



Whittonstall and Broomley First Schools
Weekly Newsletter
14th May 2021



Tel: W: 01207560325 B: 01661842271

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



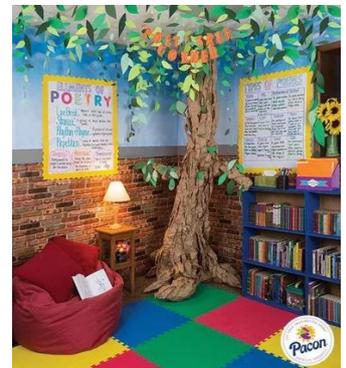
Our overall attendance this week was

99.0%

Well done everyone for a fantastic attendance record this week.

HEAD TEACHER'S MESSAGE: What a super fun day the children and staff had in our Pyjamas raising funds for Book Trust today, the corridors have been full of smiling, giggling faces all day! BookTrust is the UK's largest children's reading charity. They are dedicated to getting children reading. Each year they reach millions of children across the UK with books, resources and support to help develop a love of reading. They get children reading in lots of different ways, but their priority is to get more children excited about books, rhymes and stories – because if reading is fun, children will want to do it. The charity runs nationwide programmes – like their flagship programme Bookstart. This year they have reached millions of families across the country with books, resources and advice to encourage parents and carers to start reading with their babies right from the beginning. A huge thank you for your support in raising money for such a special cause.

We are currently in the process of revamping our reading corners in school. After our sponsored read with Osborne books, we really want to make exciting reading areas in school. We are aiming to have a quiet space in each classroom for the children to be able to read, relax and also offer recommendations of books to the other children in their class. You may receive a Marvellous Me from your child's class teacher as we are on the hunt for some donations to make these ideas a reality.



Based on the current state of the pandemic and the positive progress being made, it is no longer necessary to recommend the additional precautionary face covering measures put in place from the 8 March. **From 17 May, in line with Step 3 of the roadmap, face coverings will no longer be recommended for staff in classrooms. Although staff will continue to wear face coverings in situations outside of classrooms where social distancing is not possible (for example, when moving around in corridors and communal areas). All visitors in school will be required to wear face coverings at all times.**

The reintroduction of face coverings for staff may be advised for a temporary period in response to particular localised outbreaks, including variants of concern. Immediate outbreak response remains for local directors of public health to advise on and I will update you immediately if we need to make any changes to our risk assessments in school. **We ask for parents to continue to wear face coverings during drop off and pick up please. All other risk assessments measures will remain in place until further notice this includes limiting the mixing of class bubbles, staggered timings to the day and rigorous cleaning by staff throughout the school day.**

STAR OF THE WEEK:

Mrs Barker has been wowed by the children's achievements this week and has given the following **Head Teacher's Awards**

- Rosie Robley - for the lovely work in science Mrs Barker saw this week
- Alba Moore-Quigley - for a fantastic piece of work in her maths this week



Class 1

- Daniel Shaw for super effort with his handwriting all week.

Class 2

- Henry Forster for a super presentation about foxes in outdoor morning
- Alba Moore-Quigley for her wonderful writing about 'Where the Wild Things Are'

Class 3

- Zoe Brennan for a fantastic bit of coding work this week in computing.
- Lennie Wilson for fantastic friendship work in all of his lessons this week - a real team player!

Mrs Robinson's lunchtime awards

- Elspeth Barker for being so polite and having a magical smile
- Emily Elliot for trying new foods and having a clean plate yesterday!

SCHOOL UPDATES



Important - change to music lessons for next 2 weeks: for the next 2 weeks small group music lessons will take place on a **Monday** not a Wednesday, so please could you make sure your child's instrument is in school if they have lessons. Lessons will go back to a Wednesday after half term. Thanks for your help with this.

Nursery New Starters Event - field in use: just to make families aware that the school field will be in use next Wednesday 19th May straight after school until 4.30pm, for an event for children who will be starting our Nursery in September.

The event is open to children starting our nursery in September or families who may be interested in joining nursery in the future.



One of our key focuses in school is to always be looking for ways to support the wellbeing and mental health of the children in our care. You may have seen this week that there has been a report published into the impact of the pandemic on children's mental health and the statistics make for worrying news.

In school, we are constantly looking for ways to best support the children and to teach them strategies that will help them through all aspects of life. As part of this work, we have been using resources from a website called DOSE. This is a free website full of information and amazing resources that you can also access at home if you are worried or concerned about your child's mental health or even just looking for additional ways to continue to build positive mindsets in the family environment. It is free to register and the site itself has been put together by a team of psychotherapists, psychologists, counsellors and mental wellness professionals, who want to share their expertise.

The link for the website is <https://dosemagazine.co.uk/>



Pyjamarama - Book Trust Fundraising Day - Friday 14th May:

It was great to see so many children in their pyjamas today - thank you to everyone who donated. So far we have raised £68 for Book Trust to help them in their quest to get all children reading. Donations can still be sent into school on Monday if anyone forgot today and would like to give something.

If you would like to find out more information about the work of Book Trust, please follow the link: <https://www.booktrust.org.uk/>



#WorldBookDay

World Book Day Survey- Chance to win a book token

The people who run the World Book Day would like to hear from families about how they can help support them in encouraging their children to read for pleasure.

If you would like to help, please follow the link <http://bit.ly/WBDFamilies>, to their short parent/carer survey where you will also have the chance to win a £25 National Book Token.

Information about NCC Local Offer and Workshops for children with additional needs:

NCC Education and Schools SEND Local Offer

We have been asked by Ben Sanderson, Participation Lead with Youth Services at NCC, to share the following with parents and carers to help NCC update and improve the Education and Schools section of the local offer which can be found by following:

[NCC Education and Schools Local Offer - SEND](#)

They would like your thoughts on the following:

- *what is missing?*
- *what might you use this section for?*
- *what information you would be looking to find here?*
- *what would make it easier to use?*

The link below takes you to a very short anonymous questionnaire that they would really appreciate parents completing, to give your views on the current Education and Schools section and ideas for making it better.

<https://forms.office.com/r/LZdVueGsdX>

The closing date for responses is 16th May.

Things to do:



Happiness Drawing Day at Shipley Art Gallery Thursday 3 June

Lift your spirits and get creative, exploring things that make you happy. An experimental drawing session for all the family, where you'll try a range of techniques. Artist Elizabeth Kane will guide you through a series of fun drawing exercises, using pastels and coloured pencils. You'll produce a collection of drawings made individually and as a family; and learn creative techniques that you can easily do at home.

Tickets: Each table can accommodate one household bubble. Please book all of your party onto one table. Maximum of 6 people per table. Please do not bring anyone who is not in your household bubble. Everyone attending requires a ticket at a cost of £3 each - [buy tickets](#) . Age recommendation: Families with children aged 5 - teen.



DO YOU CARE FOR A CHILD WITH ADDITIONAL NEEDS?

Do you live in the North East or North Cumbria?

COME ALONG TO OUR FREE VIRTUAL WORKSHOPS!

Our workshops can be tailored to meet your individual needs. Our listening ear approach will help you decide which options suit you and your child best.

Emotional and practical support | Support around autism
Music therapy | Play therapy | Makaton
Sensory workshops | Speech & language support

Come along and meet other parents in a relaxed environment, and find out information to support you and your family.

For further information please contact: jaimedowling@contact.org.uk

contact For families with disabled children

Contact is a trading name of Contact a Family. Charity registered in England and Wales (254912) and Scotland (SC039169).

DIARY DATES

- Monday 17th May - Small group music lessons - moved from Wednesday
- Wednesday 19th May – Class 3 ‘Talking trees’ visit to Glebe Woods
- Wednesday 19th May - straight after school until 4.30pm ‘Hello Picnic’ for new Nursery class starters - school field in use
- Monday 23rd May - Small group music lessons - moved from Wednesday
- Wednesday 26th May – Class 3 ‘Talking trees’ visit to Glebe Woods
- Friday 28th May - school closes for half term
- Tuesday 8th June – Debbie Young Photography to take whole class photographs in school
- Friday 16th July - school closes for Summer holidays
- Monday 6th September - Teacher Training Day
- Tuesday 7th September - school reopens for Autumn term

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

Mrs Barker

Executive Head Teacher