

Whittonstall and Broomley First Schools Weekly Newsletter 11th March 2022





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Our overall attendance this week was

96.6 %



Well done everyone - we have had a really good week for attendance!

HEAD TEACHER'S MESSAGE:

Thank you to all the parents who were able to attend our parents evenings. It was fantastic to be able to invite you all into school and offer the opportunity to celebrate all the children have achieved so far this academic year.

To celebrate International Women's Day next week, pupils are exploring the role films have to play in our understanding of what women and girls can achieve, both in front of and behind the camera. They will therefore be voting on "Do films show good role models for girls?" in KS1, and "Have recent films challenged stereotypes of women & girls?" in KS2. In the assembly, they consider some women blazing a trail in other areas of society and what else needs to change in order to #BreakTheBias.

The children had an amazing day with 'Sublime Science' at Broomley on Wednesday from making slime creations to space rockets flying through the air across the playground. It was a fun-filled day of scientific discovery, surrounded by lots of happy children. The teachers have some great photos to share so keep an eye out on your marvellous me. Thank you for supporting this day by transporting your children to Broomley and back, it was much appreciated.

Next Friday 18th March we will be supporting Comic Relief in school. The children are invited to come to school wearing something red and we have noses for sale in the office at a cost of £1.50 each. The focus is

putting the 'pow in power' and showing the children that we all have a super power and how to use yours to help others.

There are lots of exciting activities planned over the coming weeks, neurodiversity week, family bake sale and much more so please check out the diary dates below.

AWARDS OF THE WEEK:

Kid Awesome - Stars of the Week:

Nursery Bucket Filler of the Week

Hunter Willis - Super sorting in the Recycle Centre this week!

Reception

Holly Blackley for super story writing this week!

Class 2

Harry Smith for his amazing enthusiasm and contribution at the Science Day at Broomley

Class 3

- Dylan Curry for excellent computer knowledge and excellent communication.
- Sophie Elliot for great improvement in spelling accuracy.

Mrs Robinson's Lunchtime Awards:

Rowan Sempers - for always taking salad and eating all his lunch Katy and Harry Crabtree for always eating their lunch and so lovely to have you back with us!

SCHOOL UPDATES



STEM WEEK:

This week was our STEM (Science, Engineering, Technology and Mathematics) week and we have enjoyed a week of spectacular scientific explorations. The main theme was 'Growth' and the children took some amazing experiments and investigations.

The highlight of the week was on Wednesday when we had a special visit down at Broomley from a company called Sublime Science. The children worked together in groups to complete a range of STEM activities around school and in the school grounds. They made slime, built and fired rockets in the school yard, constructed towers from spaghetti and marshmallows, carried out olfactory investigations with some rather tasty crisps and did some planting and propagation. Phew, it was quite a day!!! As you can hopefully see from the pictures below, the children had an amazing day.



Thank you to those parents who have made the voluntary contribution of £5.00 per child to cover the cost of bringing Sublime Science into school and to provide resources for the experiments. These contributions enable us to keep providing vibrant and exciting activities and opportunities for the children. The payment is still available on parentmail for anyone who has not yet contributed and would like to.





















COMIC RELIEF FRIDAY 18th MARCH

Red nose day is next Friday 18th March. The children are invited to wear something red to school and we are asking for cash donations for comic relief on the day. We are continuing to sell red noses, if your child would like to buy a red nose then please send £1.50 cash in a named envelope marked 'red nose day'. The red noses are again 100% plastic free this year, so a better option for the environment too!

<u>School Council Update:</u> Our newly established School Council met this week to discuss their role and talk about how we can start to collect the views of our classmates. Their first job will be to talk to their class about ways to further improve the school environment and what pupils feel works well and makes our school a happy place to be. They will be meeting with Mrs Drysdale and Mrs Howe next week to feedback the thoughts and ideas of their class



CLASS 3 AUTHOR EVENT: Class 3 will have received a letter containing information about a visit to school on Tuesday 29th March by author Jenny Pearson. Jenny will be holding workshops with the children in Y3 and Y4 in the afternoon and will then be signing copies of her books.

If your child would like to have one of Jenny's books signed, we are asking you to pre-order the books now so that they arrive in time for the event. There are 3 titles to choose from and you can choose as many or as few as you would like. No-one is under any obligation to purchase the books, it is only if you would like to do so. Please return the slip on the bottom of the letter, along with the cash or cheque. The titles available to order are -

The Super Miraculous Journey of Freddie Yates

The Incredible Record Smashers

Grandpa Frank's Great Big Bucket List



Thank you to Karen Ewen, our Usborne representative for organising this event for us.

Please note, the deadline for ordering books was today Friday 11th March, however we can now also accept any orders handed in first thing on Monday morning.

NO COOKERY CLUB NEXT WEEK: members of cookery club will have had an email to let them know that there will be no cookery club next week. The club will be cooking up a storm again the following week.



As part of a Tyne Community Learning Trust fundraising event to help the Ukraine Appeal, Whittonstall First are planning to hold a Bake Sale on Friday 25th March. We will be asking families and staff to donate cakes (either homemade or shop bought) which we will sell at the end of the day. All money raised will go towards the Department for Educations' Ukraine Appeal which will help families and children whose lives have been devastated by

events in their country. We are also asking the children to wear yellow and blue on the day for a small donation and will theme the day around kindness and thinking of other children less fortunate than ourselves

THINGS TO DO:



<u>DIARY</u>

DATES FOR YOU DIARY

<u>Friday 18th March</u> Comic Relief Red Nose Day -Children to wear something red for a donation to comic relief

Mon 21st - Fri 25th March
 Neurodiversity Week - celebrating learning differences and the strengths and talents that come from thinking and perceiving the world differently

Tuesday 29th March
 Author Jenny Pearson to visit Y3 and Y4

Friday 8th April
 Monday 25th April
 School closes for Easter holidays
 School reopens for Summer term

Tuesday 7th June
 Whole Class Photographs - Debbie Young Photography

• Thursday 21 July School Closes for Summer holidays

Friday 22nd July
 Additional holiday for Queen's Platinum Jubilee

<u>Tuesday 6th September</u>
 School Reopens for new school year

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

Mrs Barker

Executive Head Teacher