



**Whittonstall and Broomley First Schools**  
Weekly Newsletter  
17 September 2021



Tel: W: 01207560325 B: 01661842271

Website: [www.broomley.northumberland.sch.uk/website](http://www.broomley.northumberland.sch.uk/website)



Our overall attendance this week was

**94.3 %**

**Well done everyone for a fantastic attendance record this week.**

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#### HEAD TEACHER'S MESSAGE TO THE CHILDREN:

It has been another good week in school and our classes are now well settled into normal routines. We have welcomed back sports coaches and music teachers and the children have thoroughly enjoyed it!

Thank you to those who joined us on Monday for the curriculum information evenings. We hope you found those useful, if you need to refer back for any information they have been shared via your child's google classroom platform.

This week is our launch of *Doodle* for the children's weekly homework. Doodle's online Parent and Teacher Dashboards let adults track each child's progress across all of the Doodle programmes. From the Dashboards, parents and teachers can see how many stars learners have earned, as well as their current streak and DoodleAge. But the Dashboards go well beyond this. They also show where each child's learning gaps are in the curriculum, making it easy to see where they need a little more support. You will have received the login information for your child and also further details for parents to download the 'dashboard' to your mobile devices. If you have problems please let your child's class teacher know. In the coming weeks we will be offering further curriculum support evenings for parents including; top tips for reading at home, maths reinforcement and also phonics sessions. We will continue to offer these as google meetings so parents who are available can join us or you can log into google classroom and watch at a later convenient time. We will share google meet links via your marvellous me messages.

Our celebration assemblies have resumed on a Friday afternoon, this is the opportunity for the children to come together and celebrate the successes of the week. We will be handing out our 'Kid Awesome awards' and also Head Teacher certificates. If your child takes part in any activities outside of school and would like to bring in medals or certificates we would be happy to share this on a Friday as a whole school.

In other news, Gavin Williamson has been relieved of his duties as Education Secretary. The new appointment is Nadhim Zawahi who has previously held the position of Secretary of State for Children and Families. I sincerely hope that he can cut through some of the 'political red tape' and put our children at the heart of Government policy!

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## **STARS OF THE WEEK:**



**Class 1:** Emily Elliot for amazing rhyme work this week

**Class 2:** Emily Higgs for some wonderful verb ideas in our English lessons this week

**Class 3:** Zoe Brennan for her neat, accurate and beautiful work and her excellent listening skills

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## **SCHOOL UPDATES**



### **School Photographs - Tuesday 28th September:**

Debbie Young Photography is coming into school on Tuesday 28th September to take individual and sibling photographs of the children. We will arrange for all siblings in school and nursery to have pictures taken together so you do not need to request this. Each child will have their own password protected file on the Debbie Young website that parents will be able to access. You will be able to view the photographs and order and pay online.

Photographs will then be delivered to school for your child to bring home.



**Macmillan Coffee Afternoon Friday 24th September:** We will be hosting a MacMillan Coffee Afternoon **next Friday the 24th of September from 2.30-3.15pm.** Please come along and support this fantastic charity. We will also hold a cake stall and donations of cakes and biscuits would be gratefully received.



**Whittonstall Autumn Fair Saturday 2nd October 12.00 - 2.00 pm:** We are delighted to announce that our wonderful Friends of Whittonstall First School are organising an Autumn fair on Saturday 2nd October. It will be held on our community field here at the school and there will be lots to see and do, including bouncy castle, traditional fair games, craft stalls, face painting, hot food, drinks and treats.

In order to support the fair, we would be most grateful if our families were able to make some donations

- Class 1 - we would love it if you could support our 'chocolate and sweet treat' stall. Any donations of chocolates or sweets are very welcome.
- Class 2 - any items for our 'pamper' stall would be gratefully received e.g. toiletries, soaps and beauty products.
- Class 3 - we would like you to support our 'bottles and jars' stall. Donations are welcomed of anything which would come in a bottle or jar e.g. wine, bubble bath, condiments, sauces etc.

**Friends of Whittonstall First School:** The Friends of Whittonstall First School are always looking to get as many people on board and supporting us as possible and we need your help! We understand that lives are super busy and that people can not commit to a full time role within the group, so we are hoping to put together a register of friends that will help out with the occasional event in school (such as our Autumn fair!) or source prizes for a fair, or even make a poster or two! This would involve members contacting you when events were upcoming to see if you would be able to help, there is absolutely no obligation, so if you were unavailable in that

instance they may contact you at a different time.

The more members there are the easier it becomes to provide a wide range of events for all of our children and their families.

We have put together a short survey to try and recruit some friends that will be on our support list that we will contact for events throughout the year. If you could share even just one hour of your time throughout the year the help would be very much appreciated. If that sounds like you (or any other member of your family - Grandparents, aunties and uncles are very welcome too!) please complete the survey below - there is no obligation but we are very friendly and appreciative of even the smallest bit of help.

<https://forms.gle/nnVfXxEUEAaCkLG76>

#### **Y4 Application for Middle Schools - Portals are now open:**

It's that time of year again when the admissions portals open for the 2022 admissions round. The Portals are open for all Secondary, Middle and High School phase changes. The deadline for applications to middle schools is the **31st of October**.

For families who pay their council tax to Durham County Council, please follow the link below-

<https://www.durham.gov.uk/article/2192/Apply-for-a-secondary-place-deadline-31-October-2020>

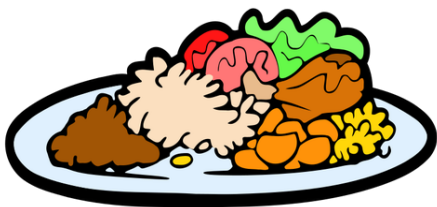
For families who pay their council tax to Northumberland County Council please follow the link below –

<https://www.northumberland.gov.uk/Education/Schools/School-admissions-places-appeals-1.aspx>

Parents will be informed of the outcome of their application on Offer Day, Monday **1<sup>st</sup> March 2021**.

For parents applying for a **Reception class** place for their child for September 2022, the portal will be open to apply between 1<sup>st</sup> November 2021 and 15<sup>th</sup> January 2022. Look out for more information in the newsletter nearer to the time.

It is very important that applications are made on time. Any applications made after the deadline date will be treated as late and will be dealt with once all other applications have been processed.



**New lunch menu:** we will start our delicious new Autumn term lunch menu next week. The menu will begin at **week 3**, so the lunch choices on Monday will be beef burger or veggie burger in a bun or jacket potato. A copy of the menu is attached to this newsletter and is also available on the school website.

**Nasal Flu Vaccinations in school Thursday 2nd December:** The immunisation team will be visiting school on Thursday 2nd December to give nasal flu vaccinations to children in Reception and Years 1-4. Children will only be vaccinated if a signed consent form has been received by the vaccination team. Forms were collected on Tuesday this week, any forms received after this have been held in school while we look into whether the immunisation team are able to accept them.

## Things to do:



### **Ebchester**

Village Hall

Mondays

5:30pm – 6:30pm – Kids  
6:30pm – 7:30pm – Adults & Senior Grades

### **Riding Mill**

Parish Hall

Mondays

5pm – 6pm – Kids  
6pm – 7pm – Adults & Senior Grades

**Beginners Welcome**



Call or Text

Peter – 07912 533164

[www.seikenryu.co.uk](http://www.seikenryu.co.uk)

[facebook.com/SeikenRyuKarate](https://facebook.com/SeikenRyuKarate)



**Come and try Squash!**

Fast paced, exciting individual sport in a welcoming and supportive family atmosphere

Hexham Squash club's qualified coaches are delivering approx. 10 Junior Coaching sessions of 45mins on either Saturday or Sunday starting 25/26<sup>th</sup> September (excluding half term)

Cost £3.00 per session

*Try a first taster session for Free*

All standards Welcome, including Beginners.

School Years 3 and Above

If you are interested, please email Paul Satow- Club Coach

on [paul.satow@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:paul.satow@yahoo.co.uk) or call 07740080827

|for further information by 19th September



### **Childrens' Cancer Run:**

We are delighted to say that the 38<sup>th</sup> Children's Cancer Run will be held on Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> September at Gosforth Park, Newcastle Racecourse. The event

will see a number of changes to make it as safe as possible for all of the runners, staff and volunteers:

- Runners take part with their family rather than their school (for this run only!)
- Reduced numbers on site – we have only released 4000 run places and will be staggering the start over a longer period to allow more space on site.
- All run packs will be sent to runner's home addresses, including the children's t-shirts.

You can sign up now until midnight on 22<sup>nd</sup> September through the Children's Cancer North website to run as a family group, raising funds and awareness to help children with cancer in our region - please follow this link to register: [Register for Childrens' Cancer Run](#)

**GIVE NETBALL A SHOT**

**HEXHAM JUNIOR NETBALL CLUB**

Mondays:  
5pm-6pm - school yr 3, 4, 5, 6  
6pm-7pm - school yr 7, 8, 9, 10  
7pm-8pm - school yr 11, 12, 13

£4.00 per session

Queen Elizabeth High School

Contact:  
[hexhamjunornetballclub@gmail.com](mailto:hexhamjunornetballclub@gmail.com)  
Kathie: 07467957974

## **DIARY DATES**

- Tuesday 28th September School photos to be taken by Debbie Young Photography
- Saturday 2nd October Whittonstall Autumn fair 12.00 - 2.00 pm on community field
- w/c 11 October Virtual Parents' Evenings - dates and times to be confirmed
- Friday 22nd October Teacher Training Day
- Mon 25th - Fri 29th October Half Term
- Monday 1st November Return to school for Autumn 2
- w/c 29th November Interfaith week - more info about planned activities and trips to follow
- Thursday 2nd December Nasal flu vaccinations for Reception to Y4, where a signed consent form has been received.

On behalf of staff and governors may I wish you all a lovely weekend, take care and stay safe.

*Mrs Barker*

Executive Head Teacher