



Dear Parents/Carers,

It's good to be back! How great it was to see our pupils return and welcome some new additions. Y5 have settled in very quickly and it's also been lovely to welcome Grace and Sophie into Y6. Pupils have returned to school looking very smart in their school uniform and appear to have gotten back into routines swiftly.

KS3 have been excellent this week throughout the whole Covid testing process! They appear to have breezed through without any issues. Thank you for supporting us in this and bringing your child to school on Monday in time for their test. If you have any queries about home-testing, please do get in touch. Despite seeing more 'normality' returning to school this term, we are maintaining some important routines such as handwashing/sanitising, extra cleaning, as well as ensuring our spaces are well-ventilated. All risk assessments have been updated and can be viewed on our school website.

Have a lovely weekend,

Lindsay Hamilton



## The hills are alive....



Well...maybe not the hills, but our corridors were certainly alive with the sound of music this week as all year groups enjoyed their first music lesson in our newly-designed music room. Ms Esposito has worked hard over the summer creating a vibrant, inspiring space dedicated to music! Pupils were in awe when they stepped through the door and wasted no time in learning new songs for our music assembly next week. We are incredibly lucky to have so many instruments and Ms Esposito is keen to add some guitar tuition into her curriculum. Many pupils are enthusiastic about joining the BMS choir and working towards some Christmas performances. We can't wait!





## A great first week!

We are so impressed at how quickly our new Y5 pupils have settled this week! Their cheerful, positive outlook towards all of their new experiences has made them a pleasure to be around. Here's what they had to say about life at BMS so far...

*"I've met loads of new friends and my Maths lesson was really challenging!"*

George

*"I love French! I already know the French names for the Harry Potter Houses!"*

Cara

*"It's great being in a different room with a different teacher each lesson."*

Paige

*"The toast at breaktime is delicious and I have really enjoyed PE with Mr Ramshaw."*

Michael

*"I love the dinners!"*

Eddie

*"Bellingham Middle School is really fun!"*

Alice

*"I have enjoyed so many lessons – English, Science, Food Tech and Music!"*

Madi

*"I love going to Quiet Club at lunchtime. You can play games and make pom poms."*

Maisie

*"I've enjoyed everything!"*

Olivia

*"It's really nice here!"*

Laelah-Rose

*"I loved singing in our Music lesson. PE, English and Food Tech were great too."*

Grace

*"I've had a really good time!"*

Harrison

*"Playing together again is just a dream come true."*

Sophie





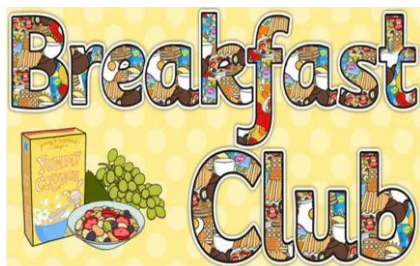
## Brilliant Buddies!

How great to be able to launch our 'buddy system' again! Y5 pupils met their Y8 buddy today and spent some time getting to know them through team-building exercises. We expect our Y8s to act as a responsible friend and support their buddy in settling into life at BMS. We know they'll do an amazing job!





## School News



Breakfast club is now up and running with our wonderful Mrs Fletcher! Pupils are welcome daily from 8am into our Club Room where they will be offered a nutritious, healthy breakfast. There is no charge at all, all we do ask is that parents complete [our online form](#) so that we know how many to expect. Any pupils going to breakfast club should come straight into school through our main glass doors.



We are now able to offer an after-school club each evening until 4:30pm – perfect for anyone struggling to pick children up at home time. Mrs Urwin has lots of great activities planned, or, pupils may choose this time to complete homework. The choice is theirs. This facility is completely free, all we do ask is that parents complete [our online form](#) so that we know who to expect. If you have any questions about this provision, please get in touch.



Now that our changing room facility is back in use, pupils should bring their PE kit into school on the days they have PE so that they can get changed. It is no longer necessary for pupils to wear their PE kit to school.



Thank you to those parents who have contacted us regarding school lunch dessert options. We should be able to offer a piece of fresh fruit very soon as an alternative and will alter menus when we have this in place.



We're excited to have registered for Bookbuzz 2021, a flagship reading programme from the BookTrust aimed at students aged 11 – 13, to support and encourage reading for pleasure. Pupils have the opportunity to choose their own free book to take home and keep from a list of 17 titles. Books are all carefully selected by a panel of experts including school librarians, teachers and children's booksellers to ensure quality, suitability and to encourage reading for pleasure. We're looking forward to seeing which titles Y7 & Y8 pick next week in their English lessons with Ms Taberham.





## September-October 2021 What's On

Our face-to-face youth clubs are back for a new term!

Get in touch via email ([Lisa.Robinson@northtyneyouth.co.uk](mailto:Lisa.Robinson@northtyneyouth.co.uk)), or text or call (07826 020949) to find out more, and to get hold of a Registration Form if you're not already a member.

Our clubs can only go ahead this term if we can secure volunteers to help out so we can keep offering fun, high-quality, and safe activities for our young people. Please get in touch to find out more about volunteering.

### **RTC Otterburn**

**Tuesdays [from 21<sup>st</sup> September]**

**<Just £1 per young person>**

6.00-7.15: Juniors Club (8-11s)

7.30-9.00: Seniors Club (12-18s)

### **Reed Hall Bellingham**

**Thursdays [from 23<sup>rd</sup> September]**

**<Just £1 per young person>**

6.00-7.15: Juniors Club (8-11s)

7.30-9.00: Seniors Club (12-18s)

We don't have to limit group sizes at the moment, but we're going to be very careful and will keep working hard to keep everyone safe. We'll still be promoting social distancing, making sure staff and young people wash and sanitise hands frequently, and cleaning the space and equipment between sessions.

**We can't wait to see you!**



## Dates for your diary...

Monday 20 <sup>th</sup> September 2021	New Intake Evening (more details to follow next week)
Monday 20 <sup>th</sup> September 2021	School Photographer
Monday 27 <sup>th</sup> September 2021	Open Afternoon 1:30pm – 3:00pm
Tuesday 28 <sup>th</sup> September 2021	Open Evening 6:00pm – 7:30pm
Friday 8 <sup>th</sup> October 2021	Partnership Sponsored Walk
Friday 22 <sup>nd</sup> October 2021	School Closes for half term holiday
Monday 1 <sup>st</sup> November 2021	Teacher Training Day – school closed
Tuesday 2 <sup>nd</sup> November 2021	School re-opens