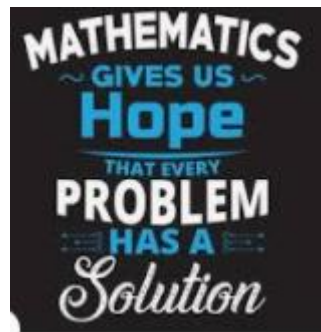




Whittonstall and Broomley First Schools
Weekly Newsletter
4th February 2022



Tel: W: 01207560325 B: 01661842271
Website: www.broomley.northumberland.sch.uk/website



Our overall attendance this week was

95.0%

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

HEAD TEACHER'S MESSAGE:



We have ended this week celebrating all things Numbers and Maths as we have been taking part in the NSPCC Numbers Day to help raise awareness and funds for the NSPCC. Our younger children enjoyed lots of number-activities as part of their outdoor session this morning, whilst the older children had fun with maths in their classrooms. Our Just Giving page is still available if you would like to donate to this worthwhile cause - see below for more information and thank you to those who have already donated.

Over the last few terms, it has been difficult due to the Covid pandemic and self isolation rules, to maintain our usual high levels of attendance in school and it is important that we work together to try to ensure that the children do not miss any more learning time than is absolutely necessary. Arriving at school on time enables the children to get settled and ensures they are ready to start their learning promptly and we very much appreciate your continued help and support with this.

Here is a reminder of our morning routine:

- 8:45am gates open - morning challenges for all
- 9.00am gates closed - lessons begin

Any children arriving after 9am will continue to enter school through the main front door. However, over the next week or so, we will be introducing a new electronic sign in system at the school office for all visitors, staff and late arrivals. Any child arriving late, or being collected early will need to be signed in or out by their

parent or carer and a reason recorded. This will help us to have an accurate record of visitors and staff and will enable the recording systems for pupil absence in school to be as up to date as possible.

We really do appreciate your efforts to get the children into school on time and ready to start their lessons. Thank you for working with us to make the most of every learning opportunity for the children each day.

AWARDS OF THE WEEK:

Kid Awesome - Stars of the Week:



Reception

- Cora N for her magnificent measuring skills in the water relay

Year 1

- Luke M: for his fantastic minibeast hunt in science!

Year 2

- Robbie S for his interviewing skills during our creative lesson.

Year 3

- Lex C for his lovely attitude and friendly nature!

Year 4

- Neave M for having a brilliant attitude to her work

SCHOOL UPDATES



NSPCC NUMBER DAY - FUNDRAISING EVENT:

Thank you to everyone who has donated to our Number Day Fundraising event to enable the NSPCC to continue their work in safeguarding and supporting vulnerable children. The amount we have raised so far currently stands at £32.

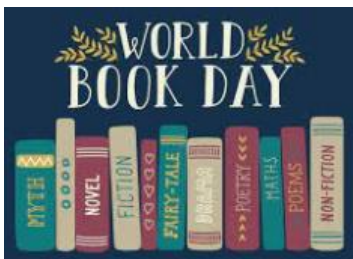
Our Just Giving page is still available if you would like to make a donation. The link to our fundraising page is:

<https://www.justgiving.com/Broomley>



VALENTINE'S NON UNIFORM DAY:

Our school council has organised a non-uniform day for Valentine's Day on Monday 14th February. If they would like to, the children can come to school wearing colours and patterns that they associate with Valentine's day, such as red, pink and white, but this is not compulsory. Please be mindful that the children will still be doing their normal school activities and playing outdoors and so should be dressed warmly and have practical footwear. We kindly ask for a 50p donation per child to raise money for our school council, but again this is not compulsory. Please send any donations to school in a named envelope.

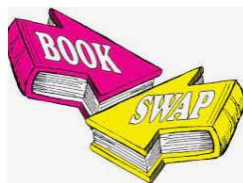


WORLD BOOK DAY - FRIDAY 4th MARCH:

We are doing something a little bit different this world book day. Instead of asking the children to come dressed in fancy dress costumes, each child will be provided with a plain white T-Shirt which they will bring home and which we would like them to decorate using the theme of ' My Favourite Book'. This might take the form of drawing the front cover of the book or a scene or



character from it. They can decorate the t-shirt using whatever medium they would like - pens, paint, material etc. We are hoping to send the T-shirts home before half term so that you have plenty of time to get the creative juices flowing!



We would also like to have a book swap on the day. Children will be encouraged to bring in a book from home that they have enjoyed and which they would now like to donate to their friends. Each child will receive another book in place of the one they have given. Books can be sent into school from Monday 28th February - please send just one book per child.

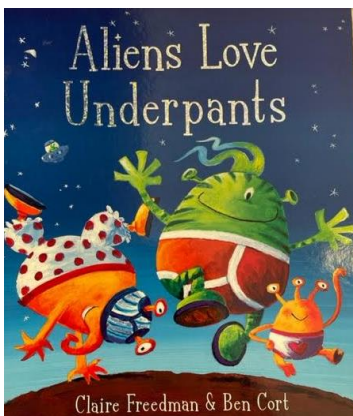
To round off the day, we will be having a buddy story telling afternoon including a buddy book quiz.

As our Newcastle United Foundation PE sessions are on Thursdays, we will be holding our World Book Day on Friday 4th March this year.



BOOK REVIEW CORNER:

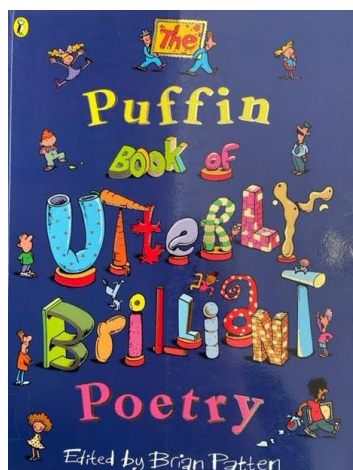
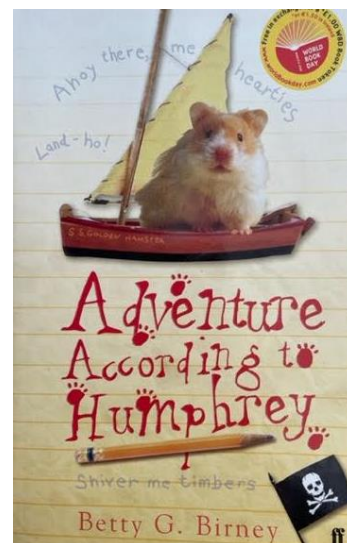
We have not received any book reviews this week so instead have picked some books from our school library to recommend to you:



When friendly aliens come to earth, they are not interested in you, they just want your pants and will go to all sorts of lengths to get them in

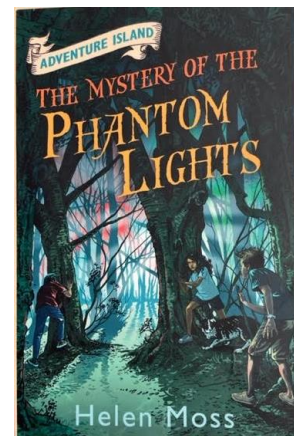
'Aliens Love Underpants by Calire Freedman and Ben Carl'

'Adventure according to Humphrey by Betty G Birney' is all about a hamster called Humphrey who goes on a thrilling adventure with the children in his class - they even meet a pirate at one point!



'The Puffin Book of Utterly Brilliant Poetry' is jammed packed with amazing and hilarious poems by the likes of Spike Milligan, Benjamin Zephaniah, Michael Rosen and Roger McGough to name but a few. Something for everyone!

'The Mystery of the Phantom Lights' - strange lights on the moor lead 3 friends to discover mysterious disappearances, a valuable hoard and a friend in trouble. An exciting adventure is on the cards for sure!





SAFER INTERNET DAY:

Tuesday 8th February is Safer Internet Day 2022. This is something that our schools take part in every year and next week each class will spend a day focussing on staying safe online. Internet safety is a really important topic of conversation to have with your children and next week would be the perfect opportunity to spend some time chatting about it. The link below has lots of

helpful ideas and tips for parents and grandparents, covering everything from phones and TVs to games consoles and smart speakers.

<https://saferinternet.org.uk/guide-and-resource/parents-and-carers>

ISSUES WITH DOODLE:

A number of parents have mentioned that they are having trouble logging on to Doodle. We have contacted Doodle to ask for their advice and they have sent the following response:

'Thank you for your message. I am sorry you are experiencing these difficulties.

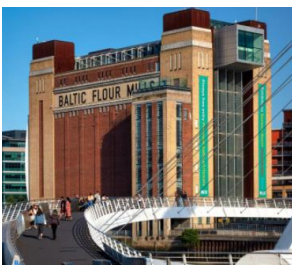
Please can you ask your parents to update the app on all devices to the latest version:

- **DoodleMaths - 7.6.2**
- **DoodleEnglish - 2.6.2**
- **DoodleSpell - 2.6.2**
- **DoodleTables - 4.6.2**

Once they have done this, they should be able to login as usual (and no longer see the bouncing star!)

If you have been experiencing trouble with Doodle, please can you follow the instructions above and check the app to ensure that you are using the latest version as stated above. This should then hopefully solve the problem. If you log back in and your child has lost any of their streaks, please let us know as Doodle should be able to reinstate them.

THINGS TO DO THIS WEEKEND:



Plan a free visit to BALTIC Family Days this February half term

Free creative workshops, fun activities and family tours...

For more information, follow the link below:

[Baltic Family Fun Days in Half Term](#)



Junior Bake Off:

Are there any budding bakers in our Year 4 class or amongst our older siblings? Junior bake off are looking for children aged 9 to 12 to take part in their next series - for more information visit the web address below.

DIARY DATES

- Tuesday 8th February Safer Internet Day- each class will take part in safer internet activities throughout the week
- Monday 14th February Non Uniform Valentine's Day Fundraiser for School Council
- Friday 18th February School Closes for half term
- Monday 28th February School reopens for Spring term 2
- Friday 4th March World Book Day - see above for more information
- W/C 7th March STEM Week - more information to follow
- W/C 7th March Parents' Evenings - class dates and times to be confirmed and more information to follow shortly about booking appointment slots
- Friday 18th March Comic Relief Red Nose Day - more information to follow. We will be selling red noses in the run up to red nose day
- Mon 21st - Fri 27th March Neurodiversity Week - celebrating learning differences and the strengths and talents that come from thinking and perceiving the world differently
- Friday 8th April School closes for Easter holidays
- Monday 25th April School reopens for Summer 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