



Whittonstall and Broomley First Schools
Weekly Newsletter
12 November 2021



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Website: www.broomley.northumberland.sch.uk/website



Our overall attendance this week was

96.7%

Well done everyone for a fantastic attendance record this week.

HEAD TEACHER'S MESSAGE TO THE CHILDREN:

The children have been exploring our 'rainbow books' in school this week which offer the opportunity to explore a range of texts discussing areas of cultural diversity. They have opened 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.

Christmas preparations began in school this week as the children and teachers began 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. There are also a few additional dates to the diary below including a special afterschool Christmas movie night - the children are invited to bring comfy pjs into school to enjoy popcorn, hot chocolate and the festive tale of the Grinch, we can't wait!

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 sent home a parentmail today enclosing some flyers full of helpful tips to keep everyone safe.



AWARDS OF THE WEEK:

Kid Awesome - Stars of the Week:

Reception

- Findlay B for fantastic number sense

Year 1

- Cora S for her fantastic independent writing in English

Year 2

- Summer W for her great rekenrek work

Year 3

- Sam B for always producing great work and helping his friends understand the tasks

Year 4

- Alice R- amazing poetry writing and Emily H- excellent guided reading work

Head Teacher Awards

- Henry and Edward in Year 4 for their fantastic contributions to our Remembrance Day Assembly.



SCHOOL UPDATES



Remembrance Day:

The children took part in an assembly today to commemorate Remembrance Day. We talked about the reasons why we remember those who gave their lives or were injured and what the significance of the different coloured poppies is. We then joined the BBC broadcast and the children and staff all observed the 2 minute silence. You could have heard a pin drop in the hall, the children

were so quiet. Well done everyone.

Each class also took some time during the day to visit the war memorial next to school where they had an opportunity to ask questions about Remembrance Day.



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/broomleyfirst>

Donations can also be sent into school if you prefer.

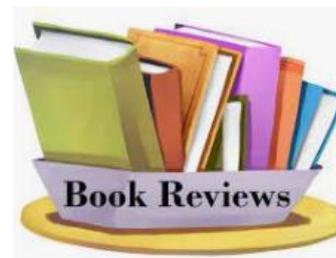
We also have a limited supply of Pudsey merchandise in school that the children can purchase as follows:

- Pudsey furry yellow ears - £2.50 each
- Pudsey Wrist bands in green, orange or pink - £1.00 each

If your child would like to purchase one of these items, please send the correct money in a named envelope clearly stating which item / colour you would like.

Parent / Child Book Review - new item for the Newsletter:

We need your help! We would like to start a new section on the newsletter all to do with reading. If you and your child have a favourite book or have just read a new book that you thought was amazing, we would like to hear from you. Each week we would like to print a book review / recommendation sent in by you and your child. If you would like to take part, please email the title of your book and a short review (parents are allowed to help with this) to admin@broomley.northumberland.sch.uk. We will try and print one or two a week so don't worry if yours doesn't get selected the first week.



We hope this might help children to find some new books to read and you never know it might give you some inspiration for Christmas presents too!

We have also attached some Teacher Reads Guides to this newsletter for different aged children which are full of book recommendations if you are looking for some new books.

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 hoped to have 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 will send out information on how you can make a voluntary contribution to the interfaith week workshops instead.



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.

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 ordered and paid for a book already then we will go ahead and place the order **unless you let us know you would rather have a refund by the end of today, Friday 12th November.**

If you have not yet placed an order and would like to do so then please could you complete the google form [Pamela Butchart book order](#) and make payment by the end of the day today, Friday 12th November.



Year 4 Ford Castle Residential Trip 2022 - Expression of Interest:

Just a reminder that if your child is in Year 4 and you haven't already done so, please follow the link below and complete the google form to confirm if your child would like to take part in this trip. We need to finalise numbers so that we can confirm costs. This will enable us to give everyone as long as possible to pay their instalments for the trip. We appreciate your help with this matter.

[Y4 Ford Castle Expression of Interest](#)



Newcastle Foundation After School Club for Year 3 and 4 Children:

Newcastle United Foundation are running a FREE 6 week Family Learning programme at Broomley First School starting in November. The fun-filled programme will start straight after the school day starting on Thursday 18th November and run until 4.30pm. Each child MUST be accompanied each week by an adult over the age of 18. The club is aimed at children in Year 3 and Year 4.

Each week will be split into a fun classroom-based learning session, where you will be working closely with your child around various topics including:

- Inclusion
- Healthy Lifestyles
- Teamwork

As well as this, there will be a practical element to the course where Newcastle United Foundation staff will deliver some fun and enjoyable games where you can spend quality time with your child.

All you need to take part in the course is yourself, and sensible shoes! Places are limited to 15 adults and their accompanying children. A letter has been sent home with your child tonight so just complete and return the slip if you would like to take part. If you require any further information please contact jak.hogg@nufc.co.uk

Things to do:

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

**THINGS
TO DO!**

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](#)



DIARY DATES

- w/c Monday 15th November Anti Bullying Week - starting with wearing odd socks to celebrate individuality
- Friday 19th November Children in Need - Non Uniform day - wear something yellow / spotty
- w/c 29th November Interfaith week - more info about planned activities and trips to follow
- Tuesday 30th November Christmas Movie Night - the Grinch - more information coming home next week
- 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
- Friday 10th December BFS Enterprise Fair - sale of children's work straight after school
- Monday 13th December Christmas Performances - due to Covid restrictions, parents will not be able to attend but performances will be filmed and shared
- Wednesday 15th December M and M Production of Jack and the Beanstalk in school
- Friday 17th December Christingle Service
- Friday 17th December Class Christmas Party Afternoon-children invited to wear party close
- 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