



“Inspiring Learning”

HEADTEACHER MESSAGE

This week, we would like to express our gratitude to the BMSPTCA volunteers who continue to work tirelessly to transform the school environment for BMS pupils, especially in the cloakrooms, where benches are now beautifully sanded, and outside in the playground, where the rain held off just enough over half term to enable the painting of the cage wall, which is now completely white. Thank you to all those individuals, including some BMS pupils and volunteers from Landmarc, who generously gave up their time to make our school an even better place for everyone. The children and staff really appreciate this support.

The BMSPTCA curry night fundraiser before half term was, by all accounts, a great success. Thank you to Tasset Valley Taxis and to Ronnie Ingledew for his famous culinary expertise in providing a delicious first course, and to all of the BMSPTCA members who organised and supported this lovely occasion. Further events are planned throughout the academic year, which we hope your family will enjoy together in support of the school.

We were delighted with the record turnout of pupils for our celebration school disco just before half term. Thank you to Miss Mason, Mr Ramshaw and Ms Wilson for organising this event for the children, and also to parent volunteers from the BMSPTCA for their invaluable support. Over £180 was raised, which will go directly towards enrichment activities for current pupils.

Two teams from BMS travelled to Gosforth Central Middle School last week for the North East Regional Heat of the Kids' Lit Quiz. This nationally organised competition is always an excellent challenge for pupils, and we were proud of our school performance: pupils held their own against stiff competition. All team members earned a certificate and book prize. Congratulations to: Katie, Noah, Dan, Jenny, Arthur, Anna, Harry and Elena.

The coming week is extremely busy and (hopefully exciting!) for pupils as we welcome Kielder Observatory's Planetarium for our Science Week and two science ambassadors to work with pupils from BMS and other visiting schools from the local area. On Wednesday this week, we are really looking forward to a special VARC day organised by Mrs Basing, where the current artist in residence, Sam Douglas, will work with all pupils to create a vast landscape artwork in the gym. You are encouraged to come along and join in with your child: KS2 in the morning and KS3 in the afternoon. Look out for the separate ParentMail for further details.

Remember that Daniel Smith, famous author of *Boy X*, is visiting school on Tuesday afternoon. All pupils are invited to meet Daniel, listen to him talk about being a writer, his inspiration and his books for children, including a story reading. It is possible to buy books on the day for a special price of £5.50. Your child can bring money on the day if an order form has not been returned yet. There is no obligation.

Finally, Friday 15th is Children in Need Day. Pupils are invited to come into school wearing non-uniform, including a spotty item or spotty theme if they wish, for a suggested donation of £1 for Children in Need. Optional Pudsey ears can also be purchased in school from tomorrow: £2.50.

Kind regards,
Helen Samuels,
Acting Headteacher



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Attendance this week – 93.33%



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



Did you know?

If your child seems too unwell for school early in the morning, yet you feel they are well enough for school later on, please do bring them in. There are two attendance sessions each day: every session counts!

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)



REMEMBRANCE: In addition to our special assembly and two minute silence this morning, all pupils had the opportunity to visit a Remembrance Prayer Space on Friday last week. We are grateful to Rector Susan for the time and care given to enable this to have happened. Pupils were able to spend quiet time thinking about remembrance, thinking of those who lost and risk their lives in conflicts for our freedom today. Children were also free to reflect more personally if they so wished.





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Congratulations to: Anna, Nina, Jenny, Emma, Katie, Honey and Elena, all of whom have had their fabulous animal themed poems selected for publication as part of the Young Writer's Pet Poetry national competition. We are so impressed at the growing number of Bellingham Middle pupils who are finding competition success in their writing. Well done everyone!



Y5 History: Our youngest pupils have impressed everyone with their enthusiasm for learning all about Ancient Egypt, especially when it comes to the mummification process. Special thanks are definitely owed to Mrs Batey and Mrs Ingledew for their particular dedication to the progress of BMS pupils during this project...





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North East Regional Kids’ Lit Quiz: thank you to the brilliant bookworms who represented BMS last Thursday. Team A beat Team B by just 1 point and both teams beat a team from local rivals, Hexham Middle: Dan, Harry, Noah, Elena, Jenny, Anna, Katie and Arthur and well done to our Chair of Governors, David Gundry, who seemed to beat everyone on the Superhero themed round! Keep reading everyone!



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 11 th Nov	Remembrance Assembly
Mon 11 th Nov - 14 th Nov	Science Week: Planetarium for Y5, Y6, Y7 and Y8
Tues 12 th Nov	All Years: Author Visit to BMS – DAN SMITH
Wed 13 rd Nov	VARC Artist in Residence Day: KS2 (am) & KS3 (pm)
Fri 15 th Nov	Healthy Living Drop In – BMS Community Room 9-10.30am
Fri 15 th Nov	Children in Need Day – spotty/non-uniform for £1
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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