



Whittonstall and Broomley First Schools
Weekly Newsletter
11th March 2022



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Our overall attendance this week was

96.4 %



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

HEAD TEACHER'S MESSAGE:

Thank you to all the parents who were able to attend our parents' evenings. It was fantastic to be able to invite you all into school and offer the opportunity to celebrate all that the children have achieved so far this academic year.

To celebrate International Women's Day next week, pupils are exploring the role films have to play in our understanding of what women and girls can achieve, both in front of and behind the camera. They will therefore be voting on "Do films show good role models for girls?" in KS1, and "Have recent films challenged stereotypes of women & girls?" in KS2. In their assembly, they will consider other women who are blazing a trail in other areas of society and what else needs to change in order to #BreakTheBias.

The children had an amazing day with 'Sublime Science' on Wednesday from slime creations to space rockets flying through the air across the playground. It was a fun-filled day of scientific discovery, surrounded by lots of happy children. The teachers have some great photos to share so keep an eye out on your marvellous me.

On Friday 18th March we will be supporting Comic Relief in school. The children are invited to come to school wearing something red and we have noses for sale (£1.50 per nose) in the office. The focus is putting the 'pow in power' and showing the children that we all have a super power and how to use yours to help others.

We have lots of exciting activities planned over the coming weeks including neurodiversity week, a family bake sale to raise money for the Ukraine appeal and much more so please check out the diary dates below.

AWARDS OF THE WEEK:

Kid Awesome - Stars of the Week:



Reception

- Lucy B for creative construction of a wonderful princess castle

Year 1

- Oliver B: for his fantastic work on split digraphs in phonics

Year 2

- Lilly Rose B for amazing work in English

Year 3

- Eleanor C for her big improvement in reading – now onto those spellings J

Year 4

- Eva G for a great attitude in all areas of her learning!

Headteacher's Awards:

- Walt M (Y4) for being kind and helpful to his classmates

- Florence T (Y1) for being kind to others and showing amazing teamwork

SCHOOL UPDATES

Staffing update:

Our Y4 teacher, Mrs Ward will be leaving us at Easter as she embarks on her new role as Executive Deputy Head teacher across Mickley and Ovingham First Schools. This is a fantastic opportunity and we wish Mrs Ward all the best in her new role within our academy trust. In the coming weeks we will be in touch with Year 4 parents to update them on transition arrangements with the member of staff that will be joining the Year 4 team for the Summer Term.



STEM WEEK :

This week was our STEM (Science, Engineering, Technology and Mathematics) week and we have enjoyed five days of spectacular scientific explorations. The main theme was 'Growth' and the children took part in some amazing experiments and investigations.



The highlight of the week was on Wednesday when we had a special visit from a company called Sublime Science. The children worked together in groups to complete a range of STEM activities around school and in the school grounds. They made slime, built and fired rockets in the school yard, constructed towers from spaghetti and marshmallows, carried out olfactory investigations with some rather tasty crisps and did some planting and propagation. Phew, it was quite a day!!! Thank you to those parents who have made the voluntary contribution of £5.00 per child to cover the cost of bringing Sublime Science into school and to provide resources for the experiments. These contributions enable us to keep providing vibrant and exciting activities and opportunities for the children. The payment is still available on parentmail for anyone who has not yet contributed and would like to. We have included some photos below so you can see some of the fun the children got up to:



BOOK REVIEW CORNER:



We do not have any book reviews for you this week but we will be doing our special prize draw on Tuesday. One of the children who has submitted a book review to our newsletter over the past few months will be the lucky winner of a £10 book voucher. Ms Shepherd will draw a name out of the hat in assembly. We will do another prize draw next term so keep the book reviews coming!

COMIC RELIEF - RED NOSES FOR SALE:



We will be celebrating Comic Relief Red Nose Day on Friday 18th March. We are asking the children to come to school wearing something red and will be celebrating the theme of Super Heroes in school on the day with a variety of activities in class. The children can wear their red noses too if they would like. We are asking for cash donations to Comic Relief on the day.

If we are able to set up an online donation page, we will let you have that information next week.

We are also selling red noses in school - the noses cost £1.50 each - please note this is an exact cost rather than a donation. The red noses are again 100% plastic free this year, so a better option for the environment too! They are selling quite quickly, so if your child would like a red nose, please don't delay.



UKRAINE FUNDRAISING BAKE SALE - FRIDAY 25TH MARCH

As part of a Tyne Community Learning Trust fundraising event to help the Ukraine Appeal, Broomley First are planning to hold a Bake Sale on Friday 25th March. We will be asking families and staff to donate cakes (either homemade or shop bought) which we will sell at the end of the day. All money raised will go towards the

Department for Education's Ukraine Appeal which will help families and children whose lives have been devastated by the events in their country. We are also asking the children to wear yellow and blue on the day for a small donation and will theme the day around kindness and thinking of other children less fortunate than ourselves.

NEW AFTER SCHOOL CLUB COMING SOON:



After Easter, we are hoping to start a new after school art club for our Y1 and 2 children. The club will be run by Becky Mack, one of our parents. We are finalising details at the moment so will be in touch soon with more information about how to join etc. Watch this space!

In the meantime, if you have any younger children, you might be interested in some of the toddler sessions that Becky runs - see below for more information.

THINGS TO DO:

**BIG PEOPLE LITTLE PEOPLE
ZUMBA CLASS**
AT WYLAM INSTITUTE
SUNDAY 3RD APRIL 2PM
LIMITED AVAILABILITY



BOOK NOW VIA THE GYMCATCH APP
£7.50 FOR 1 ADULT AND 1 CHILD
SUITABLE FOR AGE 6 UP

Our class timetable

April - May Term



Monday

CONSETT - Scout HQ, Constance Street
Baby ARTventurers 9.45am
Little ARTventurers 11.15am



Tuesday

HEXHAM - West End Church Hall
Family ARTventurers 1pm

Fully booked



Wednesday

STOCKSFIELD - SICA
Baby ARTventurers 9.45am
Little ARTventurers 11.15am

To book contact :

www.artventurers.co.uk/tynevalley/
becky@artventurers.co.uk
Becky : 07902520496

BABY ARTventurers 6-18 months
LITTLE ARTventurers 18 months - 4 years
FAMILY ARTventurers for all ages!



DIARY DATES

- Friday 18th March Comic Relief Red Nose Day -Children to wear something red for a donation to comic relief
- Mon 21st - Fri 25th March Neurodiversity Week - celebrating learning differences and the strengths and talents that come from thinking and perceiving the world differently
- Friday 25th March Ukraine Fundraising Bake Sale and Wear Blue and Yellow
- Tuesday 29th March Author Jenny Pearson to visit Y3 and Y4
- Friday 8th April Family Easter Egg Decoration Competition - more details to follow
- Friday 8th April School closes for Easter holidays
- Monday 25th April School reopens for Summer term
- Tuesday 7th June Whole Class Photographs - Debbie Young Photography
- Thursday 21 July School Closes for Summer holidays
- Friday 22nd July Additional holiday for Queen's Platinum Jubilee
- Tuesday 6th September School Reopens for new school year

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

Mrs Barker

Executive Head Teacher