



"Inspiring Learning"

HEADTEACHER MESSAGE

We had great fun on Wednesday's school disco night, with hotdogs and chocolate donuts galore. As ever, we are very grateful to all those who volunteered their time to enable pupils to enjoy themselves socially together. In particular, Mr Ramshaw for the music; Mrs O'Kane for her famous organisation; Ms Wilson for catering, together with parent-governor Angus Murray, BMSPTCA members, Julie Mobberley and Sarah Smith, and of course, Miss Hill for locking up afterwards!

Thank you to all pupils for making an excellent effort on our Sports Relief Day 2020. It was great to see so many children from all year groups making the effort for this worthwhile cause. Grand total to be confirmed...watch this space.

Some wonderful art work was created by Y5 pupils recently during their specialist workshop with VARC artist in residence, Sam Douglas. The weather held off just enough for the children to venture outside, making the most of our stunning rural location. Thank you to Mrs Basing for organising this excellent opportunity for Y5 and to Sam and the team from VARC for visiting our school once more.

We would also like to thank the Reverend Dr Susan Ramsaran for supporting our Lent Prayer Space on Friday, following her Live Lent assembly earlier in the term. This optional opportunity for quiet thinking and reflection proved popular with many pupils at this time of preparation in the Christian calendar before Easter.

Finally, we appreciate that this is an unsettling and anxious time for many families given the huge media focus on the new coronavirus. Please rest assured that we are given Public Health updates daily and will continue to prioritise your child's health and safety in school. The current advice is that schools will NOT be closed to stop the spread of this virus. However, we are putting contingency plans in place, in case this advice changes. To help us, please could you let the office know if your child cannot access the internet for online learning in the event of any school closure situation?

Thank you for your continued support at what is a challenging time for everyone.

Kind regards,
Helen Samuels,
Headteacher

WHEN SHOULD I SELF-ISOLATE?

The most common symptoms of coronavirus (COVID-19) are recent onset of a new continuous cough and/or high temperature. If you have these symptoms, however mild, stay at home and do not leave your house for 7 days from when your symptoms started. You do not need to call NHS 111 to go into self-isolation. If your symptoms worsen during home isolation or are no better after 7 days, contact NHS 111 online. If you have no internet access, you should call NHS 111. For a medical emergency dial 999.

Please let school know if you or your family decide to self-isolate.



"Inspiring Learning"

Attendance this week – 95.71%



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



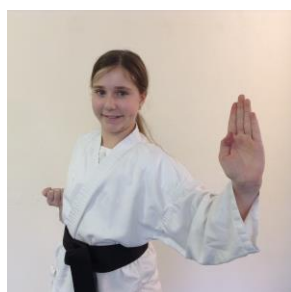
DID YOU KNOW?

Hand sanitisers with 60% alcohol content and above are effective against viruses, such as the new coronavirus, but soap and water is the best option.

SCHOOL NEWS AND EVENTS

WELL DONE TO OUR HOUSE POINT HEROES OF THE WEEK!

| KESTREL (151) | MERLIN (168) | OSPREY (138) | PEREGRINE (275) |
|--|---|---|--|
| Mason (Y5) Harry (Y6) Angus (Y7) James (Y8) | Chloe (Y5) Cameron (Y6) Nina (Y7) David (Y8) | Lucy (Y5) James (Y6) Bob (Y7) Amy (Y8) | Elise (Y5) Shane (Y6) Jenny (Y7) Tayah (Y8) |



KARATE SUCCESS: Congratulations to Lucy Cooke-Fletcher and Sam Cooke, both of whom have gained their black belt in karate recently. This amazing achievement is the result of hours of dedication and effort. Well done both for this exceptional achievement at such a young age!



LENT PRAYER SPACE: Pupils chose to visit a Lent Prayer Space last Friday. A huge thank you to Rector Susan for supporting the many children who wanted to take this opportunity in school.





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Y5 Artist in Residence


Lucky Y5 pupils had another great session from VARC, Y5 have completed the first part of their Discover Arts Award by working with Sam Douglas and finding out more about the life of an artist.





Thank you to Mrs Basing for organising this special opportunity for our youngest pupils, and to professional artist Sam Douglas and colleagues from VARC for giving their time and expertise to Bellingham Middle School again.



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Public Health
England



Advice on the coronavirus for places of education

How serious is the coronavirus?


- it can cause flu-like symptoms, including fever, cough & difficulty breathing
- the infection is not serious for most people, including children
- there is currently no vaccine
- most people get better with enough rest, water to drink and medicine for pain

How likely are you to catch the virus?


- you can only catch it if you have been close to a person who has the virus
- the chance of being in contact with the virus is currently low in the UK
- if you have travelled to areas where many people are infected, your chance of catching the virus is higher, i.e. China and any affected areas

How can you stop coronaviruses spreading?


If you need to cough or sneeze



Catch it with a tissue




Bin it




Kill it by washing your hands with soap & water or hand sanitiser


You should wash hands with soap & water or hand sanitiser




After breaks & sport activities




Before cooking & eating




SCHOOL ETC.
On arrival at any childcare or educational setting




After using the toilet




Before leaving home




Try not to touch your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands



Do not share items that come into contact with your mouth such as cups & bottles



If unwell do not share items such as bedding, dishes, pencils & towels




Stop germs spreading with our e-Bug resources on hand and respiratory hygiene lesson plans for KS1, 2 and 3: campaignresources.phe.gov.uk/schools

What should you do if you feel unwell?

Keep away from others and stay at home to stop the infection spreading. Avoid public transport if you think you have symptoms of coronavirus. If you become unwell at a place of education, tell a member of staff and let them know if you have travelled to any other countries in the last 14 days.

If your staff member or parent thinks you have symptoms of coronavirus, they should call **NHS 111** for advice. Follow the UK Government advice for childcare or educational settings gov.uk/government/publications/guidance-to-educational-settings-about-covid-19. Parents can visit NHS.UK to find out more information. Teachers and support staff should follow the UK Government advice.

Staff, students and pupils who have returned from Iran, specific lockdown areas in northern Italy, special care zones in South Korea or Hubei province China (returned in the past 14 days) should self isolate, and NOT attend education or work for 14 days. See NHS.UK for advice on coronavirus.



If there is an emergency, call 999 immediately

FORTHCOMING EVENTS AND KEY DATES

Wednesday 25th March

Wednesday 1st April

Friday 3rd April

Friday 3rd April

Monday 20th April

Monday 11th May - Thurs 14th May

Parents' Evening

Parents' Evening

Easter Service at St Cuthbert's Church

End of Spring Term

Pupils return for Summer Term

Y6 SATS WEEK