



Dear Parents/Carers,

It's hard to believe there's only one week to go! We've got everything crossed for a smooth, 'Covid-free' end to the term as well as a return to normality in September.

Staff are working really hard preparing some enrichment activities for next week as well as finalising end of year reports. These will be posted out early next week.

It's going to be both an exciting and emotional time next week for our Y8 pupils (and Mr Ramshaw)! Preparations for the prom are almost complete and we've certainly kept delivery companies busy as lots of props are arriving on a daily basis. Decorations designed and made by our pupils are fantastic! We can't wait to see them on the night all dressed up. Don't forget – photos at 6:30pm. Unfortunately, we won't be able to invite parents to our leavers' assembly next Friday and we appreciate how disappointing this is. We plan to record the event and upload it onto our school 360 platform which all pupils can access; they will then be able to watch it at home with parents. Tissues at the ready!

Due to some shortage in staffing this week, our planned KS2 puberty talks have been moved to next week.

Have a lovely weekend!

Lindsay Hamilton

### Attendance this week:

**95%**

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

### Did you know...?

Attendance	Description	Approx. days lost per year	Approx. weeks lost per year
98 – 100%	Excellent	0 to 4	Less than 1
95 – 98%	Good	5 to 9	1 to 2
93 – 95%	Satisfactory	10 to 13	2 to 3
90 – 93%	Unsatisfactory	14 to 19	4 to 6
>90%	Persistent Absence	More than 19	More than 4

**The government expects your child's attendance to be 95% or better.  
Schools are held to account for your child's attendance.  
Please remember holidays in term time will be unauthorised.**



## Y8 Science

In science this week, Year 8 tested how quick their reactions were. As well as testing this, pupils also looked at the validity and reliability of the investigation, devising methods which would ensure a fair test, should the investigation be replicated in the future.



## Well Done, William!



We are incredibly proud of William! He has been busy organising his own 'sponsored haircut' and has raised a whopping £1350.50! Half of this amount will go to The Little Princess Trust who donate real hair wigs to children and young people who have lost their own hair. Each wig costs around £550 to make and William has also donated his hair to be made into a wig. The other half of the proceeds will go to the Childhood Tumour Trust who support children who are living with Neurofibromatosis Type One (NF1), a currently incurable condition which causes tumours along the nerves and under the skin. What an incredible achievement, William. This will help so many young people! You're a star!







## Sports Day!

We had a wonderful Sports Day this week with lots of great participation in a whole range of events. A huge **'thank you'** to Mr Ramshaw for organising it all.







## Staffing Update



It is with a heavy heart that we will be saying farewell to Miss Read at the end of this term. Miss Read is leaving us to pursue a new, different career path and we will miss her greatly. She first joined BMS in 2019 and has really enjoyed teaching our pupils skills for life, introducing them to new tastes, as well as all the work involving 'the journey from farm to fork' project. During her time at BMS, Miss Read has been incredibly impressed by the determination to succeed and improve by all of the pupils at BMS.

From September, Food Technology will be led by Mrs O'Kane who has recently returned to school following her maternity leave.



Mrs Basing leaves us next week in order to be able to spend more time in her art studio. Mrs Basing is a glass artist and designer and spends a lot of her time creating pieces for exhibitions. She first joined BMS in 2018, and has inspired all of our pupils to design and create some amazing pieces! Pupils have particularly enjoyed being involved in the VARC (Visual Arts in Rural Communities) project alongside Mrs Basing and local artists. We will miss her a great deal and wish her well for the future.

## A Warm Welcome...



We're delighted to be able to welcome Mrs McGregor onto our team from September as our new ADT teacher. She writes:

*My family and I have recently repatriated to beautiful Northumberland after a 12-year stint working in Hong Kong and Singapore. I am thrilled to be starting at Bellingham Middle School teaching Art and Design and helping the students explore new and exciting art and design projects. We will be getting stuck into sculpture, painting, printing and many more art disciplines as I strive to make our pupils as enthusiastic about art as I am! To me, this past year has highlighted how important the arts are in many ways, and I know the students will love participating in lots of practical, exciting and adventurous lessons. I look forward to meeting you all in the Autumn.*



## Message from Northumberland County Council

Dear Parent/Carer,

We are writing to you with an exciting opportunity for children and young people this summer. Thanks to the Government's Holiday Activities and Food programme (HAF) and funding we have received from the National Lottery we will be able to run a range of holiday programmes across the summer break. The fully funded programmes mean children and young people of all ages will be able to take part in a range of enriching activities including sport, music, dance, drama, art, cooking, and gardening. The programme of events will also give them the opportunity to learn new skills and the chance to socialise with others and make new friends. Those who attend will also receive a healthy meal as part of our commitment to ensure those who receive free school meals in term time continue to do so should they attend some of the activities taking place. If you want to find out what is on offer in your area, please contact Northumberland Communities Together for more information.

Phone the Northumberland Communities Together Response Hub on 01670 620015 9am-6pm, 7 days a week or email: [NCT@northumberland.gov.uk](mailto:NCT@northumberland.gov.uk).

NORTHUMBERLAND PRESENTS

# SUMMER

## FUN

YOU'RE INVITED  TO JOIN US

~~~~~ FIND OUT WHAT'S ON ~~~~~

CONTACT NORTHUMBERLAND COMMUNITIES  
TOGETHER RESPONSE HUB - 9AM-6PM, 7 DAYS A WEEK

 01670 620015

 [NCT@NORTHUMBERLAND.GOV.UK](mailto:NCT@NORTHUMBERLAND.GOV.UK)



## Dates for your diary...

Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> July 2021

Y8 Prom

Friday 16<sup>th</sup> July 2021

Final day of summer term



## Covid-19 advice for

### identified close contacts of positive cases

If you have been informed by NHS Test & Trace that you are a close contact of someone who has tested positive for Covid-19 you should:

- Stay at home and complete 10 full days isolation from the date of last contact. Your isolation period includes the date of your last contact and the next 10 full days.

Le [Day 1 - Contact with positive case] [Day 2-11 is the 10-day isolation period]

- Book a \*PCR test during your isolation period even if you have no symptoms.

\*PCR - Polymerase Chain Reaction test is used to diagnose people who are currently infected with coronavirus.

1

BOOK A PCR TEST ONLINE AT  
[www.gov.uk/get-coronavirus-test](https://www.gov.uk/get-coronavirus-test)  
OR CALL 119

PCR testing sites in  
Northumberland :

- Peoples Park car park, Ashington,
- Marine Terrace car park, Blyth
- Sandwell car park in Spittal, Berwick
- Former fire station site, Tyne Mills Industrial Estate, Hexham

Alternatively, request a home PCR test.

2

Take PCR Test

Positive PCR Test

**Continue self-isolating for 10-days from positive PCR**

If your PCR test result is positive, you will need to stay at home and start a further full 10 day isolation period, regardless of where you are in your original 10 day isolation period. This means that your total isolation period will be longer than 10 days.

NHS Test and Trace will provide further advice about your self-isolation period.

Negative PCR result

You must continue to isolate until the end of your isolation period.

**Then, stop isolating if:**

- you are well
- no-one else in your household has symptoms or has tested positive
- you have not been advised to self-isolate by NHS Test and Trace.