



Dear Parents/Carers,

I am delighted to be writing my first weekly bulletin as the Acting Headteacher of Bellingham Middle School. As usual it has been an incredibly busy first week back at school, however it is fair to say that we are absolutely delighted with the behaviour and attitude of all of our pupils – it's like they've never been away! Our Year 5s and new pupils in Year 6 and 7 have settled in straightaway making new friends and impressing staff hugely with their polite manner and excellent effort in everything they do. Although it has only been four days, we have hit the ground running and set high standards for the rest of the year. Thursday brought the sad news of the passing of Queen Elizabeth II which we have communicated to all pupils, with a focus on celebrating the many achievements in her lifetime.

In this bulletin we will show you what we have got up to this week, as well as detailing some of the many highlights we have got coming up in the Autumn Term.

Dan Ramshaw

Attendance this week:

98.6%

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.

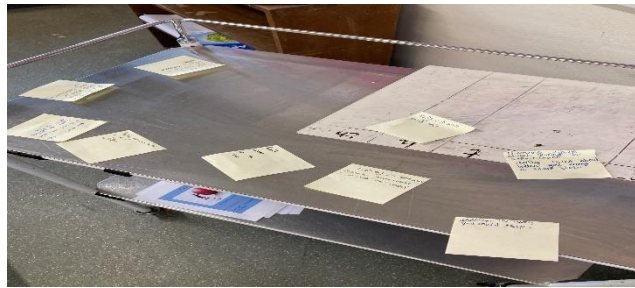
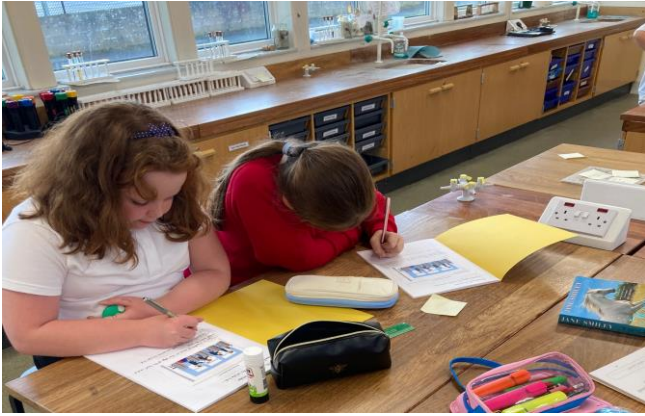
Schools are held to account for your child's attendance.

Please remember holidays in term time will be unauthorised.



Scientists go safety first

In science, Year 6 have been looking at potential hazards in the lab and the dangers working in an unsafe environment. The pupils were fantastic at recognising potential safety hazards, the knowledge of which will help them conduct safe investigations later this year.



Year 7 sequences

Our budding mathematicians have been getting to work on their topic of sequences and this week they have been looking at finding patterns and rules in diagrams. Eat your heart out Robert Langdon!





SIGN UP NOW!

IN YEARS 6, 7 OR 8?

WANT TO IMPROVE OUR SCHOOL FOOD?

- Sign up to School Food Champions, and work as a team to come up with your own ideas to improve the food at school and in our local community.
- Lead a social action campaign to put healthy options in the spotlight, learn leadership skills, and make a positive impact on the food you and your friends eat everyday.

Who: Year 6, 7 or 8 who are passionate about changing the world around them.

What: a new social action programme to improve access to healthy, affordable food in our school.

When: Monday's afterschool 3:30-4:30

Where: F&T room

Contact: Mrs O'Kane



A fresh start

It has been amazing to welcome our fabulous Year 5 pupils to the school. Here are some of their thoughts on their first week:

"I really enjoyed meeting my new class and making new friends. I have had an amazing first week at Bellingham Middle School!"

Seren

"I really enjoyed meeting everybody and making new friends!"

Abigail

"I have loved doing science and Food Tech. It feels like I have been here for five years!"

Harry

"I have settled in nicely and had a great first week. I have also had a lot of fun!"

Matthew

"I love Quiet Club so much and also maths, PE, Food Tech and science"

Gracie

"I had an awesome first week at Bellingham Middle School"

Harry

I think it's fair to say they've had a good week!



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. Please contact Mrs Thompson for details.



A huge good luck to Mrs Davis who is running the Great North Run this weekend. Go well!



We were saddened as a school to hear of the passing of HM Queen Elizabeth II on Thursday. This morning we delivered an assembly to Celebrate her life and offered strategies on how to cope with grief.



Dates for your diary

Monday 19 th September 2022	School individual and family photographs
Monday 19 th September 2022	New Intake Evening (more details to follow next week)
Monday 26 th September 2022	Open Afternoon 1:30pm – 3:00pm
Tuesday 27 th September 2022	Open Evening 6:00pm – 7:30pm
Tuesday 4 th October 2022	KS2 Safety works visit
Friday 21 st October 2022	School Closes for half term holiday
Monday 31 st October 2022	School re-opens