



STARS OF THE WEEK

Parker Hall
Joanie Dryden
Lola Robertson
Hayden Moore
Lexi Arries
Sophie Taylor

DOODLEMATHS

Percentage of pupils working in their green zone based on engagement over the last 7 days.
(data from this morning)



Turtles 50%
Jellyfish 43%
Puffins 41%
Sharks 39%
Penguins 30%

2021 SCHOOL DIARY

Monday 22nd February	School Reopens for Spring Half Term 2 for children already attending.
NEW Monday 8th March	First date given for a possible return to school. TO BE CONFIRMED
Monday 19th April	Rescheduled Y4 residential visit to Robinwood—TBC
NEW Friday 26th March	2pm—School closes for Easter Holiday
NEW Tuesday 13th April	School re-opens for summer term
NEW Monday 3rd May	School closed for May bank holiday

THIS HALF TERM

This half term has been another challenging one for children, parents and all of our school staff. After the excitement of the elves at Christmas we were thrown back into a lockdown situation in which we asked parents to keep children at home if possible—we really appreciate the sacrifices that have been made to help this happen.

Despite this, we have still had many more children in school during this lockdown compared to the last lockdown. This has meant that all staff have been at work as usual to ensure that our class bubbles remain completely separate from one another. On top of this, teachers have been providing daily work, support and feedback for the children working at home. Unlike older children, our pupils still need lots of parental support to be able to access and complete their work. We have been truly impressed by the support that most of the children have received at home to help them engage with their learning. Although the online learning provided for the children at home has been the same learning that the children still in school have been doing, we know the challenges they face to motivate themselves to do schoolwork without their teachers and friends around them. Parents should be assured that when we return to school, teachers will be working hard to quickly identify any gaps in learning and begin to address these. Our children are remarkably resilient and with hard work from everyone we hope to get them back up to speed as soon as possible. In order to give us more time to assess where the children are at and what we feel they need to help them catch up, we have decided not to arrange parents' meetings during next half term as we normally would. We will instead plan these for during the summer term at which time we should be in a position to let parents know what we plan to do and what they will be able to do to support any catch up. In the meantime, please do not hesitate to contact your child's class teacher by email should you have any questions - we're happy to help.

DOODLE MATHS PROBLEMS

We are aware that there have been some problems accessing Doodlemaths this week although many parents have reported that children have again been able to access the program again once the app has been updated. You will notice that percentages of children in the green zone has dropped off this week too. Doodlemaths works best if children access it for a short time every day. The software will learn how the children are doing and provide them with questions and new learning appropriate to their ability. It is important that the children that are still in school also continue to use Doodlemaths at home as we are not always able to offer them time to do it in school.



IMPORTANT COVID INFORMATION

Should any pupils who have been in school develop Covid symptoms before Sunday evening it is vital that you let us know as soon as possible. Parents should also arrange a test as soon as possible. It is vital that the outcome of the test is reported to us by email to admin@amblelinks.northumberland.sch.uk as soon as possible. Should a positive test be reported to us we will complete the relevant contact tracing and inform parents of children and relevant staff who are deemed to be close contacts about the need to self-isolate following [government guidelines](#).

It is more important than ever that everyone keeps to the rules in order to speed a return to normality.

World Book Day Competition

World Book day is on Thursday 4th March. This year we are going to do something a little different by running a competition to decorate a potato as a book character! There were some lovely ideas that we've seen from a school in North Yorkshire—[CLICK HERE](#) and thought that it was just the kind of thing that the children and parents of Amble Links might like to do. **Entries will need to be sent into school as photographs by email to admin@amblelinks.northumberland.sch.uk by the end of Wednesday 3rd March.** We will choose our favourite decorated potato from each class to receive a small prize as well as getting all of the pictures onto our Facebook page.

WORLD
**BOOK
DAY**

4 MARCH 2021

HERE ARE SOME MORE GREAT IDEAS TO HELP CELEBRATE WORLD BOOK DAY AT HOME

Visit <https://www.worldbookday.com/> for more fun ideas to encourage reading.

Take 10 mins to share a story with your younger ones from the great selection of videos <https://www.worldbookday.com/share-a-story-corner/>

<https://www.worldbookday.com/resources/> Download a variety of resources with these fun activity packs.

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

