

Bulletin Number 11		<p><b>Whittonstall and Broomley Federation of Schools</b></p> <p><i>“Be Happy and Work Hard”</i></p> 	 <p>20<sup>th</sup> November 2020</p>
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Attendance this week- 99.1%



We really appreciate all your efforts in arriving at school promptly and working to our staggered start and finish times



**Headteacher Message:** The children have been working really hard in school this week. It's so uplifting to see their enthusiasm and commitment to their learning. I have enjoyed looking through all the posts on our MarvellousMe app, there will be an option at the end of the academic year to print the full year of achievements along with photographs, to create a memory of each year.

We hope you enjoy reading the section 'Christmas is Coming' later in the newsletter, about the festive activities that will be taking place in school over this half term. Our fantastic PTA at both schools have been working really hard to support us in all the planning and preparation. We are especially looking forward to the Christmas craft catalogue which they are putting together, which will allow you to do some Christmas shopping from local craft businesses, as well as some very special items made by the children in school.

As you will also read, we are planning some Christmas performances to share with you. We are hoping to do this using google classroom so if you can please ensure you can log in and have access, so you don't miss out.

## School News



**Stars of the Week:** A huge Whittonstall 'well done' to this week's stars!

**Class 1:** ★ **Francesca Reynauld** for fabulous writing and handwriting

**Class 2 :** ★ **Ben Clarke** for his fantastic writing

**Class 3:** ★ **to the whole class!** for their amazing outdoor work on Monday

**Uniform additions:** we recently let you know about new items of uniform for the colder weather available from Salto. Due to disruption to production caused by covid, some of the sizes of the navy fleece body warmer are proving difficult to source. Salto can instead supply a grey colour in this instance, and this is also fine to wear with our uniform. Please visit [https://www.saltouk.com/index.php?route=product/category&path=59\\_148](https://www.saltouk.com/index.php?route=product/category&path=59_148) to order. You can choose from home delivery or a 'click and collect' service.



### **Children in Need Friday 13<sup>th</sup> November:**

Wow! I'm sure that we have made Pudsey extremely happy as we raised an amazing £257.95 as a school for Children in Need!

Thank you everyone for your generosity, which will make a huge difference in the lives of those families who need it.



### **Christmas is Coming!**

Although this has been a very strange and difficult year, we are determined to make the run up to Christmas lots of fun for all the children. We are busy pulling together lots of exciting and fun Christmas Events so keep checking the newsletter for more information



**Virtual Music Concert:** As Miss Humble is unable to run her usual Christmas Music Concert in school, we are going to bring you the experience virtually instead. Rather than asking parents to send in a video of their children playing their practice piece, a letter has been sent home asking for your permission for her to film your child in school and share this footage with other parents. If we do not get a response from you, we will assume that you do not wish your child to take part in the concert. Miss Humble has also requested that you help your child practice their concert piece at home to make it the best it can be. We will let you know when the concert will be ready to view in the coming weeks

**Christmas Fun Night:** on Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> December the PTA are organising a Christmas fun night. It will run between 5.00 and 6.30 pm and the children will be able to enjoy games, movies and other surprises within their bubbles. Further details will be coming home soon.



**Christmas Parties and Christmas Lunch:** On Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> December Mrs Robinson will be making her amazing Christmas lunch. The children will eat in their bubbles and in the afternoon each class will have their very own Christmas Party in their classrooms. The children can come to school in their party clothes and will have lots of fun and games with their classmates.



**Christmas performances:** as we can't hold our traditional Christmas performance or Carol Service this year, each class is preparing their own special Christmas presentation which will be recorded in school and shared with parents via website and google classroom. If you have given us permission to share images via the newsletter and website this will cover permission to share the performance, unless you let us know otherwise.



**PTA Christmas Jumper Jumble/ Save the Children Christmas Jumper Day:** do you have any gorgeous Christmas jumpers that family members have grown out of? Christmas jumper day is on the 11th of December and we will be raising money for Save the Children. As part of the school's ongoing commitment to recycling and reusing, we will be setting up a 'Bring and Buy' stall of outgrown jumpers and would appreciate any donations.



## XMAS JUMPER JUMBLE!

THE PTA ARE PLANNING AN XMAS JUMPER SALE AND WE NEED YOUR DONATIONS.

ALL JUMPERS WILL BE SOLD FOR A SMALL AMOUNT AND PROCEEDS WILL GO TOWARDS FUTURE SCHOOL ACTIVITIES.

PLEASE LEAVE ANY DONATIONS OUTSIDE THE OFFICE IN A CLEARLY MARKED BAG , THANK YOU



**PTA Christmas Catalogue of crafts:** our wonderful PTA have been talking to local craft businesses to put together a fundraising catalogue of gift items for you to choose from, to help your Christmas shopping along. The children will also be making special handmade items to order. Look out for further details soon!



**Northern Stage at Wheelbirks Parlour:** On the last day of term, Friday December 18<sup>th</sup>, the whole school will be travelling to Wheelbirks parlour in Stocksfield to watch an exciting Christmas production by Northern Stage.

The children will travel there and back in their separate bubbles by coach. The production will be streamed on to a movie screen in a barn at the farm, which has been converted to a cinema, making it a covid safe way to enjoy some festive fun together. On their return to school Mrs Robinson will have a special Christmas packed lunch ready for the children to enjoy. Look out for a letter with costs, timings etc coming home soon.



**Applications for Reception Class 2021:** The portals for Reception class applications are now open and will close on **Friday 15<sup>th</sup> January**. Applications are made online direct to the local authority, and not through school.

For families who pay their council tax to Durham County Council, please follow the link below-

<https://www.durham.gov.uk/article/2189/Apply-for-a-primary-place-deadline-15-January-2021>

For families who pay their council tax to Northumberland County Council please follow the link below –

<https://www.northumberland.gov.uk/Education/Schools/School-admissions-places-appeals-1/Reception-entry-applications.aspx>

Parents will be informed of the outcome of their application on Offer Day, Monday **1<sup>st</sup> March 2021**.



**Job Vacancy at Prudhoe Castle First School:** one of the other schools in our Trust, Castle First School, has a vacancy for a Catering Manager. If you or anyone you know would be interested in applying for the post please visit

[https://www.northeastjobs.org.uk/job/Catering\\_Manager\\_School/201146](https://www.northeastjobs.org.uk/job/Catering_Manager_School/201146) for further details.

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### **Dates for your diary**

**w/c 30<sup>th</sup> November** – Interfaith Week

**Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> December** – Christmas fun night 5.00 – 6.30 pm

**Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> December** – nasal flu vaccinations in school for Years R-4

**Friday 11<sup>th</sup> December** – Christmas jumper day in aid of Save the Children

**Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> December** – School Christmas lunch followed by class Christmas parties – wear party clothes to school

**Friday 18<sup>th</sup> December** – whole school visit to watch Northern Stage at Wheelbirks

**Friday 18<sup>th</sup> December** – break up for Christmas holidays

Have a lovely weekend everyone and stay safe

Mrs Barker

Executive Head Teacher

