



HEADTEACHER MESSAGE

Despite not having many children in school, we seem to have plenty of news to share each week! School continues to be a hive of activity and our staff continue to be impressed with our pupil engagement with their remote learning.

The government announced earlier this week that schools will close during February half-term for all pupils, including vulnerable and key worker children. Please note, no online lessons will be set this week. It's important that we all have a good rest ready for work again afterwards, and hopefully, school opening on 8th March. Fingers crossed!

I would like to thank Julie Mobberley from our brilliant BMSPTCA who helped us to promote the sale of our large reception desk in last week's addition. By Monday, we had six interested parties! I can report that the desk is on its way to a new home (and we got a great price)! Thanks, Julie.

Have a lovely weekend and stay safe,

Lindsay Hamilton

Bellissimo Bruschetta!

Our budding Italian chefs learned the KS3 level theory of dextrinisation today, and then put their knowledge into practice by making bruschetta. There were some great knife skills demonstrated by Ed and Hugh – well done! Miss Read's star chefs were Chloe and Mason who were enthusiastic and demonstrated great team work by being very willing to help other students wash up.





Scented Science!

KS2 thoroughly enjoyed a practical Science lesson this week in our fantastic lab as they made some incredible aromatherapy oils! Wonderful for relaxation!





Bubbles at Break!

Staff are always thinking of new ways in which pupils can spend their break, away from screens while in school. However, we have to say, using our wonderful cookery room remains a firm favourite!



Pupils demonstrating trust and resilience as well as learning the importance of giving very specific, accurate instructions!



Lucy and Shane enjoyed baking during their screen break with the talented Mrs Ingledew!

They look delicious!



Next week is national Children's Mental Health Week. Place2Be launched the first ever Children's Mental Health Week in 2015 to shine a spotlight on the importance of children and young people's mental health. Now in its seventh year, the aim is to encourage more people than ever to get involved and spread the word. The theme of this year's Children's Mental Health Week is **Express Yourself**. We will be supporting this through our online PSHE lessons next week and ensuring pupils have the opportunity to do activities that make them feel good. It's crucial, at this time especially, we're doing everything we can to look after our mental health.

If you would like further information about supporting mental health, you can visit the website by clicking [here](#).



Baking is an activity that makes a lot of people feel good. Here is Sam creating some delicious treats in his spare time!



Miss Morgan enjoys a spot of baking too!

Update on testing...



Following government guidelines, pupils and staff are now tested, in school, twice every week. This wouldn't be possible without the support of our dedicated volunteers who have made this whole process swift and easy.

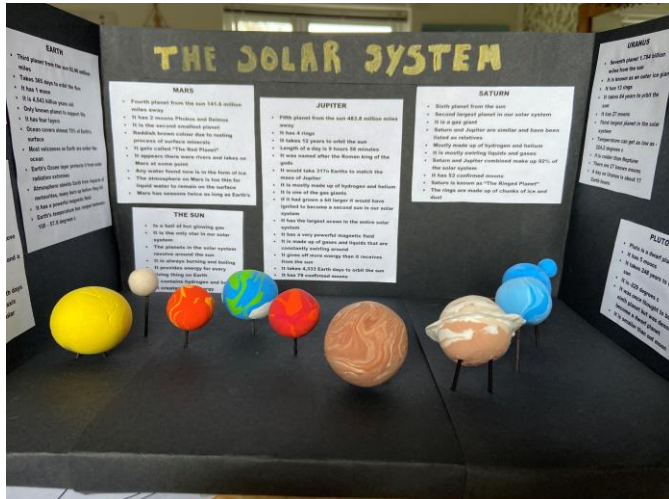
Last week, we shared a picture of our 'processing' team (Simon and Ken) and this week, we'd like you to meet our 'registration' team: Brenda Huddleston and Ken Lindup. This is a crucial part of the testing process and everyone here at BMS is very, very grateful for all of their time, help and support.



Y5 are currently studying Earth and Space in Science and are looking forward to watching the live landing of NASA's space rover, Perseverance! It is due to land on Mars on 18th February. It can be watched live by clicking on the link below:

<https://mars.nasa.gov/mars2020/>

However, look how impressive their Science work has been this week! Mrs Parkinson was in awe of them all and this is just a snippet of what has been submitted!



Wow, Jacob! Lots of amazing facts!



Well done, Robert!

A wonderful 3-D solar system!



Lucy made some delicious edible moons and stars! Great colours, Lucy!



Look at this! An entire edible solar system. Very creative, Ethan!



Super Citizens!

Y7 have been studying rules and laws in PSHE and looking at ways in which they could be a positive, active citizen. Pupils were asked to choose an issue they feel is important in their local community and consider how they could make a change or raise awareness. We had a wonderful response with lots of great ideas. Sam wrote very persuasively about the need for more buses between Hexham and Wark; Harry felt the grass on the village green in West Woodburn needed cutting more frequently to support the playing of sports; and Ebony produced a fantastic poster aimed at addressing environmental issues such as litter.



Well done to Katie who went along to her local shop and asked them to display her poster. Katie had chosen an environmental issue, encouraging everyone to look after our planet.

Active citizenship at its best!

Katie's poster.



Safeguarding and child protection are as important now as they ever have been. With lockdowns, tier systems and social distancing measures in place across the UK, it's difficult for adults to keep in regular contact with children and check on their welfare. We all have a responsibility to keep children safe. This is even more important at a time when children aren't being seen by a range of professionals on a daily basis.

The NSPCC Helpline is always available on 0808 800 5000, if you have concerns for your own, or another child's safety. **If you feel that a child is in immediate danger, call the police on 999.**

Alternatively, if you would like to speak to someone in school, please do not hesitate to contact one of our designated safeguarding leads: Mr Ramshaw or Mrs Hamilton.



Some exciting news to end this week's newsletter....

Congratulations goes to Mrs Pattinson, one of our wonderful teaching assistants, who is expecting the pitter patter of tiny feet later this year! Everyone at BMS wishes her, and her family, all the very best and we cannot wait to meet the new arrival.