family. 2pm-9pm [Spook Night Information](#)



**Wednesdays: JIGSAW CLUB (FREE)** Bellingham Library on the ground floor of Bellingham Town Hall now offers a jigsaw club for children between 2.30pm and 4.30pm. All welcome.



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Attendance this week – 96.39%



*Thank you! We really appreciate all your efforts in getting to school on time, ready to start our day promptly.*



**Did you know?**

Absenteeism in the first month of school can predict poor attendance throughout the school year. Half the pupils who miss 2-4 days in September go on to miss nearly a month of school that same academic year.

**SCHOOL NEWS AND EVENTS**

**WELL DONE TO OUR HOUSE POINT HEROES OF THE WEEK!**

KESTREL (132)	MERLIN (118)	OSPREY (145)	PEREGRINE (131)
Amelie (Y5) Grace (Y6) Isaac (Y7) Lucy (Y8)	Brooke (Y5) Bobby (Y6) Arthur (Y7) Pippa (Y8)	Logan (Y5) Ebony (Y6) Max (Y7) Amy (Y8)	Lucy M, Elise, Luke Sam (Y6) Amy (Y7) Imogen (Y8)



**EXCELLENT TEAM SPIRIT:**

The boys’ KS2 football team played their first game against Highfield Middle School. Despite going down to a defeat, the attitude and effort of the team was exceptional, especially due to the fact that all the boys had to play the entirety of the game. Thank you for supporting the later pick up for your child in this first away match, and thank you to Mr Ramshaw for accompanying the boys.

**NEWSFLASH!** Interim reports will be sent home via ParentMail in the first week back after half term. This lets you know how your child has settled into their new academic year in terms of attitude and progress. If you do not receive ParentMail, then a paper copy will be sent home.



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### MEMOS AND REMINDERS

**Admissions 2019:** If you happen to have any questions, or require any support in understanding what you need to do or not do by the **deadline of 31<sup>st</sup> October 2019**, then please do not hesitate to get in touch.

[Click here to apply for middle or high school places by 31st October 2019](#)



**Bike Helmets:** Your child **must** wear a bike helmet as he or she cycles to or from our school. We will let you know if we notice your child without a helmet and have to insist that he or she does not ride until one is worn. Please remind your child to stay safe on our roads by wearing a helmet. Further Bikeability training will be available next term.

**Contacting school if your child is ill:** Could all parents please inform us by 9.15 am if your child is not able to attend school due to illness. You can leave a message on the answerphone if the line is busy or email: [middleadmin@bellinghampartnership.uk](mailto:middleadmin@bellinghampartnership.uk)

**Dinner Money:** Please pay on the day or weekly from September. It is not possible to put credit on a tab. We would never see a child go hungry; however, we cannot afford to subsidise your child's meal. If you require free school meals for your child, then please apply to Northumberland County Council. Call: 01670 623592 or apply online, using the link below. Thank you for your support.

[Click here to apply for free school meals](#)

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### FORTHCOMING EVENTS AND KEY DATES

Wed 23 <sup>rd</sup> Oct	School Celebration Disco at BMS 6pm - 7.30pm
Mon 28 <sup>th</sup> Oct-Fri 1 <sup>st</sup> Nov	Autumn Half Term Holiday
Mon 4 <sup>th</sup> Nov	Teacher Training Day – no pupils
Tues 5 <sup>th</sup> Nov	Start of autumn second half term begins
Tues 5 <sup>th</sup> Nov	Northumbria Police: Y5 PSHCE Workshop
Thurs 7 <sup>th</sup> Nov	North East Kids' Lit Quiz: BMS teams competing at GEMS
Fri 8 <sup>th</sup> Nov	Prayer Space – Remembrance – open to all
Mon 11 <sup>th</sup> Nov - 14 <sup>th</sup> Nov	Science Week: Planetarium for Y5, Y6, Y7 and Y8
Tues 12 <sup>th</sup> Nov	All Years: Author Visit to BMS – DAN SNOW
Wed 13 <sup>rd</sup> Nov	VARC Artist in Residence
Wed 13 <sup>th</sup> Nov	Pastoral Parents' Evening
Fri 15 <sup>th</sup> Nov	Children in Need Day
Mon 18 <sup>th</sup> Nov	KS3 Newcastle University Outreach: CSI Investigation
Tues 19 <sup>th</sup> Nov	KS2 Warburtons Healthy Eating Workshops
Sat 14 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Christmas Concert: BMS pupils with Choral Society
Fri 20 <sup>st</sup> Dec	End of Autumn Term



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