



### LAST WEEK'S ATTENDANCE

Our School Target is 97%

**LAST WEEK: 97.4%**

Nursery (Seahorses)	-94.5%
Reception (Turtles)	- 99.0%
Year 1 (Jellyfish)	- 97.5%
Year 2 (Puffins)	- 96.9%
Year 3 (Sharks)	- 94.8%
Year 4 (Penguins)	- 99.5%

**Well Done Penguins!**

### STARS OF THE WEEK

**Benji Bell**

**Billie-Jo Simpson**

**Tyler Stobbart**

**Lacey Freestone**

**Aiden Knowles**

**Mason McKay**

**Scarlett Arries**

### 2020/21 SCHOOL DIARY

Friday 23rd October	3.20pm—School Closes for Half Term
Saturday 31st October	Halloween/Pumpkin photo deadline
Saturday 31st October	Online portal for application for Middle School places closes
Monday 2nd November	School Reopens for Autumn

### HALLOWEEN PHOTOS AND A SAFE HALLOWEEN

Don't forget that we'll be on the lookout for some great Halloween photos being sent in to us for our competition. As the guidance advises against mixing of households, we'd like to see photos of the children in their own homes, perhaps with a carved pumpkin or a Halloween costume. We'll get these made into a video to publish on our website and Facebook page. We will also be offering a small prize for our favourite photograph from each year group. Photos should be sent to the school email address:



admin@amblelinks.northumberland.sch.uk by the end of Saturday 31st October (we've extended the deadline!)

On the next page of this newsletter we've added some ideas about how to have a safe Halloween 2020 and we've also included some 'Halloween at Home' ideas from the Ashington and Coquet Sports Partnership with your weekly newsletter email. This can also be downloaded from the [school website](http://www.schoollottery.co.uk).

### SCHOOL LOTTERY

Congratulations to Debbie Bell who was this week's School Lottery winner. Debbie kindly donated her winnings back to school. We've now sold 83 weekly tickets and have reset our target to 100 which would raise over £2000 a year for us. As we sell more tickets we are also seeing the weekly prize increase. Why not have a go?

[www.yourschoollottery.co.uk](http://www.yourschoollottery.co.uk)

### HARVEST FOOD DONATIONS

We were really grateful for the nearly 750 items that were donated for our virtual Harvest Festival. These have been collected today and are sure to be put to good use in the community by Amble Food Bank. We also produced a short online Harvest Assembly for parents with each class singing their own Harvest song; this can be viewed through the [school website](http://www.schoollottery.co.uk).

### PTA HALLOWEEN TREAT

We've been disappointed not to be able to hold Halloween discos this year. We hope that the children enjoy the little Halloween treats that our PTA have sent home with them today. Thanks to our PTA who continue to raise funds for us!

### A LONG HALF TERM AND A WELL-DESERVED BREAK

It's been a very long half term for the children and the staff at Amble Links and we're all looking forward to a well-earned half term break. We have been hugely impressed with the way that the children have come back and settled quickly into new routines and just got on with their learning without fuss. This is really starting to pay off in how they are all doing with their school work. I'd like to say a special 'thank-you' to all of the school staff who have worked so hard during this time—they have been asked to be very flexible, work in different ways like teaching classes sitting in rows, providing online work for children who may be isolating at home and not mixing closely with colleagues. Our staff have been truly 'immense' in helping to ensure that the children have not only been able to come back safely, but also thrive socially, emotionally and educationally. Without complaint, our staff have continued to work closely with children in their bubble groups despite knowing the risks that are involved. We've all found it difficult not being able to work physically as closely with parents as we are used to but hope that you and your children continue to feel well supported.

**THANK YOU TO ALL OF OUR WONDERFUL STAFF**

Mr Heeley

### WORD OF THE WEEK CHALLENGE

Look out for new and unfamiliar words with the children, discuss them and let us know any good ones that you find as part of the children's weekly homework:

Y1: Lacey F - pledge, Y2: Ava P— talented,  
Y3: Kamil S —complicated, Y4: Charlie F — comply

### BAG2SCHOOL COLLECTION

We sent off a huge 378kg of old and unwanted clothes on Wednesday for our Bag2School collection and will look forward to finding out how much money we will receive for that. Thank you to everybody who donated—every little helps towards our ongoing fundraising efforts.

### PLANS FOR NEXT HALF TERM

The second half of the Autumn term is always a very busy one for us at Amble Links with a diary full of events that parents can usually attend. It is highly likely that none of these usual events will be able to take place but..... Mrs Kelly and Miss Warren (our very own elves) have come up with a few plans that will hopefully allow us to hold many of the usual events with the children in their class 'bubbles' or virtually. We appreciate that parents will be disappointed about missing many of the usual performances etc but will do our best to keep you up to date through photos and videos that we post. We hope that it'll still be a really exciting time in school for the children despite the necessary restrictions that we are all working under. Keep a close eye on the school diary next half term for updates about what will be going on!





### Ideas for a Safe Halloween 2020

With Covid-19 restrictions in place in the North East, Halloween traditions may look a little different this year.

Anything that increases contact between multiple families is increasing people's risk and could spread the virus further. So, this year we are asking families to get creative with their celebrations.

- Don't hold a party in your home with people outside your household or support bubble.
- Traditional trick-or-treating is strongly discouraged due to the challenges of maintaining social distancing and the risk of sharing food and sweets.

However, here are some ideas for safer, alternative ways to enjoy Halloween:

#### In the home

- Hold a Halloween treasure hunt within your household
- Host a virtual party with themed games and music
- Watch a scary movie with the family
- Carve pumpkins
- Make your own Halloween costumes

#### Outdoors

- Give your own doorstep a spooky makeover or craft a pumpkin
- Walk from house-to-house admiring Halloween decorations
- The rule of six applies when outside but if you do meet other families, remember to keep a 2m distance from anyone you do not live with.
- Wear a face covering if you can
- Take sweets with you to share amongst your own household and give them out every time you spot some decorations
- Don't trick or treat – knocking on people's doors and sharing sweets is not recommended.
- Take hand sanitiser with you and use it if you need to
- Wash your hands with soap and water once you get home
- If you, or someone in your family, is self-isolating please stay at home this year.

