# Amble Links First School LINKS NEWS



ISSUE 405- June 25th 2021

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## 2021 SCHOOL DIARY

Wednesday 14th July	3.45pm—Year 4 Leaver's Awards
Friday 16th July	2pm—School closes for Summer Holiday

#### MORNING MEETINGS WITH CLASS TEACHERS

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Mrs Oliver, Mrs Angus and Mr Heeley have been extremely impressed with our Year 4 children during their recent isolation period. Nearly all of the children joined a daily video meeting with Mrs Oliver during which she was able to explain to the children what their tasks for the day would be as well having a general chat and even a few fun activities together. Mrs Oliver has been over the moon with the quality and quantity of the work that the children have completed at home. They should be truly proud of themselves.

We will continue this model for any year groups that may be required to isolate. Staff will be in touch to support and encourage the children to join each day. Please contact school if you have any issues with accessing an appropriate device as we are often able to help out.

#### PTA FUNDRAISING-ACTIVITY PACKS

Looking for something to fill in the Summer Holidays? Our PTA are selling a range of activity packs to keep

the children entertained over the holidays. Each kit is £6 each and contains a variety of crafts, toys and sweets. There are five different themed bags,

rainbows, animals, beach, sports and unicorns.

Numbers are limited but please feel free to order as many packs as you wish using the order form sent home today. Packs will be distributed in the last



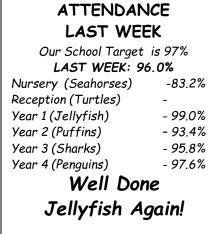
week of term.

#### TRANSITION TO NEXT SCHOOL/CLASS

Due to the current Covid situation, and before the cases we heard about today, we have taken the decision that our usual transition day will not be able to go ahead. We have worked with the other Coquet Partnership First Schools and JCSC to put in place other opportunities for our Year 4 children before they start JCSC in September.

We were pleasantly surprised last September about how smoothly the children transitioned into their new classes when they returned after the summer and will ensure that we plan activities during the first week of the next school year.





### COVID-19 SITUATION

Having welcomed our Reception children back to school on Monday and looking forward to welcoming our Y4 children back from periods of isolation today we were saddened to be informed last night that another child in the Reception class bubble had tested positive with a lateral flow test, this was followed by further positive tests in Reception and one in Y3. This has been extremely disappointing news to receive knowing the efforts that parents and staff have gone to in isolating. While classes are at home, the areas that the children work in are deep cleaned. In school, the usual handwashing/sanitising procedures and other control measures remain in place as they have throughout the pandemic. As previously, we followed the relevant guidelines from Public Health and have taken the appropriate actions in closing class bubbles at least until we hear results of the PCR test. We realise that asking children and staff to isolate puts a great deal of pressure on families and don't enjoy the job of having to inform parents that this is what we have to do.

A small number of parents have raised concerns about staff not wearing masks and

about staff working between class bubbles. Mask wearing in first/primary classrooms is not recommended in national guidance and, although we try to limit it as much as possible, all staff are allowed to work between different bubbles to facilitate the delivery of the timetable; it would not be possible to run the school without some mixing. In a first school, we are working with young children who often need close care and attention (perhaps when tying shoe laces, putting on a coat or needing support when upset). When Covid first began, our staff agreed that the care that they would provide would not be compromised despite putting themselves at increased risk and hope that parents would support our approach. We have spoken with the Public Health team at Northumberland County Council today; they told us that we are one of many schools across the country that are experiencing multiple cases. They are satisfied with the measures that we have taken in school including the identification of close contacts within school. They stressed the importance of isolation in preventing spread of the virus and ask that everyone continues to follow the guidelines.

Classroom staff will be in touch with isolating pupils next week to ensure that they are able to join daily meetings and know how to complete work that is set for them.

#### WORDS OF THE WEEK Y1 -stampede (Frankie R) Y2 - erupt (Myanna) **Y3-cultivate** (Donovan)

Our words of the week really support the children in developing their vocabulary!

We've run our usual awards assembly by video in school this afternoon and will post photos of award winners over the weekend when we receive photos of awards we've delivered to children who are isolating.

Visit our website at: www.amblelinks.northumberland.sch.uk



"Everyone succeeds at Amble Links."