

Bulletin Number 6		<p style="text-align: center;">Whittonstall and Broomley Federation of Schools "Be Happy and Work Hard"</p> <p style="text-align: center;">  </p>	 <p style="text-align: right;">9th October 2020</p>
Tel: W: 01207560325 B: 01661842271		Website: www.broomley.northumberland.sch.uk/website	



Attendance this week- 97.5%



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

Headteacher Message: As we near the end of the first half term we wish to say a huge thank you for all of your support and help with what has been a very different start to the academic year. The new systems and procedures introduced to the children in September are now part of every day in school, from washing hands, to social distancing and bubbles, the children have been amazing and we are very proud!

The children have really enjoyed their Harvest celebration afternoons today. Reverend Pat Moran from Bywell Church has produced a fantastic virtual Harvest service, which can be found on the school website under the 'virtual celebrations' tab.

We have talked about Harvest and how it is celebrated around the world. The children discussed what they are thankful for and presented this on a leaf to represent Autumn. The leaves will be displayed in the conservatory window next week, along with conker and natural crafts sent in from home. Over the weekend the teachers will upload a video of the children singing the Harvest festival song they have been learning onto the google classroom so we hope you can log in and enjoy this as a family.

Next week we look forward to some spooky halloween celebrations and look forward to ending the half term with a little bit of fun . I am sure there will be some great photos coming your way on Marvellous Me. Remember it will be a non-uniform day on Thursday and the children can come to school in their halloween costumes, however we ask that they do not bring any additional props or accessories and no face coverings please.

School News

Wellbeing: This week the children have been working on 'safe' as their wellbeing indicator, for their focus tasks in school. This has allowed the children a chance to discuss the idea of safety in the context of school, their home life and in the wider community as a whole at the moment. The children have asked some fantastic questions over the week, especially in relation to keeping ourselves safe during times of Covid and have a good understanding of how we work together to keep each other safe.

Hopefully these discussions will help support their wellbeing as we move forward in these uncertain times.

World Mental Health Day: Thank you to everyone for your fantastic support of World Mental Health Day last Friday. We raised a total of £83.20 for the charity 'Young Minds' to help them with their vital work.

We would also like to make you aware of some free parent/carer workshops being run by a Northumberland based charity, Cygnus Support. Details of how to join are below.



cygnus
support

counselling
education
change

Parent and Carer Workshops:

Cygnus Support is an emotional well-being charity based in Northumberland. Our free online workshops will be delivered by our team of qualified counsellors/trainers via Zoom.

We will be running these during the day or in an evening and there is no obligation to attend both, come along to whichever will be most useful for you.

Workshop 1: Looking After Your Child/Young Persons Mental Health and Emotional Well-being

- Understand the factors that impact a child/young person's emotional and mental well-being.
- Learn the common signs and symptoms of potential concerns in relation to children and young people's emotional mental well-being.
- Learn some techniques to support your child/young person's emotional well-being

Workshop 2: Looking After Your Own Well-being

- Understand the factors that impact your own well-being
- Learn to recognise your own mental health needs.
- Learn techniques for practising self-care

If you would like to know more or to register for a workshop please call 01670 853977 or email admin@cygnussupport.com



Harvest Festival: Due to events in school this week, we are sadly no longer able to have our harvest display in Whittonstall Church this weekend. Instead we will be setting up a display of work and 'conker challenge' crafts in the conservatory next week. If your child has completed any crafts at home and has not brought them in to school yet, they can do so on Monday.

We will still be collecting donations for 'The People's Kitchen' and these can be brought in to school and left by the main entrance between Monday and Wednesday next week, rather than being taken to the Church.

Although we may have to adjust our plans at the moment, we are still determined to continue to mark our usual celebrations with the children. Thank you as always for your ongoing support.



Pumpkins please! On Monday we are hoping to do a pumpkin themed outdoor morning for Years 1, 2, 3 and 4! It would be fantastic if every child had a pumpkin of their own to work with ☺ We would really appreciate any pumpkin donations – pumpkins can be left outside of the main door on Monday morning. Thank you in advance.



Halloween : As this year's Halloween won't be the same for the children we are hoping to have a fun day in school. **On Thursday 22nd October all children are invited to come to school in their spookiest costumes.** Can we ask that they do not bring any additional props or accessories and no face coverings please.

Flu Vaccinations 2020: the Immunisation Team will be visiting school on **Thursday 10th 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 few 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: The portals for Middle School applications are now open and will close on **31st 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 **1st 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 1st November 2020 and Friday 15th January 2021. Look out for more information in the newsletter nearer to the time.

Dates for your diary

Monday 19th October – Classes 2 & 3 invited to bring pumpkin to school for outdoor morning

Thursday 22nd October – children invited to come to school in Halloween costumes

Thursday 22nd October – break up for October half term

Friday 23rd October – Teacher Training Day

Saturday 31st October – deadline for applications to Middle School

Sunday 1st November – portal opens for Reception class applications

Monday 2nd November – pupils back for 2nd half of Autumn term

Thursday 10th December – nasal flu vaccinations in school for Years R-4

Friday 18th December – break up for Christmas holidays

Have a lovely weekend everyone and stay safe

Mrs Barker

Executive Head Teacher

