

Whittonstall and Broomley First Schools Weekly Newsletter 15 October 2021





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Our overall attendance this week was

94.6 %

Well done everyone for a fantastic attendance record this week.

HEAD TEACHER'S MESSAGE:

There is a definite feel of Autumn in the air this week and we are enjoying celebrating the change of the seasons in school.

As we celebrate Harvest Festival we would like to make a collection in school for Consett foodbank. If you would like to make a donation please send any non-perishable foods items or toiletries into school next week with your child. The children will be learning about the meaning of harvest festival in class and will have harvest themed class assemblies next week.

Our outdoor toddler group will be meeting next Thursday and will also have an Autumnal theme, looking at all things to do with apples and pumpkins. All pre-school aged children are welcome to come along with a parent or carer and take part. There is a small charge to cover snacks and materials.

Next Thursday the children are invited to come in Halloween themed non-uniform. In the afternoon they will be enjoying craft activities and games based around halloween and we are asking for a voluntary donation of £1 to cover the cost of materials. This will be a very special way for the children to end their half term, as next Friday 22nd October is a Teacher training day.

AWARDS OF THE WEEK:

Kid Awesome - Stars of the Week:





- Reception: Amelia Barker for her fabulous repeated pattern work
- Class 2: Ben Clarke for his amazing bath toy design for Hamleys
- Class 3: Lennie Wilson for the fantastic reading and writing he has been producing. Great progress.

SCHOOL UPDATES



<u>Halloween</u>: On Thursday 21st October the children will be enjoying an afternoon of Halloween themed crafts and games. The children can come to school on Thursday in fancy dress on the theme. They will enjoy Halloween themed activities that include a pumpkin trail on the field organised by Whittonstall PTA.

Nursery children will enjoy Halloween themed activities and visit and explore the Pumpkin Trail in the morning.

We request a voluntary donation of £1.

The children will be playing outdoors as usual so please can they still bring coats and wear sensible footwear and we would also ask that they don't bring loose accessories that may get swapped around, due to covid regulations.



<u>Harvest Festival:</u> As part of our Harvest Festival Celebrations this year, we are asking for donations of non-perishable food items and toiletries which we will pass on to Consett food bank. This food bank is a brilliant local charity that helps local families who are struggling to make ends meet.

If you would like to make a donation then please could you send items into school with your child next week.



<u>Outdoor Toddler Group:</u> It is our outdoor toddler group next Thursday 21st October and the theme of the day is pumpkins and apples! Come along for some pre-school fun in our beautiful outdoor setting.



<u>Walk from School</u>: the next parent/carer walk from school will be held on Friday 5th November at 2pm, meeting at the school gates. Please wear sturdy waterproof footwear and clothes suitable for the weather and walking down the tracks and woods around school. These walks will be held monthly and are a great opportunity to get some exercise and fresh air while getting to know other parents and carers from the school. If anyone would like more information please contact Christina Quigley on 07836323022.

Deadline date for Middle School Applications

Just a reminder to Year 4 parents that the deadline date for applications for middle school places is 31st October. If you haven't already done so, please remember to submit your application by this date. Any submissions after this date will be treated as late and will be processed after all on time applications have been dealt with.

Things to do:



The Three Bears

Kitchen Zoo

Mon 25 Oct - Sat 13 Nov

Deep in the forest, Mammy, Daddy and Baby Bear are preparing for winter. Each day the Three Bears head off into the woods to collect interesting things they can re-use for their house. As winter arrives, their cosy home is turned upside down by a colourful whirlwind that threatens to sit in their chairs, eat their porridge and fall asleep in their beds – it's Goldilocks!

Join us for an adventure into the woods with original live music, puppetry and a tale you thought you knew... from the makers of *The Tin Foil Astronaut*, Kitchen Zoo. Bring your bears with you and join us for an adventure at Northern Stage.

For more information on performance times and to book tickets please follow the link:

https://www.northernstage.co.uk/Event/the-three-bears

For more ideas on fun things to do during half term, please follow the link below:

Family Explorers - Things to do in half term



DIARY DATES

• Thursday 21st October Outdoor toddler group at school

Thursday 21st October
 Halloween non-uniform day, crafts and games afternoon

• Friday 22nd October Teacher Training Day

Mon 25th - Fri 29th October Half Term

Monday 1st November Return to school for Autumn 2

• Wednesday 10th November Pamela Butchart Virtual Book Event - Class 2

w/c 29th November
 Interfaith week - more info about planned activities and trips to follow

Thursday 2nd December Flu Vaccinations

Friday 10th December Christmas Jumper Day for Save the Children

• Friday 17th December Class Christmas Party Afternoon

• <u>Tuesday 4th January</u> Teacher Training Day

Wednesday 5th January
 School Reopens for Spring Term

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

Mrs Barker

Executive Head Teacher