

<p>Bulletin Number 5</p>		<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Whittonstall and Broomley Federation of Schools</b> "Be Happy and Work Hard"</p> <p style="text-align: center;"></p>	<p style="text-align: right;">2<sup>nd</sup> October 2020</p>
<p>Tel: <a href="tel:01207560325">W: 01207560325</a> <a href="tel:01661842271">B: 01661842271</a></p>		<p style="text-align: right;">Website: <a href="http://www.broomley.northumberland.sch.uk/website">www.broomley.northumberland.sch.uk/website</a></p>	



Attendance this week- 95.5 %



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

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### **Headteacher Message:**

As we find ourselves at the halfway point of the Autumn term it is time to arrange our Parent's Evening appointments. Unfortunately under current circumstances these cannot take place face to face as they have in previous years. Instead we would like to use 'Google Meet' as our platform of communication. The virtual meetings will take place on Monday 12th October and Wednesday 14th October. Teachers will be available for a 10 minute introductory chat regarding the initial assessments that have taken place and targets that have been identified for this academic year. We are busy setting up the appointment system and you will receive a Parentmail next week once this is complete with details of how to book your slot.

Esafety: Earlier this week an incident took place at home where a Broomley child was watching a children's video on YouTube kids (selected by the parent) and after a few minutes a very explicit voice-over began playing. This isn't very common but does happen now and then and is something to be aware of. Please ensure you are close by when your children are using the internet, even if you have set them up with a safe site. Please see the link below for more information on this issue. Thank you.

<https://www.common sense media.org/blog/parents-ultimate-guide-to-youtube-kids#:~:text=YouTube%20Kids%20is%20mostly%20safe,kid%20stuff%20to%20the%20app>.

As we enter the colder months of the year when we are all more prone to coughs, colds and other illnesses, just a reminder to please contact school before 9.30 am if your child is unable to attend. You may leave a message by selecting option 1 when ringing the school or option 3 if you need to speak to a member of staff or by email to [admin@whittonstall.northumberland.sch.uk](mailto:admin@whittonstall.northumberland.sch.uk)

If your child is absent due to sickness or diarrhoea they must not return to school for 48 hours from the last episode. This is very important for preventing the spread of infection in school and we thank you for your support and co-operation.

Detailed guidance on what to do should you suspect your child has symptoms of Coronavirus have been sent home and are attached again to this newsletter for your information.

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## School News

**Wellbeing...** This week the children have focused on the wellbeing indicator of feeling nurtured. We have talked about what this looks like and how it can make us feel in lots of different situations and environments, including home and school. We have spoken about how this is very relevant to all humans, and that you as their parents and carers need nurture too!

We know that currently there are again significant changes and events building within our communities around Covid, As part of our role we want to remind you that we are always here to help and although we don't always have the answers, we may be able to point you in the right direction and offer support.

As a school we know that more than ever it's important that we support our children to talk openly about feelings and events that cause them concern. This is true for parents too; we are all negotiating regular change and a re-establishing of rules and routines. With this in mind we wanted to share a great website for parents that has advice and tips for beginning conversations with your children to help them open up about their mental health. We've shared the link below for you for anyone who would find this useful.



<https://youngminds.org.uk/find-help/for-parents/parents-lounge/>



**Be Internet Legends:** You will have received a reminder this week that the first challenge is due to be completed by the end of next week. The challenge will have been introduced to the children in school and the task is simply to safely share a nice photo or short video with a member of your family. The children know they must do this task with a grown-up supervising and supporting them, that it must be a nice photo or video that

will raise a smile, and that it should be sent to a family member such as a grandparent or Aunty or cousin. Once your child has completed the task simply sign the challenge sheet that they brought home recently.

**School Photos:** You should all now have received the proofs of your child's individual schools photos. I'm sure you'll agree that everyone had their best smiles at the ready and the pictures are lovely. Debbie Young our photographer has asked that all order forms and payments are returned to school ready to be collected by **next Friday 9<sup>th</sup> October**. Orders returned after this date will have a £5 surcharge applied.



**Virtual Macmillan Coffee Afternoon:** Thank you again for all who supported our virtual Macmillan Coffee Afternoon last week, either by baking and sending us your super photos or donating or both! We raised a brilliant total of £70.88 for this charity. Although it is a real shame we couldn't get together to enjoy a cuppa and some cake as normal, it's fantastic that we have still shown our support for such a worthwhile cause.



**Flu Vaccinations 2020:** the Immunisation Team will be visiting school on **Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> December** to give nasal flu vaccinations to all children from Reception and Years 1, 2, 3, & 4 (where consent has been given).

The NHS team sent out consent form letters by post over the summer but our school nurse has advised us the response rate has been lower than normal. We therefore sent an information letter and a copy of the consent form by Parentmail a couple of weeks ago, for any parent that did not receive or has not yet returned the postal form. This form should be printed off, completed and returned to school. Only parents who have not already returned the consent form need to complete the form. If you are unsure whether you have already returned the form, please complete again.

If you are unable to print the form, please let the school office know and we will provide you with a copy. If you do not wish your child to receive the vaccine, please complete the 'no consent' box and return the form to school.

If the NHS team do not receive a consent form for your child, they will be unable to give your child the nasal flu vaccination. If you need any further information about the vaccine, please contact the NHS Nasal flu team directly - the details are on the letter.

**Year 4 to Year 5 transition:** Corbridge Middle School have asked us to let parents of children in Year 4 know that they will be holding a **virtual** open day this year. They will be sending further details soon so watch this space. The portals for Middle School applications are now open and will close on **31<sup>st</sup> October 2020**.

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

<https://www.durham.gov.uk/article/2192/Apply-for-a-secondary-place-deadline-31-October-2020>

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.aspx>

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

For parents applying for a **Reception class** place for their child for September 2021, the portal will be open to apply between Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> November 2020 and Friday 15<sup>th</sup> January 2021. Look out for more information in the newsletter nearer to the time.

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## Dates for your diary

**Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> October** – break up for October half term

**Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> October** – Teacher Training Day

**Saturday 31<sup>st</sup> October** – deadline for applications to Middle School

**Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> November** – portal opens for Reception class applications

**Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> November** – pupils back for 2<sup>nd</sup> half of Autumn term

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

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

Have a lovely weekend everyone and stay safe

Mrs Barker

Executive Head Teacher

