



Dear Parents/Carers,

Thank you to everyone who attended our parent evenings this week, and especially for the lovely, kind comments. Despite one or two technical difficulties, the evenings seem to have been a great success and we can definitely see the benefits of hosting parent evenings like this in future! A very busy week has finished with a fabulous day fundraising for Muscular Dystrophy UK. Our Easter hamper raffle alone raised over £100 which is incredible, and shows how lucky we are to have such a kind and caring community.

I would like to wish you all a wonderful Easter and hope you manage to spend some time with loved ones!

Lindsay Hamilton

## Born Bakers!

Y7 were challenged to build upon their skills from last week by adding further ingredients to their dough. Cinnamon and raisins were popular, and many trialled piping a cross to make some very seasonal hot cross buns. Well done to Sam, who was named 'star baker' due to his use of orange zest and cinnamon. Miss Read thought they were better than M&S!



The winning buns!  
Great work, Sam!

You look pleased with those, Phillip!

Well done!



Some great piping skills here!







## Go **Bright** for the Fight!

Not only has it been an enjoyable day, but also a most successful day! We are overwhelmed with the support we have received towards today's fundraising. Pupils have enjoyed a variety of activities such as assemblies, quizzes, sporting competitions, as well as the odd 'sweet treat' or two. We are thrilled to announce that we have raised a grand total of £435.00! Thank you all of our pupils and families in supporting this incredibly important charity.



Both Angus and Robert have been well-supported by their peers with everyone bringing some 'brightness' to the day!









## Staffing Update



We said a fond farewell to Mrs Clay this week as she left us to concentrate fully on her Bed & Breakfast business. With restrictions easing soon, she is hoping to be very busy. We would like to thank Mrs Clay for all of her hard work in supporting all of our pupils since September and wish her well for the future.



We are thrilled to announce the arrival of Miss Ruby Pearson, who will be joining our teaching team after Easter. She has taught in several schools across Northumberland, and lately has enjoyed popping into school to get to know our pupils. Miss Pearson is looking forward to teaching her new classes and writes: *"The staff and pupils have been so welcoming! I love teaching in middle schools and can't wait to begin!"*



Welcome, also, to Miss Alex Henderson, who joins us for the summer term as an addition to our teaching assistant team. Miss Henderson has recently been a valuable volunteer at BMS, gaining experience before she begins her teacher training in the next academic year. We know she'll be a great support in what can be a very busy term!

It is with a heavy heart that we say farewell to our wonderful school cook, Sylvia Lawson, today. Sylvia first joined BMS in 2009 and has looked after the appetites of pupils (and staff) very well ever since. She says, *"I have thoroughly enjoyed my time here at Bellingham Middle School and have loved working with all of the staff and pupils. I have lots of great memories to take away with me as it has been a great place to work."*

We have calculated that in total, Sylvia must have made nearly 200,000 meals during her time here as cook! That's a LOT of school dinners! We know she will be missed by staff and pupils and we wish her well for the future.





# Covid-19 testing guidance for Household childcare and support bubbles of school children or staff

## How to get your home test

OPTION 1

Collect from sites in Northumberland

[www.northumberland.gov.uk/covidtest](http://www.northumberland.gov.uk/covidtest)

OPTION 2

Order online

[www.gov.uk/order-coronavirus-rapid-lateral-flow-tests](http://www.gov.uk/order-coronavirus-rapid-lateral-flow-tests)

(DAY 1) Showing Symptoms OR Positive Home LFD Test

Self-isolate and get a confirmatory PCR test

Negative result

Positive result

Stop isolating if you are well

(Day 1-10) Continue self-isolating for 10-days from first day of symptoms.

NB: Isolation period is 10 full days from onset of symptoms (or date of test if no symptoms).

NOTE:

Children in Nursery, First or Primary School should not do a home test or be booked in for a test at a symptom-free site.

IF THEY HAVE SYMPTOMS Book a PCR Test.

PCR testing sites in Northumberland for people with symptoms :

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

Book a PCR test online at [www.gov.uk/get-coronavirus-test](http://www.gov.uk/get-coronavirus-test)

IF THEY DO NOT HAVE SYMPTOMS There is no requirement to seek a test.

## ALTERNATIVELY, BOOK A TEST

Those in households, childcare or support bubbles without symptoms can be tested in person if they would rather not use home tests

### Symptom-free test site

Open to those aged 16 or over who meet the criteria.

Ashington Leisure Centre, Ashington  
Willowburn Leisure Centre, Alnwick  
Wentworth Leisure Centre, Hexham  
Berwick Childrens Centre, Berwick-upon-Tweed

[www.northumberland.gov.uk/covidtest](http://www.northumberland.gov.uk/covidtest)



## Don't forget...

Please don't forget to order your child's meals over the Easter holidays so that orders are on the system at the start of the new term. The process is the same as it has been now for several months and nothing has changed in terms of ordering or payment. However, the menus are new:

Week 1: 12 <sup>th</sup> – 16 <sup>th</sup> April		Week 5: 10 <sup>th</sup> – 14 <sup>th</sup> May			
<b>Main choice</b>	Lasagne with garlic bread	Roast chicken with traditional roast vegetables	Ham & cheese pocket(pitta) with potato fritters.	Mini battered fish, chips & peas	Pie of the day with steamed vegetables and gravy
<b>Vegetarian option</b>	Jacket potato with cheese / ham / beans	Jacket potato with cheese / ham / beans	Jacket potato with cheese / ham / beans	Jacket potato with cheese / ham / beans	Jacket potato with cheese / ham / beans
<b>Dessert</b>	Lemon drizzle cake	Fresh fruit cup & yoghurt	Sticky toffee pudding & toffee sauce	Cookie with fruit mousse	Rice pudding with jam / sauce

Week 2: 19 <sup>th</sup> – 23 <sup>rd</sup> April		Week 6: 17 <sup>th</sup> – 21 <sup>st</sup> May			
<b>Main choice</b>	Sausage casserole with mini Yorkshire puddings & fresh vegetables	Battered chicken nuggets, potato skins & beans	Quiche, fresh salad & new potatoes	Macaroni cheese with ham & crusty bread	Chip-shop style chicken curry & Japanese-style fried rice (with vegetables)
<b>Vegetarian option</b>	Cheesy tagliatelle in cream sauce with crusty bread	Cheesy tagliatelle in cream sauce with crusty bread	Cheesy tagliatelle in cream sauce with crusty bread	Cheesy tagliatelle in cream sauce with crusty bread	Cheesy tagliatelle in cream sauce with crusty bread
<b>Dessert</b>	Sprinkle cake	Jam roly-poly & custard	Fresh fruit cup & cream	Chocolate crispy bar	Fruit scone, jam & cream

Week 3: 26 <sup>th</sup> – 30 <sup>th</sup> April		Week 7: 24 <sup>th</sup> – 28 <sup>th</sup> May			
<b>Main choice</b>	Sausage roll & beans	Chilli with wholegrain rice & garlic bread	Shepherds pie & roast root vegetables	Bagel pizza (pepperoni), salad & chips	Mini burger, chips, side salad & coleslaw
<b>Vegetarian option</b>	Ham & cheese ciabatta with potato skins	Ham & cheese ciabatta with potato skins	Ham & cheese ciabatta with potato skins	Ham & cheese ciabatta with potato skins	Ham & cheese ciabatta with potato skins
<b>Dessert</b>	Spotted dick & custard	Flapjack	Tomato soup cake & squirty cream	Angel delight & cookie	Fresh fruit cup

Week 4: 3 <sup>rd</sup> – 7 <sup>th</sup> May		(New menu will be shared for after May half-term)			
<b>Main choice</b>	Creamy tomato pasta bake topped with cheese & green vegetables	Mince & mini-dumplings, fresh vegetables & mashed potato	Stack your own cheese, ham, chicken, salad pitta bread	None-meat loaf with new potatoes & salad	Cauliflower cheese, gammon strips & peas
<b>Vegetarian option</b>	Jacket potato with cheese / ham / beans	Jacket potato with cheese / ham / beans	Jacket potato with cheese / ham / beans	Jacket potato with cheese / ham / beans	Jacket potato with cheese / ham / beans
<b>Dessert</b>	Fruit & jelly cup	Chocolate mousse & shortbread finger	Cookie dough topped with cheesecake	Crepe with fruit & toffee sauce	Fruit chunks dipped in chocolate