



Whittonstall and Broomley First Schools
Weekly Newsletter
28th January 2022



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Our overall attendance this week was

89.1%

Well done everyone - our attendance is approaching normal levels again after the Covid outbreaks!

HEAD TEACHER'S MESSAGE:

Thankfully this week, the number of Covid cases in school have fallen significantly. Thank you to everyone who has been vigilant in spotting symptoms and helped us to keep cases under control by testing regularly. Hopefully we can keep any future outbreaks to a minimum.

It was lovely this week to finally have our delayed Christmas panto trip. The children thoroughly enjoyed their visit to Broomley to watch Jack and the Beanstalk, where the school hall was transformed into a magical theatre. We look forward next year, hopefully, to both schools being able to enjoy the same performance together again.

Next Friday there will be more cause for celebration, as we hold activities and events for the Queen's Platinum Jubilee. A letter was sent home this week by Parentmail outlining our plans, and details are also in this newsletter. We are delighted that we have been invited to take some of our children over to the Church to help to plant commemorative rose bushes, which should flourish and flower for years to come.

Although we will be leaving January behind next week, we are still having some very chilly days. Please could you make sure that the children are dressed warmly for playing outside, with outdoor coats and suitable footwear.

AWARDS OF THE WEEK:

Kid Awesome - Stars of the Week:

Nursery Bucket Filler of the Week: Natalie Blackley for being a super listener on the carpet

Reception: Emily Elliot for super rhyme time listening

Class 2: Isabel Simpson and Daniel Shaw for writing a super starter for their alien story :)

Class 3: Mikey Lee and Sophie Elliot for some inspiring and wonderful World War 2 diary writing.

Head Teacher Award: Sofia Lowell for determination and perseverance in her English work

Mrs Robinson's Lunchtime Awards: Dacey-Faith Jenkins and Sophie Elliot always having lovely manners and being lovely to everyone

Esme Thurlow for always eating her lunches and her lovely manners



SCHOOL UPDATES

FORD CASTLE RESIDENTIAL:



Just a reminder to our Year 4 parents to please return the reply slip for the Ford Castle residential trip by this coming Monday, 31st January. The first payment of £45 is due by 1st February. If you require another copy of the letter, which contains details of the trip and a payment schedule, or have any issues with payment, please let the school office know.



Queens Platinum Jubilee Celebrations Friday 4th February:

On Sunday 6th of February the country will be celebrating the official milestone of Queen Elizabeth II's reign of 70 years. There are some exciting plans afoot for celebrations to mark this involving both school and community over the coming months, including a joint project with the school, church and the Whittonstall community.

To mark this the children will be learning about the Queen's reign over the last 70 years in school next Friday 4th of February.

Design Your Own Crown Competition: To mark this special occasion the children are asked to design and make their own crown at home to wear on the day. There will be a prize for the most imaginative crown for each year group. There will be a crown procession at school pick up time so parents can see all the fantastic creations.

Cake Stall: At the end of the day we will also have a cake stall with any proceeds donated to the charity Epilepsy Support. We are asking if parents would kindly donate cakes for this, they can be dropped off at school on the Friday morning. Children who get the school bus home on a Friday can bring money in a clearly marked envelope if they would like to buy a cake.

Rosebush planting: a few of the children will be representing the school by helping to plant some commemorative rose bushes at Whittonstall Church to mark the jubilee.

Jack and the Beanstalk:

On Wednesday the children visited Broomley to watch M&M productions perform their Jack and the Beanstalk panto for us. This was rescheduled from before Christmas and was definitely worth waiting for! The children had a wonderful time joining in with songs and trying out their dance moves - even the teachers joined in! The children were very sensible and well behaved when travelling to and from Broomley and were a credit to our school.



SPARE CHRISTMAS DVD

We have one spare copy of the Christmas performance DVD if anyone would like one. The DVD costs £5 (the charge is to cover the cost of production of the DVDs). If you would like a copy, please let the office staff know - we will allocate this on a first come first served basis.

Road Safety Guides for All

ROAD SAFETY GUIDES FROM NCC:

Northumberland County Council have produced a number of road safety guides which may be of interest to parents and carers.

We have different Road Safety books that you can read using the links <https://northumberland.goodeggsafety.com>

Please share with colleagues, friends and family.



Northumberland
County Council

www.northumberland.gov.uk

DIARY DATES

- Friday 4th February school Queen's Platinum Jubilee Celebrations - including cake stall after school
- Tuesday 8th February Safer Internet Day - activities in class
- Friday 18th February School Closes for half term
- Monday 28th February School reopens for Spring term 2
- Thursday 3rd March World Book Day
- W/C 7th March STEM Week - more information to follow
- W/C 7th March Parents' Evenings - class dates and times to be confirmed and more information to follow shortly about booking appointment slots
- Friday 18th March Comic Relief Red Nose Day - more information to follow
- Mon 21st - Fri 27th March Neurodiversity Week - celebrating learning differences and the strengths and talents that come from thinking and perceiving the world differently
- Friday 8th April School closes for Easter holidays
- Monday 25th April School reopens for Summer 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