



*Whittonstall and Broomley First Schools*  
Weekly Newsletter  
12 November 2021



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



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Our overall attendance this week was

**91.2%**

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

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

Over the next couple of weeks the children will be exploring our 'rainbow books' in school this week which offer the opportunity to explore a range of texts discussing areas of cultural diversity. They open up opportunities for the children to reflect on their understanding of many different topics. Our curriculum is focused on fostering an approach based on inclusion and an awareness of multicultural education by taking a culturally responsive approach to teaching that benefits all the children.

We are starting to think about Christmas preparations in school. Next week the children and teachers will begin work on the Christmas performances. We will be in touch soon about costumes and props for the big event, which will be filmed on Monday 13th December. We are also looking forward to our other Christmas events, such as The Jack and the Beanstalk panto and our Christmas storytelling evening. Look out for more details coming home soon.

There has been a lot of useful information circulating for both teachers and parents linked to the use of social media and popular platforms currently available to all our children from the national online safety team. We have attached the flyers for you to refer to the helpful tips to keep everyone safe.



## **AWARDS OF THE WEEK:**

### **Kid Awesome - Stars of the Week:**

- Nursery Bucket Filler of the Week - Maisie Dickinson for sharing brilliant ideas at carpet time and being a lovely friend
- Reception - Lucas Hope for marvellous effort in phonics!
- Class 2 - Harry Smith for being so polite and always getting on quietly with his work
- Class 3 - Max Ridley for really knuckling down and increasing his work rate this week. Well done Max.



### **Mrs Robinson's lunchtime awards**

- Jenson Broadhurst for trying new foods
  - Isabel Palmer for eating all her lunch and making Mrs Robinson happy
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## **SCHOOL UPDATES**

### **Remembrance Day:**

We were extremely grateful to have a visit on Thursday from Dacey-Faith's Dad to help us commemorate Remembrance Day. He talked to the children about serving in the armed forces and brought in his medals to show us. We all observed the 2 minute silence at 11 o' clock. You could have heard a pin drop in the hall, the children were so quiet. Well done everyone. Thank you to everyone who has sent in money to buy poppies and gifts to raise money for the Royal British Legion.



**Anti-Bullying Week:** Next week is Anti-Bullying week in school. The children will be exploring the theme of 'One Kind Word' as part of the week's work around friendship and kindness. They will enjoy play and activities with their new Buddies and the week will kick off with 'Odd Socks Day' on Monday! Pop on your odd socks to celebrate individuality.



### **Children in Need:**

Next Friday (19th November) is BBC Children in Need. We will be having a non uniform day to raise funds for this excellent charity which supports children all over the country. We are asking the children to come to school wearing either something yellow or something spotty or both for a donation.

We have set up a school just giving page and would ask anyone who would like to donate to follow the link below:

**<https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/whittonstall-first-school2>**

Donations can also be sent into school if you prefer.

We also have a limited supply Pudsey Wristbands to sell in school in green, orange or pink at £1.00 each

If your child would like to purchase a wrist band then please send the correct change into school in a named envelope.

### **Interfaith Week - week commencing 29th November:**

We are having our annual interfaith week commencing 29th November. We had hoped to be running a number of trips out of school to various different religious settings but due to the new covid restrictions, we are having some events running in school instead. Look out for further details coming home soon.

### **New School Website:**

We have recently updated our school website and now have 2 new websites, one for Broomley and one for Whittonstall, rather than having one shared site.



**Whittonstall First School**  
Be Happy and Work Hard



The Broomley website can be found by following the link:

<http://www.broomley.northumberland.sch.uk/web>

The Whittonstall website can be found by following the link:

<https://whittonstall.eschools.co.uk/web>

Both websites have lots of information about our schools including school policies, information for parents, calendar dates and much more. Please have a look at the new format.

### **NCC School Admissions Link**

The First and Primary Admissions handbook for 2022/2023 is available on the NCC website, please see the link below:

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



**Pamela Butchart book orders:** Sadly the Pamela Butchart online book event for Year 2 was unable to go ahead this week as Pamela was unwell. We are hoping the event will be rearranged but in the meantime we are still able to order signed copies of Pamela's books. If you have not yet placed an order and would like to do so then please could you return the order form with payment (or pay on parentmail) by Monday 15th November at the latest. If we do not receive payment we will not be able to place your order with the event organisers.

**Things to do:**

**A Christmas Day Out With The Bowes Museum – Virtual Family Fun Day**

Saturday 11 December, 10am, 11am and 12 noon via Zoom



Join the merry elves from the comfort of your own home as they guide you through making a Christmas tree decoration, pop up Christmas card and jolly snowman inspired by items in the Museum's collection.

Booking required by 26 November. For more information follow the link: [Bowes Museum Virtual Family Fun Day](#)

**Christmas at Gibside: From 26 November 2021 to 2 January 2022**

Look forward to some time together as you discover sparkling tunnels of light, walk under giant baubles and beneath trees drenched in jewel-like colour. For a moment of reflection pause at mesmerising flickering flames in the fire garden, gaze at the specially chosen illuminations and don't forget to glimpse Father Christmas along the way.



Have yourself a holly, jolly Christmas and complete your walk under the stars with a \*spiced winter warmer, \*hot chocolate or \*toasted marshmallows shared with someone special.

Advance booking essential and there is a charge for this event - visit <https://www.nationaltrust.org.uk/gibside/features/christmas-at-gibside>



## **DIARY DATES**

- w/c Monday 15th November Anti Bullying Week - starting with wearing odd socks to celebrate individuality on Monday!
- Friday 19th November Children in Need - Non Uniform day - wear something yellow / spotty
- w/c 29th November Interfaith week - more info about planned activities to follow
- Thursday 2nd December Flu Vaccinations
- Monday 6th December Debbie Young Photography in school to take pictures of children in their Christmas play outfits
- Thursday 9th December Christmas Storytelling evening 5.00 - 6.30 pm, more details to follow
- Monday 13th December Christmas Performances - due to Covid restrictions, parents will not be able to attend but performances will be filmed and shared
- Wednesday 8th December Christmas Lunch
- Friday 10th December Christmas Jumper Day for Save the Children
- Friday 10th December PTA Christmas Fair - children only and Enterprise Fair
- 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 - children invited to wear party clothes
- 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 half term, take care and stay safe.

*Mrs Barker*

Executive Head Teacher