



STARS OF THE WEEK

Rylie Melvin
Aria Ramsay
Marcel Stephenson
Autumn Stanford
Sofia Dmytrenko
Lacey Hunter
Robyn Common

HALF TERMLY PROGRESS REPORTS

This week we have sent out half termly progress reports for children in Years 1-4. We hope that parents find these useful in knowing the current levels that children are working at in Reading, Writing and Maths. The reports also detail the children's engagement with Doodlemaths and home reading. Where scores are low on these we would encourage parents to support the children a little more at home in order to maximise these opportunities for further learning.

READING VOLUNTEERS

We have been very pleased to welcome on board a small team of parents and grandparents who are now trained as reading volunteers and will be coming into school on a regular weekly basis to support individual and group reading across the school. Thanks so much to our volunteers!

ATTENDANCE LETTERS

The Education Welfare Officer made her regular visit to review attendance registers this week. Pleasingly, there has been an improvement in the attendance of the majority of children who received letters last term. We will, however, be sending out some new or further letters to parents where attendance is now a cause for concern. Although our overall attendance is similar to the current national levels we remain concerned about the percentage of pupils who are considered as Persistent absentees. (less than 90% attendance). The vast majority of these are due to unauthorised absence for holidays during term time which. We continue to apply for penalty notices in line with our attendance policy but urge parents to also consider the impact that missing school can have on children. Our attendance policy clearly sets out our processes for tackling attendance concerns. Click [HERE](#).

MEETING FOR YEAR 4 PARENTS ABOUT YEAR 5

Mr Heeley has arranged a meeting for Year 4 parents at 2.30pm on Wednesday 31st January to discuss their hopes, fears and expectations for when we become a primary school and keep our current Y4 pupils into Y5 in September 2024 and then into Y6 the following year. There is no set agenda as we would like to hear parents' questions and views and use these to help shape what we offer at Amble Links. Although this is primarily aimed at Y4 parents, other parents are also welcome to come along if they wish.

ATTENDANCE AND PUNCTUALITY

Our School Target is 97%

OVERALL LAST WEEK (R-Y4): 98.1 %

	Last Week	This Year	Lates this week
YN (Seahorses)	86.0%	91.5%	3
YR (Turtles)	96.7%	95.3%	8
Y1 (Jellyfish)	99.2%	94.0%	0
Y2 (Puffins)	100.0%	93.8%	3
Y3 (Sharks)	95.8%	95.0%	0
Y4 (Penguins)	99.0%	97.5%	2

2024 SCHOOL DIARY

Tuesday 23rd January	Swimming Lessons restart for Year 2 and Year 4
Wednesday 31st January	2.30pm—Meeting for Y4 parents about Year 5
Thursday 1st February	Y2 Gymnastics Festival at Ashington Leisure Centre
NEW Wednesday 7th February	Y3 Dance Festival (in school) - PE KITS NEEDED
NEW Thursday 8th February	Y1 Multiskills Festival (in school)
Friday 16th February	Parents to classrooms to see books after assembly
Friday 16th February	3.15pm School Closes for Half Term Break
Monday 26th February	School reopens for Spring 2 For RECEPTION to Y4
Tuesday 27th February	School reopens for Little Pebbles and Nursery
Thursday 7th March	Year 4 Bikeability Training
Friday 8th March	World Book Day
Mon 18th & Tues 19th March	Parent's Evenings

ALL HOLIDAY DATES FOR 2023-24 and 2024-25 CAN BE FOUND ON THE SCHOOL WEBSITE [HERE](#).

YEAR 4 SKIPPING FESTIVAL

On Thursday, Linda from Skip4Fit came into school to work with our Year 4 Penguins children. The children enjoyed 2 hours of skipping fun, initially practising basic skills, By the end of the session some were practising some complex moves. See photos on our Facebook page.

PLEASE DON'T FORGET TO ORDER SCHOOL DINNERS ONLINE WITH YOUR CHILD THROUGH SCHOOL GRID!

DOODLEMATHS



Doodlemaths is the main tool we provide for maths homework for pupils in Reception to Y4. The program is designed to encourage children to complete small amounts of maths homework on a regular basis. Parents are asked to help the children to log in to Doodlemaths but NOT help them answer the questions. Doodlemaths learns what the children are struggling with and tailors questions according to that. We still have a number of children telling us that parents have completed their Doodlemaths homework for them—this is then likely to set further questions for your child at a higher level than they are really capable of answering.

SWIMMING LESSONS RESTARTING

Swimming lessons will be restarting for Y2 and Y4 children on Tuesday. Please ensure that children come to school in the morning with their kit and have earrings removed. If you believe that your child is not well enough to swim but well enough to be in school, please come and speak with us at the school office.