



Whittonstall and Broomley First Schools
Weekly Newsletter
5 November 2021



Tel: W: 01207560325 B: 01661842271

Website: www.broomley.northumberland.sch.uk/website



Our overall attendance this week was

91.4 %

Well done everyone for a fantastic attendance record this week.

HEAD TEACHER'S MESSAGE TO THE CHILDREN:

I hope that you all enjoyed a restful half term break and managed to get some time to spend doing the things that you enjoy with friends and family.

At the beginning of the week we received notification from Northumberland County Council regarding additional COVID-19 control measures in schools. The information states that there has been a large increase in the number of children and young people in Northumberland testing positive for COVID-19 and the highest case rates are in school age children. This is leading to spread of COVID-19 within families and into older age groups. Whilst this does not enforce a large amount of changes for our school, we have re-evaluated the activities prepared for this half term in line with; wearing face coverings in communal areas, reduce mixing between year groups and classes as far as possible and to carefully consider whether large events should continue.

We will continue with all the activities we have planned but we will not be permitting mass gatherings into school. This will affect our Christmas plays which will now be recorded and offered on DVD as well as being live streamed, rather than parents coming into school. Staff have now re-introduced mask wearing in communal areas in school and continue with our timetable which includes distancing between EYFS, KS1 and KS2 when it is possible. This week we received our CO2 monitors in school which will be installed in classrooms and communal areas. These will help us quickly identify areas where ventilation is not adequate to allow us to

The situation is on-going and evaluated on a daily basis yet we are hoping with these additional measures if circumstances do change this will be a minimum distribution to the children.

AWARDS OF THE WEEK:

Kid Awesome - Stars of the Week:

- **Nursery Bucket Filler Award** - Jenson Broadhurst for being such an enthusiastic learner all week
- **Reception** - Logan King for his amazing effort at handwriting
- **Class 2** - Matilda Amey for her excellent participation and enthusiasm in all lessons and superb Geography skills when identifying continents yesterday!
- **Class 3** - Leo Cowell and Aurelia Grace Justice for both making great progress and showing a massive improvement in their independence.




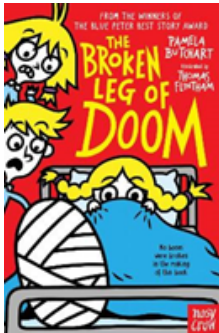

Mrs Robinson's Lunchtime Awards:

- Harry Smith - for his wonderful manners and always making Mrs Robinson smile
 - Leo Cowell - for being a star and eating his lunch up all week!
-

SCHOOL UPDATES

Northern Children's Book Festival - Year 2 ONLY

Year 2 will be attending a digital event with Pamela Butchart next Wednesday 10th November as part of the 38th annual Northern Children's Book Festival and will have the opportunity to buy signed copies of her books. Pamela is the bestselling, award winning author of some of the funniest children's books around! These include:

| | | |
|---|---|---|
|  |  |  |
| A Monster Ate My Packed Lunch! | The Broken Leg of Doom | The Wigglesbottom Primary series |

There is no obligation to buy books as part of this digital event, but we do want to alert you to this opportunity in order to avoid disappointment. Often pupils are very inspired to read the author's book after such a visit and this is a unique opportunity for them to have books signed. The author will be providing signed bookplates which will be inserted into the purchased book.

Please be aware that due to the format of this year's festival, books may take up to two weeks to arrive following the event - but still in plenty of time to make a brilliant Christmas present!

An order form has been sent home with the Year 2 children, please could you return this to school to place any orders you would like to make. Please note that payment must be made before we are able to place your order with the event organisers.

The digital event will be held in school and no charge is being made to parents.

Whole School Outdoor Day Celebration: What perfect sunny Autumn weather we have had for our outdoor celebration today! The children were very excited to be introduced to their new buddies today and to enjoy some wonderful activities together. The children will be partnering up with their buddies for a number of events and activities throughout the school year.

Today they have made smores and spiced apples on the fire, learned about responsible fire making, made clay diva lamps, leaf art and a temporary fireworks display. I'm sure the children will be bursting to tell you all about it!



Reminder- No Kids First Session after school next Thursday 11th November: due to staff training there will be no after school session for Kids First this coming Thursday. All other sessions will run as normal.

E Safety Information - Squid Games: You may be aware of concerns reported in the media regarding the Netflix series Squid Games. An advice leaflet is attached with this email and also the link below to the National Online safety website offers clarification and advice for parents about some of the issues being experienced.

<https://nationalonlinesafety.com/wakeupwednesday/squid-game-trending-across-platforms-what-parents-need-to-know>

Things to do:

Charity Coffee Morning this Saturday, 6th November at SICA (Community Centre opposite the train station) organised by the Tuesday Lunch Club.

This club has been going for 10 years and provides a hot meal for local residents (dinner and pudding for £5!) And is an opportunity for them to have a good, nutritious meal, to meet up with friends and have some company. Meals on wheels are also delivered to those who can't come to SICA. Occasionally they also take a trip out to a garden centre or the seaside, and this is the only time some of them get the chance to leave the village.

This Saturday morning they are holding a Coffee Morning to raise money to subsidise these meals and trips out.

There will also be tables from Tynedale Hospice, Barnardos and the RSPCA Northumberland West, selling Xmas cards, small gifts and handmade items that might make ideal Christmas presents or stocking fillers.

If you are on your way to or from dance, football, shopping etc. or don't have anything planned, why not pop along and spend a few pounds to support these worthwhile local charities. You might even grab a bargain or some lovely home made cakes!

Hope to see you there!



TEATIME TUNES - Ceilidh Band workshops (online and in person) - for students with 1 yrs experience up to grade 4 level - starts next

Monday 8th November (6 -6:45pm):

We're very excited to be running Teatime Tunes again this year and we'd love you to be part of it:

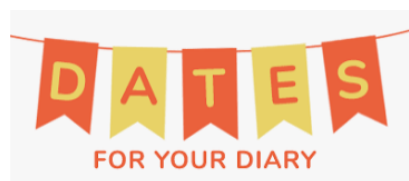
- It's **FREE**
- it's mostly online Monday's **6 - 6.45pm (8th Nov, 22nd Nov & 6th Dec)**
- with an additional 'in person' session on **Saturday 11th December.**
- aimed at beginners/intermediate instrumentalists (1 yr of playing up to Grade 4 level)
- short series of 4 sessions running November/December only
- open to under 18's
-

To apply to join the group:

1. Please complete the attached parental consent form with a handwritten signature. Sorry, we cannot accept a digital signature. Please then scan and return to Rachel.Robbins@northumberland.gov.uk (if no scanner is available then please photo the completed form and attach it to an email to me) **If you're an existing member of an MPN ensemble and have already completed a consent form**, you don't need to complete another. Simply reply to this email saying that your child would like to be part of the Teatime Tunes. *If your child took part in Teatime Tunes last year, then a new consent form is required for this academic year please*
2. Please confirm your child's instrument and grade (if any, but no grade required).

To take part in all of the sessions you will need to apply **by this Friday 5th November 2021**

We will then be in touch, to send you a Microsoft Teams invitation, so that you can join the rehearsals. Please remember that a parent or carer must be present in the room throughout each session.



DIARY DATES

- Wednesday 10th November Pamela Butchart Virtual Book Event - Y2 - see above for more info
- w/c Monday 15th November Anti Bullying Week - starting with wearing odd socks to celebrate individuality
- Friday 19th November Children in Need - wear something yellow or spotty
- w/c 29th November Interfaith week - more info about planned activities and trips to follow
- Thursday 2nd December Flu Vaccinations
- Wednesday 8th December School Christmas Lunch
- Thursday 9th December Christmas Storytelling evening 5.00 - 6.30 pm, more details to follow
- Friday 10th December Christmas Jumper Day for Save the Children
- w/c 13th December Christmas Performances - due to Covid restrictions, parents will not be able to attend but performances will be filmed and shared
- Wednesday 15th December M and M Production of Jack and the Beanstalk at Broomley (separate performances will be held for each school, more details to follow)
- Friday 17th December Class Christmas parties am
- Friday 17th December Christingle Service pm
- Tuesday 4th January Teacher Training Day
- Wednesday 5th January School Reopens for Spring Term

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

Mrs Barker

Executive Head Teacher