

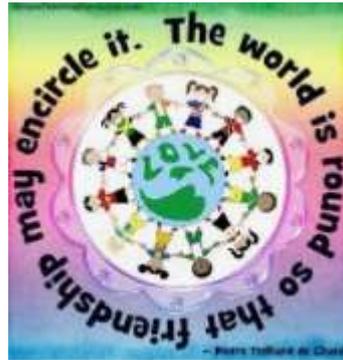


*Whittonstall and Broomley First Schools*  
Weekly Newsletter  
3rd December 2021



Tel: W: 01207560325 B: 01661842271

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



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Our overall attendance this week was

**95.3 %**

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

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

It has been a fantastic week packed with Christmas preparations, the sounds of Christmas play songs are filling the schools this afternoon, it's wonderful to hear! On Monday we are looking forward to a visit from Debbie Young who will be taking photos of all the children in their costumes, you will then receive a code linked to your child's image and will be able to purchase it if you wish. We are really looking forward to the Christmas performances being recorded on 13th and 14th December by an external film crew. Due to the size of the file linked to the performance we will be unable to offer this as a google link or on the drive. We are planning to produce DVDs of the performance at a cost of £5 each. This will cover the cost of production but also help with further funding for our topic book project this year. Next week you will receive a google form link where you will be able to reserve copies of the DVD and we can get the company to work on producing them quickly after recording.

Thank you for your support at our Christmas Movie Night this week. The children had a lot of fun and really enjoyed the novelty of wearing PJs in school, whilst watching The Grinch. We will definitely look to see if we can hold another movie night in January.

In the last week or so the weather has turned particularly cold. Please make sure that your child has a coat in school and that they have warm clothes, particularly on PE days when the children wear their PE kit. We saw the launch of our new websites a couple of weeks ago. This week we had some great new photographs taken in school, which we look forward to sharing with you. The new format and design will make the website much more user friendly for mobile devices and tablets. After all, this is how most of us access these things now and it is important that our website can reflect this. If there is anything missing that you would like to be added or changed please get in touch, as we appreciate the feedback.

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## **AWARDS OF THE WEEK:**

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

Reception

- Ted M for his excellent tool skills when using the hammer

Year 1

- Bobby M for his super 2D and 3D shape work in maths

Year 2

- Zac W for his great team work skills.

Year 3

- Bethan M for learning her lines for the school play and delivering them so clearly!

Year 4

- Natty G for trying really hard in maths



### **Head Teacher Awards**

- Penny W in Year 2 for some excellent ideas for her 'What makes a perfect Christmas' bauble.
- Willa R in Year 3 for being a kind friend and helping others.
- Tom H (Y1) for being a kind friend on the yard and helping other children when they are hurt or not feeling well
- Lilly B (Y2) for her can now read split digraphs!!

### **Special Forest School Award from Miss Richardson**

- Bobby M for being an excellent forest leader and for fantastic hammering skills
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## **SCHOOL UPDATES**

### **Book Review Corner:**



#### **Mr Penguin - The Fortress of Secrets by Alex T Smith**

Ethan is reading the second book of the series.

"I like this book because there are lots of adventures and cliffhangers at the end of each chapter, this makes me really excited about what will happen next".

Ethan L (Year 3)

Thanks Ethan - that looks like a real page turner. We are sure your friends will love this book too!



#### **PTA Christmas Fair - Teddy Appeal:**

It is the PTA Christmas Fair next Friday and they are running a Teddy raffle - we are still looking for any more donations of teddies (good condition only please). If you would like to donate, please drop your cuddly toys off at the office. Thanks for your support.



#### **Christmas Play Costumes:**

Our Christmas performances are getting closer and the children are working hard learning songs and words. Debbie Young Photography is coming into school this coming Monday, 6th December, to photograph the children in their costumes. Can you please ensure therefore that the children have their costumes in school by Monday at the latest. Please could you send the costume in a clearly named bag.



**School Christmas Party Lunch Thursday 9th December:** Mr Brennan is planning a special festive Christmas party lunch on Thursday 9th December. We won't be having our normal menu for the day and instead the children will enjoy party food with sandwiches, mini pizzas, sausage rolls, biscuits and cakes to name but a few of the treats on offer! If your child normally has a packed lunch and would like to have the school lunch on this day there is no need to let us know in advance, they will let their teacher know at morning registration.

### **Other Christmas Events:**

This year, we have a number of Christmas Events happening in school including:

- Christmas Animals - to tie in with the PTA Christmas Fair, we have arranged for a visit from some Christmas animals (no reindeers this year unfortunately as they are all busy preparing for their epic trip on Christmas Eve!)
- Christmas Crafts - the children will be making a Christmas Craft each to bring home
- Christmas Class Party with disco and a party treat



Usually we have a collection bucket at the Christmas performances and use the donations we get to help fund the Christmas activities. However due to Covid restrictions in place again this year, we are unable to invite parents into school to watch the plays. To help us cover some of the costs of the above treats, we have set up a voluntary contribution on Parentmail of £5.00 for anyone who would like to donate.



### **Jack and the Beanstalk Panto:**

The magic of theatre is coming to Broomley! On Wednesday 15th December M&M productions will be visiting school to perform the panto of Jack and the Beanstalk. We are asking for a voluntary contribution of £8.50 to cover the cost of bringing the production into school and an ice lolly for each child (all dietary requirements will be catered for) You may pay on parentmail PMX or send cash or cheque (payable to Tyne Community Learning

Trust) in to school in a named envelope. Thank you to everyone who has already paid.



### **Milk for Spring Term:**

If your child has milk at break time, it is time to place your order for the Spring Term. The cost of milk for the full term will be £17.50 per child. Our preferred method of payment is Parentmail PMX but cash or cheque (payable to Tyne Community Learning Trust) may be sent in to school in a named envelope.

If your child is under 5 for the whole spring term i.e. 5th birthday falls after Friday 8th April 2022, they are eligible to receive **FREE** school milk. Children who receive benefit related free school meals are also entitled to free school milk.

Please complete the google form [Spring term milk](#) to let us know whether your child would like milk.



### **Interfaith Week:**

This week was Interfaith Week in school. This is an opportunity for us to learn about other faiths and to strengthen good interfaith relations at all levels. It helps the children to increase their awareness of faith communities in the UK and to celebrate the contribution which their members make to their neighbourhoods and to wider society. It helps us all to develop an understanding between people of religious and non-religious beliefs. This week we had workshops with Tiny Tasters where the children had a go at

making Jewish stew and boureka. As you can see from the pictures below, it was lots of fun and hopefully they produced some delicious food for you all to try at home. Reception class also had a visit from the

Islamic Diversity Centre. We also created places of worship and had a session from the Open the Book people. Hopefully this has all helped the children develop their understanding of the faiths in our community.





### **Christmas Appeal for The People's Kitchen:**

Following our successful appeal last Christmas, when we collected literally shopping trolley loads of donations for the local food bank, we are again thinking of how we can help others during the festive season. We have decided to support the 'Feed a Friend for a Fiver' appeal for the People's Kitchen in Newcastle. Each fiver donated makes it possible for someone in need to enjoy a warm 3 course meal this Christmas in a safe space, with friends who understand and care for each other. Receiving this friendship often gives people the strength needed to navigate tough times. We have set up a Just Giving page for donations, follow the link - [Feed a Friend for a Fiver Broomley](#) You can make a donation of any amount on the page - it doesn't need to be a full £5 - and together we can hopefully provide lots of hot meals for people who really need them. If you would like to know more about the work of The People's Kitchen, visit their webpage <https://peopleskitchen.co.uk/>

### **Things to do:**



**Taking place on the following dates:**

**Friday 3rd – Sunday 5th December**

**Friday 10th – Sunday 12th December**

**Saturday 18th – Monday 20th December**

ILLuminating Ushaw provides great value for all the family with prices from £8 for children and £10 for adults, join us on our ILLuminated Christmas Trail, stroll through Christmas Tree Avenue, marvel at the ILLuminated Historic House, visit the Traditional Nativity Scene, gaze up at the Giant Gnome Trees, explore our Willow Tunnel, indulge in Seasonal Treats and be blown away by the Largest Festive Light Installation In the North of England at over 150 metres long!

**Within the Covid-safe, family friendly environment at Ushaw, All we want this Christmas is for you to... visit Ushaw! Limited capacity with timed entry.**

- The ILLuminated Trail is ticketed and time slots are at 30 minute intervals from 4.30pm – 7:30pm.
- The ILLuminated Trail will last approx. 1 hour 30 mins
- Given the high demand for tickets, booking is required for this event. Admission to Ushaw (Grounds and Gardens only) is included within ticket price.
- Ticket includes parking.

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**For more information follow the link - [ILLuminating Ushaw](#)**

## DIARY DATES

- Monday 6th December Debbie Young Photography in school to take pictures of children in their Christmas play outfits
- Thursday 9th December Christmas Lunch
- Friday 10th December Christmas Jumper Day for Save the Children
- Friday 10th December Visit from 'Christmas Animals' - more information to follow
- Friday 10th December PTA Christmas Fair - children only
- Monday 13th December Christmas Performances - due to Covid restrictions, parents will not be able to attend but performances will be filmed
- Tuesday 14th December Christmas Music Concert - children learning an instrument will have a chance to perform in front of the other children.
- Wednesday 15th December M and M Production of Jack and the Beanstalk in school
- Thursday 16th December Christmas Story Telling Afternoon
- Friday 17th December Christingle Service
- Friday 17th December Class Christmas Parties -children invited to wear party clothes
- Friday 17th December School closes for Christmas Holidays
- Tuesday 4th January Teacher Training Day
- Wednesday 5th January School Reopens for Spring Term
- Thursday 6th January Y3/Y4 Netball club begins
- Tuesday 25th January Reception Class Vision Screening - more information to follow shortly

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

*Mrs Barker*

Executive Head Teacher