

HEADTEACHER MESSAGE

It's beginning to look a lot like Christmas here at BMS! Y5 have done a sterling job decorating our trees in the entrance and there's also some Christmas cheer creeping into the classrooms too! Letters have gone home about Christmas lunch and staff are busy organising lots of festive fun for the end of term. Even though it will be slightly different this year, we are determined to do all we can to create some Christmas magic. Sadly, it is highly unlikely that we will be able to visit church for our Christmas service this year with Reverend Elaine. However, there will be opportunities within school to think about the true meaning of Christmas and the important messages it brings.

Our 'tidy up' over the past two weeks has been very successful. Learning spaces are looking clear, smart and clutter-free. The skip is full to the brim and ready to be collected. We do have several filing cabinets looking for a new home so if anyone could use one, please let us know.

Have a lovely, safe weekend!

Lindsay Hamilton



It was great to welcome Lisa Robinson into school again this week. Lisa has offered to run a lunchtime youth club for our Y8 pupils over the next few months and will join us next Thursday for Christmas lunch.

Lisa felt very welcome in school and writes:

"Thank you for the warm welcome! Y8 were lovely, and very patient and respectful. I will be offering some activities, and games during their sessions, but they are also welcome to use the space just to sit and chill, chat, read, reflect...Engagement is not mandatory! I'm really looking forward to getting to know the group better."

As you can see from the advert, Lisa is also running an event on 14th December for our young people in Bellingham.

North Tyne Youth is a registered charity in England and Wales (1189025)



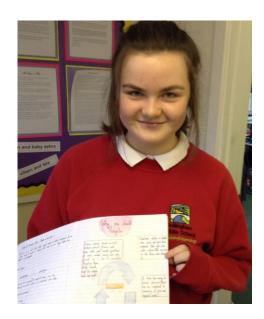
Super Scientists!

Y8 have been learning about the all-important issue of recycling in Science and in particular, whether we have a moral responsibility to recycle our mobile phones. When mobiles are thrown away, this 'e-waste' ends up in landfills which can harm humans and animals. Many mobiles are made from lead, cadmium, chromium, and brominated fire retardants. These elements can cause serious health issues if people come into contact with them, and they don't necessarily need to touch them. The metals simply seep into the soil, water, and food, and many people around the world could end up getting severely ill. When disposed to landfills, these mobile phones can also release toxic by-products which will have harmful effects on human beings and animals. Well done, Y8! You've learnt a wealth of important information.

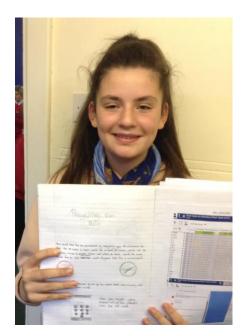


Here are some of our Y8 scientists with their promotional work about recycling:

Elena, Katie, Callum, Hannah and Bob.













'Tis the season for giving and thinking of others! This is the message behind our Christmas Crafts afternoon next week. Pupils will be making various Christmas crafts and creating messages of cheer which will be sent to Haydon View Care Home to let our elderly community know we are thinking of them at this time of year. All items will be quarantined before they are given to the home.



Don't forget next Friday (11th) is Christmas Jumper Day! All pupils may come into school in their own clothing wearing a fabulous, festive jumper. There really is no need to go rushing out and buying one – why not decorate your own? <u>There will</u> <u>be a prize for the best 'home made' original Christmas jumper! Get your thinking caps on.</u>

Normally, we would ask for a small cash donation on this day to support local charities. However, this year we'd like to support the local West Northumberland Food Bank. A tin of something or an item which has a long shelf-life would be greatly appreciated. Items they collect are:

Tinned meat / fish; tinned vegetables / tomatoes; tinned fruit or desserts; dried or UHT long life milk; rice / noodles / tinned or instant potatoes; breakfast cereals / biscuits; fruit squash / pop / coffee / sugar; toothpaste / deodorant / toilet roll; shampoo / shower gel / razors; washing powder / washing up liquid.

Please send your donation into school on Friday 11th and we'll ensure it reaches the West Northumberland Food Bank.



Reverend Elaine Ryder has been in touch to say that, sadly, she can't offer much from the church in Bellingham for families this year because of space issues. However, she would like us to inform you that there will be a crib service outside, on the extension graveyard, at Otterburn on 24th December at 4 pm. Everyone is welcome as there is lots of space.



It's great to see some normality creeping back into our school calendar! Next week, on Monday and Wednesday, our Y8 pupils will have the opportunity to participate in an after-school badminton tournament in our school gym. Pupils will play a round robin group stage and then a final. The winning players will represent the school in the Northumberland School Games tournament against players from other schools in the next calendar year. We are ensuring, at this stage, that all pupils remain in their bubble, which is why this has only been offered to our Y8 pupils at this time.



FORTHCOMING EVENTS AND KEY DATES

Thursday 10th December

Friday 11th December

Friday 11th December

Friday 11th December

Wednesday 16th December

Christmas Lunch

- Christmas Jumper Day & Christmas Crafts Afternoon
- KS2 Online Author Meet: Sibeal Pounder
- Autumn Term Progress Reports posted home
 - In-house treat (Enrichment Homework)
 - Christmas online assembly Reverend Elaine Ryder
 - Christmas 'Bubble' parties in school
- Friday 18th December

Thursday 17th December

Thursday 17th December

End of Autumn term