



“Inspiring Learning”

HEADTEACHER MESSAGE

We had a wonderful week of enrichment last week, with a wide range of excellent sessions. Pupils at Bellingham Middle worked with professional scientists, an artist and an author, all of whom gave generously of their time and expertise to benefit all of the children at our school.

First of all, thank you to the visiting science ambassadors Adam, Natasha and their colleagues from Kielder Observatory’s Planetarium, who gave BMS pupils as well as other children from across the Haydon Bridge partnership, a fabulous time exploring the universe and beyond last week. It was awesome to see the inside of the planetarium transform into constellations and close ups of different planets, moons and stars. We even learned what it was like to be an astronaut aboard the International Space Station. Rocket Science sessions certainly proved popular, with surprising power provided by the mobile launch pads outside; digital microscopes allowed pupils to examine meteorites and it was quite a challenge designing space ships to land eggs safely. We hope your children were left inspired to think even bigger as they look up at the amazing night skies we are fortunate to enjoy here.

On Wednesday, we were very grateful to VARC artist in residence, Sam Douglas, and to Mrs Basing, for our special Draw Together event. Pupils worked closely with Sam to create beautiful landscapes inspired by the local area, using pastels and charcoal. Thank you to all the family members who visited either the KS2 or KS3 workshops: we really appreciated the time you gave to work with your children and it was lovely to see you all in school.

All pupils were also given the chance to meet Dan Smith, famous author of Boy X, on Tuesday. Dan was a particularly engaging speaker, who told us all about how he escaped into stories as a child sent away to boarding school at 7 and about his life of travels, which inspires him to write adventure stories for children. We would like to thank Gil Pugh of Hexham Book Festival for making this opportunity possible for Bellingham Middle pupils.

Finally, do remember to return your reply slip and £40 deposit to request a place for your child on either the Normandy Adventure Camp or Midlands Magic residential trips. The deadline is Friday 22nd November.

Kind regards,
Helen Samuels,
Acting Headteacher

LOOKING FOR SOMETHING TO DO TOGETHER THIS WEEKEND?

COMMUNITY NEWS AND EVENTS



23rd November: Hexham - The Vikings are coming! As part of the Great Northumberland Winter Festival, head into Hexham and meet the Vikings. Viking music, weapons, dress-ups and fearsome fun on the Abbey flags! 10am-4pm. FREE [Vikings in Hexham](#)



23rd November: FREE Entry into Wallington (National Trust) as part of National Lottery’s #ThanksToYou. Anyone with a National Lottery ticket or scratch card can visit Wallington for free from 23 - 29 November. An opportunity to enjoy a free family day out if you do not have NT membership.



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Attendance this week – 97.63%



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



Did you know?

Children who attend 95% or better are statistically much more likely to achieve 5+ good GCSEs by the end of Year 11.

SCHOOL NEWS AND EVENTS

WELL DONE TO OUR HOUSE POINT HEROES OF THE WEEK!

KESTREL (59)	MERLIN (95)	OSPREY (83)	PEREGRINE (118)
Mason (Y5) Harry (Y6) Katie, Shane & Hayden (Y7) Lucy (Y8)	Hugh (Y5) Cameron (Y6) Lillie J (Y7) David & Seb (Y8)	Logan (Y5) Liam (Y6) Meadow (Y7) Amy (Y8)	Elise, Luke (Y5) Shane (Y6) Lucy (Y7) Tayah (Y8)

VARC Draw Together Day with Sam Douglas





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We are delighted to have been notified that another of our pupils, Grace in Y6, has had her animal poem selected for publication as part of the Young Writer’s Pet Poetry national competition. Here is her acrostic poem for you to enjoy:



Isla My Pet Dog

I sla is my pet puppy
S he is very stupid at times but also very funny
L oves to play football and is quite a good player
A dorable to look at but is also very naughty

M ischievous behaviour but very cuddly
Y ellow, golden in colour

P retty brown coloured eyes
E xcited to see us when we come home
T oys and games are her thing

D ecides to have a good swim in the river
O ne year old and is growing fast
G ood little dog which I love to bits.

MEMOS AND REMINDERS



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

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](#)

FORTHCOMING EVENTS AND KEY DATES

Mon 18 th Nov	KS3 Newcastle University Outreach: CSI Investigation
Mon 18 th Nov	Operation Encompass: Y5 PSHCE session
Tues 19 th Nov	KS2 Warburtons Healthy Eating Workshops
Wed 20 th Nov	Pastoral Parents’ Evening 4-7pm
Tues 3 rd Dec	Y8 Durham University Project Launch (Digital Physics)
Sat 14 th Dec	Christmas Concert: BMS pupils with Choral Society
Tues 17 th Dec	A Christmas Cracker 6.30pm – all welcome
Fri 20 th Dec	Carol Service at St Cuthbert’s Church 11am
Fri 20 st Dec	End of Autumn Term



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