



*Whittonstall and Broomley First Schools*  
Weekly Newsletter  
19 November 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

**94.8 %**

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

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

It was wonderful to see all of the children thinking of others today by taking part in our Children in Need fundraiser in school. There were spots, yellow and a whole host of pudsey ears on display as the children learnt about the work the charity does, and all enjoyed tasks in their classroom as well as a buddy playtime. I spotted many different tasks on my walk around today, which ranged from a colouring challenge, to making delicious pudsey biscuits during outdoor day! At Broomley we pride ourselves on being a community school and this Christmas season with the school councils backing, we are aiming to help even more people less fortunate than ourselves. As well as our 'Feed a Friend for a Fiver' appeal for The Peoples' Kitchen in Newcastle, the school council have decided they want to hold a book swap event to raise money to buy new books for the local homeless shelters too. There are more details below, and further information about the book swap will be sent home over the coming weeks. We are always looking for more ways to give back and support our wonderful community so if you do have any ideas for fundraising events or ways we might further support our community please do get in touch. Have a wonderful weekend everyone, see you next week for more Christmas song singing and hard work.

**Mrs Howe**

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## **AWARDS OF THE WEEK:**

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

Reception

- Ada R for taking turns and sharing and being lovely to her friends

Year 1

- Leo K - for his fantastic singing during our Christmas Play practise this week

Year 2

- Frazer H for his science investigation work

Year 3

- Finley Ch – for a huge effort with his handwriting!

Year 4

- William B for always working conscientiously.



Head Teacher Awards

- Jess S (Y3) for her wonderful poem about winter which she wrote at home. It contained some lovely wow language (cascading!)
- Lucy B (Rec) for being so kind and sharing this week on the playground.
- Luke W (Rec) for sharing his amazing reading with me.

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## **SCHOOL UPDATES**

### **Anti-Bullying Week:**

This week, in school, as part of anti-bullying week, we have taken the theme 'One Kind Word'. On Monday, we kicked off the week with Odd Socks Day where we celebrated the fact that we are all different and that being different is just fine. Throughout the week, each class has taken part in a number of different activities including:

- watching a BBC live lesson which involved some role playing of bullying situations and how that might make us feel.
- the children also talked about friendships and how to include others - this also involved developing playground games to ensure that no-one feels left out.
- each class has also talked a lot about being kind and have used the theme of 'One Kind Word' to spread happiness around school.

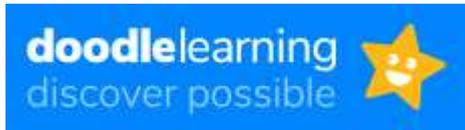


### **Children in Need:**

Today we were taking part in Children in Need by wearing yellow and/or spots and stripes. We have enjoyed seeing all the fantastic outfits and face and hair designs that the children came dressed in. They were very excited to show off their spots and Pudsey outfits. BBC Children in Need have a mission to ensure every child in the UK is safe, happy, secure and have the opportunities they need to reach their potential. We raise money every year to fund local charities and projects who help remove the barriers that are facing children so that they can thrive. This year, we are focusing in school on 'What Makes You Special' and showing mindfulness and gratitude for how lucky we are.

Our school Just Giving page is still available for anyone who would like to donate. Thank you to everyone who has already donated. Together with the sale of ears and wristbands and cash donations, we have so far raised a fantastic £280.

<https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/broomleyfirst>



### **DOODLE LEARNING:**

This term we are using Doodle Learning for homework. We have attached a letter from Doodle which includes lots of helpful information for parents about Doodle and the benefits it brings. Just 10 minutes a day can make a huge difference to your child's learning. We would like

to encourage all parents to help their child use Doodle at homework time. If you have any queries about Doodle, there is an online chat facility within the app where experts can help with any issues you may be experiencing. Or let us know in school and we will be happy to help.

### **Book Review Corner:**

#### **Our first Book Review:**

We are delighted to have received our first book review for this new section of our newsletter:

#### **Mabel and the Mountain by Kim Hillyard**

**"I like this book because it is about believing in yourself."**

**Other children should read this book "to help them keep trying even when things are tricky".**

#### **Poppy (Year 1)**

Thanks Poppy - what a great recommendation; this book looks amazing and we love your cuddly toy too!

If you have a book that you love or a new book that you would like to share with us, please send your review to [admin@broomley.northumberland.sch.uk](mailto:admin@broomley.northumberland.sch.uk)



### **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. We had also hoped to incorporate the remaining sessions with the Baltic artists that were postponed from last term but this has not been possible. If you sent in

a donation for the Baltic artist we will roll forward your contribution to cover the interfaith week events instead. For any parent who did not make a contribution to the Baltic event, we have sent out information on how you can make a voluntary contribution to the interfaith week workshops instead. All contributions go towards meeting the cost of bringing outside organisations into school to provide fun and interesting learning sessions for all the children.

### PTA - New Playground Equipment:

We would like to say a massive thank you to our fantastic PTA who have donated £200 to fund some new playground equipment for the children to play with at break times. We have bought lots of fun stuff with the money and the children across all year groups are really loving playing with it all. A huge thank you to everyone involved in the PTA and to parents and families for their continued support.



### PTA Teddy Tombola:

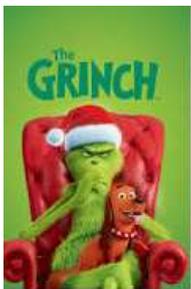
The PTA are asking for donations of Teddies for their Christmas Fair Teddy Tombola. Thank you to everyone who has already sent in some furry friends but if anyone has any cuddly toys in good condition that they would be happy to donate, please drop them into school next week.



### **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 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/>



### **Movie Night - Tuesday 30 November - FULLY BOOKED**

We have been inundated with responses to our after school movie night on 30 November and have had to close the google form. Thank you to everyone who has signed up. We are looking to see if we can extend numbers as we have a lot of children on the waiting list so please bear with us and we will be in touch soon to confirm. Anyone who completed the google form has a place. Some people have paid but have not completed the form - these children are currently on the waiting list. We will do our best to accommodate everyone who wants a place, space and staff permitting.



### **Year 3 and 4 Lunchtime Netball Club:**

Thank you to everyone who has signed up to take part in our Y3 /Y4 lunchtime netball club. This club is now fully subscribed and we have started a waiting list. We are finalising details with the coach but hope to start the club on Thursday 2nd December. We will send more information home next week to confirm places and timings.

Thank you to Gail Smith, the coach who will be running the club, and Rowena Mahoney who has also volunteered to help out, for giving up their time for free. It is much appreciated and we are sure the children will love learning a new sport.

**Pamela Butchart Year 2 Virtual Event:** We have had an update from the event organisers that Pamela is still unwell and isn't able to rebook the event or to sign the bookplates at the moment for the books we have ordered. They have asked us to let them know by next Monday 23rd November if anyone would like to cancel their orders as a result of this. Please could you email [admin@broomley.northumberland.sch.uk](mailto:admin@broomley.northumberland.sch.uk) or phone us on 842271 if you ordered a book for your child and would now like to cancel the order, by Monday 23rd November.

We apologise for the inconvenience and any disappointment for the children, and we wish Pamela a speedy recovery.

## Things to do:



Celebrate the festivities in the build up to Christmas with National Trust's brand new magical light trail - Christmas at Gibside - on show from Friday 26 November 2021 - Sunday 2 January 2022.

Look forward to some together time 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.

Your very merriest Christmas starts here. Limited capacity with timed entry. Plan now to secure the date and time of your choice.

**Tickets:** £26.00 (advance booking and adult + parking for non-members), £18 (advance booking adult entry + parking space for National Trust member) Family and child tickets available. Visit the website for more information.

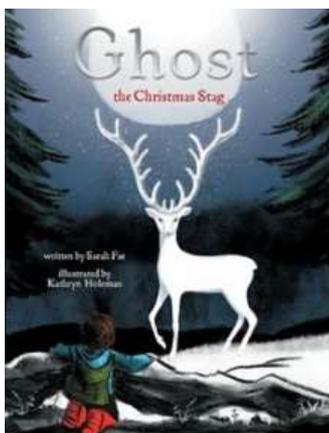
### **Gibside National Trust**

Gibside National Trust, Rowland's Gill,  
Gateshead

Find us on:  

Email: [gibside@nationaltrust.org.uk](mailto:gibside@nationaltrust.org.uk)

Telephone: **12075 41820**



**Come and meet local author Sarah Fae, hear the story of Ghost the Christmas Stag and write your own letter to Santa Claus!**

Sat, 11 Dec, 11:00–11:45

Hexham Library  
Queens Hall, Beaumont St, Hexham

**For children aged 5-10**

## DIARY DATES



- w/c 29th November Interfaith week
- Tuesday 30th November Christmas Movie Night - the Grinch - FULLY BOOKED
- Friday 3rd 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 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 and shared
- Tuesday 14th December Christmas Music Concert - children learning an instrument will have chance to perform in front of the other children.
- Wednesday 15th December M and M Production of Jack and the Beanstalk in school - more information to follow
- Thursday 16th December Christmas Story Telling Afternoon
- Friday 17th December Christingle Service
- Friday 17th December Class Christmas Party Afternoon-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

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

*Mrs Barker*

Executive Head Teacher