



LINKS NEWS

ISSUE 216 - April 15th 2016

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Attendance for Week 6

Our school target is 96%

OVERALL LAST WEEK- 93%

Reception (Turtles)	95%
Year 1 Jellyfish-	95%
Year 2 Puffins -	98%
Year 3 Sharks-	86%
Year 4 Penguins -	91%

Well Done Puffins!

STARS OF THE WEEK

Jack Mather
Ben Clark
Alicia Allen
Fraya Hogarth
Leon Wilson
Jessica Waddell
Mollie Burge

BUY SCHOOL UNIFORM AT
alfs.schoole.com

2016 SCHOOL DIARY

Friday 15th April	Closing date for Beach Hut Competition
NEW Wednesday 20th April	Royal Visit at Paddlers Park
Monday 2nd May	May Bank Holiday SCHOOL CLOSED
NEW Thursday 12th May	9am Puffins Class Assembly
NEW Thursday 12th May	Reception Visit to Whitehouse Farm
NEW Monday 16th May	Y3 Visit to Centre for Life
Monday 16th May	BAG2SCHOOL COLLECTION
NEW Thursday 26th May	9am Jellyfish Class Assembly
Friday 27th May	3.15pm— School Closes for Half Term Break

IN SUPPORT OF OUR PTA

Our Parent Teacher Association is a small group of parents and staff who work together to organise events that raise additional funds for Amble Links First School. Thousands of pounds have been raised over the past few years and this has been used in a number of ways including: purchase of our stage, bike shelter, additional outdoor play equipment and line markings, balance bikes, dictionaries, Year 4 leavers' awards and reception book bags.

I am saddened to hear that PTA members have received complaints following this year's Easter Egg Raffle about how this is run, including that there is an element of unfairness. The PTA and school are fully aware that there will be a degree of disappointment for any children who do not win or do not have tickets. For this reason I had already spoken with the children about dealing with winning and losing during an assembly and the PTA had already taken the decision to give EVERY child a small chocolate egg as well as a raffle ticket of their own. Every effort is made to ensure that tickets are mixed and drawn out fairly and, due to the large number of folded tickets to be drawn, there would be very little opportunity for anyone to select specific tickets.

The whole point of our raffle is to raise funds; for many years our Easter Raffle has been very popular and this year has been no exception. Parents and children kindly donated over 130 Easter Eggs as well as buying over £370 worth of tickets this year. Many of our supporters choose to buy large numbers of raffle tickets which inevitably increases their chances of winning; limiting ticket sales would reduce the amount of money raised for our children.

Again, I would like to reiterate my support for the work of the PTA - for this raffle alone PTA members spent many hours naming, tearing and folding tickets; members also give up many hours of their own time arranging and attending events such as discos, movie nights and fairs. The very best way that anyone can support our PTA is to come along to meetings, help at events and, of course, continue supporting events. The next PTA meeting will be held on Sunday 24th April at 3pm at the Old Storehouse - new members and new ideas are always welcome. Mr Heeley

OFSTED INSPECTION

Thank you to all of the parents who completed the Parentview Survey for our one day inspection this week. The outcome of the inspection remains confidential until the report is published by Ofsted shortly.

ROYAL VISIT

We have been invited to take part in the Royal visit by the Countess of Wessex to Amble on Wednesday. We will be taking the children to the Paddlers Park on Wednesday morning to see the opening of this area. **We will send out a separate letter regarding organisation of morning nursery for that day.**

IN TO WIN WINNERS

Congratulations to the 6 children with 100% attendance and no more than 2 lates who were drawn by the computer as last half term's 'In To Win' winners. The lucky children who will be coming along to Spurreli at some point soon are: Ted Purvis, Jack Fannon, Kelsie Ramsay, Ava Bremner, Katie Waddell and Mollie Burge. This draw is done every half term.

THANKS FOR THE HELP

We'd like to say a big 'thank you' to Kathryn Angus, Harry Angus, Scott Robertson and Alan Bell for coming along and helping us out during the holidays. We'll soon be using our new Foundation Stage shed for getting into waterproofs and wellies.

PARKING OUTSIDE SCHOOLS

Northumbria Police have requested that we ask all parents to carefully consider how they park outside school. Yellow Zig-Zag lines are there to help keep children safe during busy times and parking on these can incur penalty notices. Northumberland County Council will also have a parking enforcement vehicle in action around schools in the near future.