



“Inspiring Learning”

HEADTEACHER MESSAGE

A warm welcome back to all our pupils and their families for the spring term at Bellingham Middle. Everyone has made an excellent start after the holidays and we look forward to another busy and exciting term together.

Thank you to Rev Dr Susan Ramsaran for coming into school and giving pupils an assembly all about Epiphany, including the journey of the Magi and their gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh. Everyone was interested to see how the traditional contents of a Christmas cracker can be used to remind us of the Magi. Well done to Max and Elise for being brilliant helpers.

Our whole school trip on Friday saw a wonderful afternoon at the Theatre Royal in Newcastle, as pupils enjoyed watching a matinee performance of “Beauty and the Beast”. As ever, BMS pupils were a credit to their school and a pleasure to take out. Thank you to all staff for supporting this trip and to all our families for the evening collection.

Thank you to all families of pupils going to Normandy in May for the return of passport photographs and consent forms. An EHIC is also required (free online). If you need any support obtaining one for your child, then please do not hesitate to get in touch.

Finally, although we have not had any severe winter weather, in the event of school closures, parents can find out whether school is open or not by ringing Message Line: **0844 445 7463**, charged at a local rate, or listening to BBC Radio Newcastle, or looking at the school or county websites (www.northumberland.gov.uk/alerts).

Kind regards,
Helen Samuels,
Acting Headteacher

LOOKING FOR SOMETHING TO DO TOGETHER THIS WEEKEND?

COMMUNITY NEWS AND EVENTS



16th January at West Woodburn - The Snow Queen: Enjoy Northumberland Theatre Company’s production of Hans Christian Andersen’s acclaimed fairytale *The Snow Queen* at Etal Village Hall. When young Kay is swept away to the Land of Snow and Ice by the Snow Queen, his best friend Gerda sets out to find him. Aided and abetted by her two helpers, Crow and Reindeer, she attempts to rescue Kay before his heart turns to ice. This musical adaptation by Gillian and Rick Jukes is performed by a five member company, and is suitable for adults and children over five. Tickets cost £9 for adults and £5 for children and are available from The Lavender Tearooms in Etal. The performance lasts for 90 minutes including the interval.



Any time - Bolam Lake, near Belsay: (FREE) Great exercise for everyone and accessible for wheelchairs and pushchairs, Bolam Lake Country Park is situated in the heart of the beautiful Northumberland countryside surrounded by historic landscapes and dramatic views. Take a wintry walk around the lake or explore the woodland. Café, toilets and visitors’ centre available.



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Attendance this week – 95.95%



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



Did you know?

An attendance rate of 95% is generally considered good, but many children consistently achieve higher rates of weekly attendance. Every session counts!

SCHOOL NEWS AND EVENTS

WELL DONE TO OUR HOUSE POINT HEROES OF THE WEEK!

KESTREL (172)	MERLIN (131)	OSPREY (141)	PEREGRINE (141)
Isabel (Y5) Dan (Y6) Elena (Y7) Lucy (Y8)	Chloe (Y5) Bobbie (Y6) Arthur (Y7) Pippa & David (Y8)	Jenson (Y5) Ebony (Y6) Aidan (Y7) Archie (Y8)	Luke & Lucy (Y5) Sam B (Y6) Emma (Y7) Tayah (Y8)

Children’s Dream Restaurant Television Opportunity:



Lion Television Company (responsible for *Horrible Histories* and *Homes under the Hammer*) has been in touch with our school to invite applications from any interested children for a new television series, which will see teams of children working together to create a themed pop-up restaurant of their design, including menu.

Your child would need to get together with other children to form a team of six; three would cook up their delicious menu whilst three would be responsible for the dining service. Any pupils wishing to apply should see Mrs Samuels for an application pack. **Parental consent must be given.** All instructions are included in the application pack, should your child wish to apply.





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FOOD TECH STARS: Delicious Chocolate Starbread, created by our talented KS3 pupils.





MEMOS AND REMINDERS



Parent/Carer Drop In (FREE): Come along and have a cuppa with Sarah Donnison, our School Liaison Officer. Find out more about Operation Encompass and/or access support for your family through Sarah. **Fri 17th Jan at 3pm onwards in the community room. All welcome.**



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.

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. Whilst we would never see a child go hungry, 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.

https://online.northumberland.gov.uk/citizenportal/form.aspx?form=Free_School_Meals

FORTHCOMING EVENTS AND KEY DATES

Tuesday 14th Jan

Badminton Club starts

Thursday 16th Jan

Y5/6/7 Specialist Dance sessions begin

Friday 17th Jan

Y7 PSHCE Workshop: Emotions & Empathy

Monday 3rd Feb

Bikeability Week: Levels 1 & 2 (open to all)

Tuesday 11th Feb

Book Bus visiting school (all years)

Wednesday 12th Feb

Valentine's Disco – all welcome

Monday 17th - Friday 21st Feb

Half Term holidays

Monday 24th February

Pupils return to school

Friday 28th February

Y7 Univenture: Newcastle University Trip

Monday 2nd March

Y6 PSHCE Workshop: Rules & Expectations

Monday 2nd March

Operation Encompass Parent Drop-In