



*Whittonstall and Broomley First Schools*  
Weekly Newsletter  
1st April 2022



Tel: W: 01207560325 B: 01661842271  
Website: [www.broomley.northumberland.sch.uk/website](http://www.broomley.northumberland.sch.uk/website)



Our overall attendance this week was

**94.2%**



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

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#### HEAD TEACHER'S MESSAGE:

A huge thank you for all the support last week for our 'kindness day'. We were thrilled to hear the balloons and banners made such a difference in the community and sent the message of positivity to all. We raised a huge sum of money to go towards the 'Disaster Emergency Committee' which will go to help others and spread kindness as we all intended.

On Tuesday, some of the children enjoyed a fantastic visit from children's author Jenny Pearson, the hall was full of children's giggles with an assembly followed by exciting workshops for Year 3 and 4, where the children learned some of the tricks of the trade of an author!

As many of you will be aware, any final COVID restrictions and guidance will be changing from April 1 2022. I will be writing to you before the end of term to explain any changes. The bottom line is that the Government are removing the recommendation for testing, and recommending that COVID be treated like any other virus or illness.

This term has flown by and it seems only a few weeks since we were returning after Christmas. However, much has been accomplished in that time. We have continued to provide the very best offer that we can including school visits, trips and themed days as well as a full and thorough extra-curricular offer for your children. I am very proud of what we have achieved despite significant pressures on our workforce. Whilst your children are likely to have experienced the impact of staff absence to some extent, I hope that we have been able to keep this to a minimum. Again, my sincere thanks to those staff who have gone above and beyond the call of duty to ensure the smooth running of our school during such difficult times.

We look forward to lots of Easter fun next week; on Thursday the children can bring in a plain hardboiled egg to decorate and on Friday we welcome entries to this year's family Easter egg competition, with some fantastic prizes for each year group - see below for more information.

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## **AWARDS OF THE WEEK:**

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



Reception

- Zoe T for brilliant creativity designing a map on an Easter egg

Year 1

- Sam D for his fantastic ideas about endangered animals in science

Year 2

- Ethan G for his amazing mark making skills and use of vocabulary.

Year 3

- Freddie L for amazing outdoor maths work
- Lexi W for amazing outdoor wood work

Year 4

- Elsa R for much improved handwriting and presentation,
- Grace C for being really helpful this week

### **Headteacher's Awards:**

- Walt and Ted M for donating their birthday money last Friday to the Ukraine appeal, showing kindness to others.
- Finlay C for really trying hard in all that he does

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## **SCHOOL UPDATES**



### **UKRAINE KINDNESS FUNDRAISING DAY- THANK YOU:**

We would just like to update you on our final total after our fundraising day last Friday. Our non-uniform day and bake sale raised an amazing £663.27 for the DEC (Disaster Emergency Committee) Ukraine Humanitarian Appeal - so we would like to say a massive thank you to everyone who donated money and cakes. There are still a few cake boxes from donations left in the dinner hall, so if you are missing one please pop in and take a look.

We had quite a few cakes left so we donated those (and our balloons) to the SICA event which took place last Saturday. We are pleased to say that although they had a groaning cake stall, all our donated cakes were sold - the SICA cake stall alone took £450, and the grand total on the day at the SICA event was £3383.

SICA have asked us to pass on their thanks to everyone who attended their event and helped raise this fantastic total. 'A wonderful effort from the people of this caring community'.



### **AUTHOR VISIT IN SCHOOL:**

The children had a wonderful day on Tuesday when the author Jenny Pearson visited our school. Jenny has written 3 books including the adventure story, 'The Super Miraculous Story of Freddie Yates', which some of our classes have been reading during Story time. The children loved having her there to talk about Freddie in real life, and learning about Jenny's inspiration for the character before working on their own. The children really enjoyed the sessions and we are looking forward to organising more events like this in the future.



**Easter Activities in School next week:** The children are all looking forward to Easter and the fun it brings, and we will certainly be getting into the Easter spirit next week in school.

Next **Thursday** could each child please bring in a hardboiled egg from home to decorate in school. We will provide all of the resources in school for the children to use to decorate their egg.

Next **Friday** we will be holding a family Easter egg decorating competition. You can work together as a family at home to create your entry and the children can bring their entries into school on Friday for the judging. We will set up tables in the hall for each class to display their eggs. There will be a prize in each year group for the best decorated egg, we are looking forward to seeing some imaginative creations!



**SCHOOL COUNCIL EASTER EGG RAFFLE:**

The school council Easter Egg raffle has proved very popular and Miss Swan has kindly extended the deadline for buying tickets until Monday 4th April.

Raffle tickets are 50p each and children can purchase a maximum of 5. There will be three prizes per class to win and a big surprise egg for one lucky pupil. Good luck! All money raised will go into our school Eco fund and we will let you know the grand total in next week's newsletter.



**PARENT GOVERNOR ELECTIONS:** Just a reminder that voting is still open for our Parent Governor election, so if you haven't already done so, please place your vote to have your say on who takes up this important role on our Governing body. You should have received a Parentmail on Tuesday this week with an election statement from each candidate and a link to vote. Please note that on the original parentmail, one of the areas

where the local Governing Body recognised the need to strengthen our capacity was omitted, and this was then amended in a further parentmail message. The four areas should have read -

|                             |                             |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| • <i>Financial Planning</i> | • <i>ICT Infrastructure</i> |
| • <i>Health and Safety</i>  | • <i>Curriculum</i>         |

Voting closes next Wednesday 6th April. Each parent may have one vote. Please go to [Academy Parent Governor election](#) to place your vote.



**FOREST SCHOOL AND OUTDOOR DAYS:**

Just a reminder that the whole school outdoor day has moved to next Tuesday 5th April - we are crossing our fingers that the weather will be a bit kinder to us then. Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 will be having their session in our outdoor area in the school grounds. Year 3 and 4 will be heading off to Glebe woods

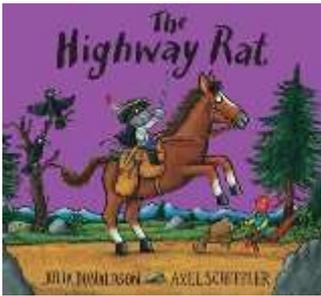
again for another forest school day.

Please remember to send your child wearing warm layers and waterproofs and wellies. Gloves and a hat are also essentials.



## BOOK REVIEW CORNER:

This week, for our book review, Mrs Barker has recommended one of her favourites:



This week at bedtime my children have really been enjoying one of our family favourites *The Highway Rat* by Julia Donaldson. *The Highway Rat* is an exciting book about a mean, greedy and vicious rat that goes around stealing other animals' food. One day he comes across a duck, which had no food to give him so the rat decided to eat the duck instead. Luckily, the duck was very clever and managed to outwit the rat so that he wasn't able to steal any other animal's food again. We really enjoy doing lots of different voices for the characters and pretending to echo the voices in the cave.

Mrs Barker

Thanks, Mrs Barker, that sounds like a lot of fun and we love Julia Donaldson.

## ARTVENTURERS CLUB FOR Y1 AND Y2:

There are still a few spaces left at our new after school Art Club which will be starting on Wednesdays after Easter for children in Year 1 and 2. It sounds like it will be loads of fun. If your child would like a space at the club, please follow the link in below to book a slot:

[www.artventurers.co.uk/tynevalley/book-a-class/](http://www.artventurers.co.uk/tynevalley/book-a-class/)

The password is Broomleyfirst

**ARTventurers<sup>®</sup>**  
Tyme Valley & Consett  
Squidge, squish, paint, explore, sing, dance!

**After School Club**  
Open to pupils in  
Year 1 & Year 2  
Wednesdays 3.15-4.15pm  
Starting 27th April

ARTventurers after school club will allow your child the time, space and resources to get creative in a friendly and fun environment! As well as developing skills, confidence and promoting well being, your child will also bring home a variety of creations & keepsakes!

These after school sessions won't be quite the same as the messy play classes you may have seen ARTventurers do for babies and toddlers. There won't be as much mess, but there will certainly be plenty of ARTy fun!

**Book Now**  
5 week block = £25  
Bookings can be made via website  
[www.artventurers.co.uk/tynevalley/book-a-class/](http://www.artventurers.co.uk/tynevalley/book-a-class/)  
Password - Broomleyfirst



## MID TYRE KIDS CLUB - HOLIDAY DATES AND ACTIVITIES

Kids Club will be open on the following dates during the Easter holidays:

- Monday 11th April to Thursday 21st April (excluding the bank holidays - Good Friday and Easter Monday when it will be closed. It is also closed on the final Friday of the holidays).
- Opening times are from 8.00am to 6.00pm - half days are available

MTKC are also running the following events on some of the above dates:

- Visit from Golf Kids - to play fun golf related games - Tuesday 12th April and Tuesday 19th April
- Animal Antics - Thursday 14th April
- Zoo Lab - Wednesday 20th April

To book in for any of the above slots, please contact Kids Club directly



**LOST PROPERTY:** A red/orange coat has been lost in school by one of our Year 3 children, possibly regatta brand. The coat does have a name in it. Please could you check at home to ensure it hasn't got mixed up with another child's belongings.

## THINGS TO DO:



### EASTER COMPETITION

WE WOULD LOVE TO SEE ALL YOUR BEST EASTER DRAWINGS!

ENTRIES TO BE HANDED INTO OUR OFFICE OR EMAILED TO [info@gilmoreestates.com](mailto:info@gilmoreestates.com)

ALL ENTRIES TO BE RECEIVED BY 9<sup>TH</sup> APRIL

WINNERS WILL BE ANNOUNCED ON OUR FACEBOOK PAGE ON THURSDAY 14<sup>TH</sup> APRIL

1<sup>ST</sup> PRIZE – EASTER HAMPER

2<sup>ND</sup> PRIZE – EASTER EGG

3<sup>RD</sup> PRIZE- EASTER EGG

Good Luck !



STOCKSFIELD TENNIS CLUB

Join our special

# Open Day

**Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> April  
2PM-4PM**

**ITS FREE!**

**VISIT, PARTICIPATE & MEET MEMBERS**



**SEE YOU THERE, LETS HAVE A BALL!**



ALL ABILITIES WELCOME FROM AGE 6-15 YEARS OLD

MONDAY 11<sup>TH</sup> APRIL  
TUESDAY 12<sup>TH</sup> APRIL  
TUESDAY 19<sup>TH</sup> APRIL

SINGLE DAY: £35.00 | TWO DAYS £65.00

TAKE ADVANTAGE OF OUR JUNIOR GOLF CAMPS WITH FIRST CLASS COACHING DELIVERED IN A FUN ENVIRONMENT. SESSIONS WILL INCLUDE LOTS OF SKILLS CHALLENGES, GAMES AND COMPETITIONS. WE WILL COVER DRIVING, IRON PLAY, SHORT GAME, PUTTING AND ON-COURSE TUITION. 10.00AM - 15.00PM EACH DAY (PACKED LUNCH REQUIRED).

**FOR MORE INFORMATION AND TO SIGN UP CONTACT:**  
JJ Vallely on 07899090777 or email [jjvallely@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:jjvallely@yahoo.co.uk)

England Regional Coach DBS checked



**MATFEN HALL**

COUNTRY HOTEL, SPA & GOLF ESTATE

### **JOBS IN TYNE COMMUNITY LEARNING TRUST:**

**ASSISTANT COOK VACANCY:** Prudhoe Castle First School and Highfield Middle School have let us know that they are looking for an Assistant Cook to work across both schools. If you or anyone you know may be interested in the post, please follow the link below for further details and to make an application.

**[ASSISTANT COOK - Prudhoe Castle First School - North East Jobs](#)**

## **DIARY DATES**

- Mon 4th April Closing date for Easter Raffle Tickets
- Tuesday 5th April Years 3 & 4 Woods trip
- Tuesday 5th April Reception, Y1 and Y2 Outdoor Day
- Thursday 7th April Year 3 & 4 Outdoor day
- Thursday 7th April Bring a hardboiled egg to school to decorate
- Friday 8th April Family Easter Egg Decoration Competition - see above for details
- Friday 8th April School closes for Easter holidays
- Monday 25th April School reopens for Summer term 1
- Thursday 12th May Dental Screening for Reception Class
- Friday 27th May School closes for Summer half term
- Monday 6th June School reopens for Summer term 2
- Tuesday 7th June Whole Class Photographs - Debbie Young Photography
- Wed 22nd - Fri 24th June Y4 Residential Trip to Ford Castle
- 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