



Whittonstall and Broomley First Schools

4 November 2022



Tel: W: 01207560325 B: 01661842271

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



Our overall attendance this week was

96.4%

Well done everyone! Keep up the good work everyone!



Welcome to our Half Termly Newsletter

Welcome back to school everyone. We've heard lots of lovely stories about everyone's half term this week and it sounds like you have all had a restful, fun break. The children have returned to school refreshed and ready to continue their learning.

This half term is always one of the busiest in school, as we have a lot going on! We have tried to give you as much notice and information as we can to keep you as up to date as possible but please keep in mind that sometimes events in school may change slightly due to unforeseen circumstances. The dates for Christmas events are listed below, as well as information about book fairs, parentcraft sessions and remembrance day too.

SCHOOL UPDATES



Parent Support / Liaison Role:

Most of you will probably already know Mrs Spencer as our wonderful Senior Learning Support Assistant in school. This year however, in addition to her current role, Mrs Spencer will be undertaking a role of parent contact support.. She now has specific time in her week to work with school families with a range of services. This role will involve Mrs Spencer supporting families with attendance, lateness, uniform queries and homework. As part of this role, Mrs Spencer will also be running parent and child workshops and developing community links too.

We are really excited to have Mrs Spencer supporting in this way, and think her role will complement and enhance the work that already goes on within school.

If you wish to contact Mrs Spencer she will be on the yard at home time every Tuesday and Wednesday or alternatively you can message the office or speak to your child's class teacher to get in touch with her.



Parent and Child Craft and chat sessions:

As mentioned above, we will be running some parent and child craft and chat sessions in school from the week beginning 14th November. These sessions will be per year group and will be on a Wednesday afternoon between 2.30 and 3.10pm. The first session will be on Wednesday 16th November and will be for parents and carers of Y4 children.

The sessions are open to any parent/ grandparent/ carer and will be a fun craft session that you and your child can enjoy together.

The sessions will also be a good opportunity to chat and meet other parents. Further information will be sent out from Mrs Spencer with the specific dates and times.

School Arrivals and Pick up

Could all parents and carers please try their best to be respectful to the community when parking for drop off and pick up, ensuring driveways are kept clear and cars are parked safely. We are aware of a couple of incidents involving cars and near misses. We appreciate that space is difficult to find and we are actively looking for parking solutions. We really appreciate your help and cooperation with this and will keep you informed with any further updates.



Christmas:

Now that we are well into the term, our thoughts are starting to turn towards Christmas and all the exciting things we have planned. So here are some of our Christmas Dates:

- **Christmas Storytelling Evening- Thursday 8th December**
- **Christmas Jumper Day -Friday 9th December**
 - We will be joining in with the Save the Children Christmas Jumper Day again this year where children will be able to come to school in their Christmas jumpers or dresses for a donation to this amazing charity. More information on how to donate will follow soon.
- **M&M Productions Christmas Pantomime - Cinderella - Wednesday 14th December**
 - We will once again be visiting Broomley to watch the touring production company M&M perform their Christmas pantomime - Cinderella - for the children. This is always good fun and the children have a fantastic time. Watch out for more information coming home soon.
- **Whole School Christmas Celebration Concert - Wednesday 14th December 5.30 - 6.30pm**
 - This year we will be hosting a Christmas Celebration concert at Prudhoe Community High school. This will involve each of the classes doing a special event as we celebrate 'Broomley First Presents.. Christmas at the Movies! We hope you will be able to join us to celebrate with us. More information to follow soon so save the date!
- **PTA Christmas Break the Rules Day - Friday 16th December**
 - Our PTA will be organising a Christmas Break the Rules Day where the children get to break a few school rules like having extra playtime, whacky hairstyles and non school uniform to name

a few. We will send more information home soon with the details of how your child can take part.

- **Nursery Christmas Celebration for parents - Friday 16th December.**
- **Christmas lunch in school - Tuesday 20th December**
 - Mrs Robinson will again be cooking us all a delicious Christmas lunch. The staff and children always really enjoy this and we are sure this year will be no exception.
- **Christmas Party Afternoon - Tuesday 20th December**
 - The teachers will pick their favourite Christmas stories to read to the children
- **Christmas Carols at Blanchland Abbey - Wednesday 21st December**
 - The children will be putting together a christmas carol concert, full of traditions, songs and a few surprises too. The service will be for all and we will send details of the event in due course.

We are also hoping that we will be able to hold a Music Concert for the children who are learning instruments to be able to perform some of their tunes to you all but we are just working on the details of this so will let you know soon.



Sale of Poppies for Remembrance Day

We are once again raising funds for The Royal British Legion's Poppy Appeal. The children will be able to buy a Poppy or other merchandise (rulers, erasers, wrist bands etc) next week in school.

If you would like your child to make a donation, please send it into school next week in a clearly marked envelope. Thank you.



Online Safety:

Some of the children have been talking about an online game called Poppy Playtime (this appears to be linked to another similar game involving a creature called Huggy Wuggy which some of the children came across last year). These games can be quite scary for small children so we thought it was worth bringing it to your attention so that you can be

aware of the risks. The link below has further information which may be helpful:

[Poppy Playtime: Online Safety Review - Safer Schools \(oursaferschools.co.uk\)](https://oursaferschools.co.uk)



Information for Asthma Sufferers:

Now that winter is coming, some of our children do struggle more with asthma. For anyone who has a child who suffers with asthma, the link below will take you to the Beat Asthma website which has lots of information on how to help deal with this condition:

www.beatasthma.co.uk

SECOND HAND UNIFORM:

We do still have some second hand uniform in various sizes in school. If you would like to come and view the uniform, please pop into the school office and we will be happy to help. We ask for a small donation to school funds (at your discretion) if you would like to purchase anything.

If anyone has any good quality uniform that their child has outgrown, please drop it into the school office - if possible, sorted into different sizes.



DIARY DATES

- Monday 7th - Fri 11th Nov Poppies on sale in school raising funds for the British Legion
- Friday 18th November Children in Need - more information to follow
- Thursday 8th December Christmas Storytelling Evening
- Friday 9th December Christmas Jumper Day - raising funds for Save the Children
- Wednesday 14 December M&M Productions present Cinderella - more information to follow
- Friday 16th December PTA Christmas Break the Rules Day
- Tuesday 20th December Christmas Lunch
- Tuesday 20th December Christmas Parties - party outfits can be worn
- Wednesday 21st December Christmas Carol Concert at Blanchland Abbey
- Thursday 22nd December School Closes for Christmas Holidays - PLEASE NOTE DATE CHANGE
- Friday 23rd December Teacher Training Day

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

Mrs Howe

Executive Head Teacher