

Bulletin Number 12		<p><b>Whittonstall and Broomley Federation of Schools</b></p> <p><i>"Be Happy and Work Hard"</i></p> 	 <p>27<sup>th</sup> November 2020</p>
Tel: <a href="tel:01207560325">W: 01207560325</a> <a href="tel:01661842271">B: 01661842271</a>		Website: <a href="http://www.broomley.northumberland.sch.uk/website">www.broomley.northumberland.sch.uk/website</a>	



Attendance this week- 99.6%

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



**Headteacher Message:** What a marvellous surprise we had this week! Yesterday we received a special message from Santa and a visit from Katie the Christmas Elf and a real life reindeer on the school field! The children enjoyed yummy hot chocolate with marshmallows, provided by the PTA, and then got to meet Chas, one of Santa's reindeer who helps him to deliver the presents on Christmas Eve. Although Chas is not one of 'The Big Nine' reindeer, he steps in when they get tired and helps out. We learned lots about Chas, including how he grows a whole new set of antlers every year and how his big feet help him walk in snowy places!

It was a very special visit and we all now feel that Christmas has really begun. Have a peek at our Christmas section below to keep up to date with all of the exciting activities planned for the next few weeks – get your PTA 12 Days of Christmas numbers by Monday 30<sup>th</sup> November as the daily prize draws start on December 1st!

We look forward to Interfaith week next week, when the children will be learning not just about Christian Festivals such as Christmas but the beliefs and celebrations of many other World Faiths as well. We look forward to sharing their learning with you.

### School News



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

**Class 1:** ★ **Isabel Simpson** for marvellous effort in maths and handwriting

**Class 2 :** ★ **Monty Kerry** for being an absolute superstar with reading and

phonics

**Class 3:** ★ **Oscar Paxton and Elspeth Barker** – we had to have 2 stars this week as they were both so fantastic!

**Oscar** - for really impressing us with his mature attitude over the last few weeks and giving 100% in all of his work

**Elsbeth** - for always trying her best and showing excellent effort and perseverance in maths



**Drop off and pick up routines:** We really appreciate how everyone has adapted to the changes we have had to make this year to keep our school community safe. Could we please make a gentle reminder to all parents and carers that a face mask must be worn when dropping off and picking up your child and to maintain social distance from other parents. If you have a medical reason why you are unable to wear a face mask could you please let the school office know, as we would hate to remind anyone who has a genuine reason for being unable to wear a face covering.

In the past we have allowed children back in to school after they have been dismissed at the end of the day if they need to use the toilet. Due to the current enhanced cleaning routines we are not able to let children back into the building once they have been released to parents at this time. Please keep in mind that there will be no toilet available if you take your child to play on the field after school.

Many thanks for your help and support with these matters.

**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.



## **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



**PTA Twelve Days of Christmas 'Buy a Square' Prize Draw:** A parentmail was sent yesterday to announce the PTA's fantastic '12 Days of Christmas' Prize draw. A number (or 2 or 3, depending on the final amount of prizes) will be drawn daily from December 1<sup>st</sup> through to December 12<sup>th</sup>. You can purchase as many numbers as you wish at a cost of £5 a number. Please send cash in a named envelope to buy a number or numbers. Please buy your numbers by **next Monday 30<sup>th</sup> November**, to maximise your chances of winning a prize. You may buy tickets after this date, but the number of prizes left to win will reduce each day.

A full list of prizes was sent on the parentmail but they include gift vouchers, wreaths, afternoon tea and a photo shoot! All money raised will go towards valuable resources in school.

**PTA School Self Portrait print:** an order form went home this week for our wonderful School Self-Portrait print. These are available in A3 or A4 size at a cost of £5 or £3, and showcase the children's wonderful artwork of themselves and the staff at Whittonstall. This is a wonderful keepsake and gift idea for Grandparents, Aunties and Uncles etc. Huge thanks to Woody and Fox's Mum Fallon for using her talents to draw together the children's images and create this for us. Please can you return orders to school by this coming **Monday 30<sup>th</sup> November** to allow posters to be distributed before the end of term.

**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.

**CHRISTMAS JUMPER DAY**



**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 11<sup>th</sup> 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. This visit will be subject to covid guidance at the time.

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

**Monday 30<sup>th</sup> November** – orders for 12 Days of Christmas numbers in

**Monday 30<sup>th</sup> November** – School Self Portrait order deadline

**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

