# Amble Links First School LINKS NEWS

FIRST SCHOOL

ISSUE 486 - September 8th 2023

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#### STARS OF THE

## <u>WEEK</u> Ernie Evans Jesse Taylor-Smith

Arthur Anderson
William Armstrong
Scarlet Wilson
Lilly Brown
Luna Vernon

#### JOB VACANCY

We currently looking for a new cleaner to join our school staff team. The job involves working 2 hours per day after school during term time as well as a few days during holidays. Details of the job, including an application for can be found HERE. Applications should be returned by email.

## RAAC CONCRETE IN SCHOOLS

Pleasingly, Amble Links is not affected by the ongoing issues around the reinforced autoclaved aerated concrete (RAAC) that has caused a number of schools in the country to close. A statement from Northumberland County Council reads:

"Northumberland County Council would like to reassure families that our investigations have found no evidence of the presence of RAAC in our maintained schools in Northumberland..."

## IS MY CHILD TOO ILL FOR SCHOOL? - GUIDANCE

The NHS has produced some really useful guidance for parents that can support you in making a decision about whether your child is too ill to come to school. This helps explain which conditions would warrant keeping your child off school or whether they can still be sent in. Our staff are very experienced at knowing if a child is unwell and will contact parents when necessary. You can access the guidance HERE

#### **ATTENDANCE**

Our attendance figures for each class will be shown here each week. We are now using our new attendance procedures in line with other schools.

This has started with 'Early Intervention' letters being sent out to families of children with low attendance during last year. We will be monitoring all attendance closely on a regular basis with the Education Welfare Officer and will send out letters quite quickly when attendance concerns us. The letters clearly state why they have been sent and are triggered by percentages. For clarity, the flowcharts we follow and the letters we send are HERE.

#### MEET YOUR CHILD'S TEACHER MEETINGS

As we did last year, we have scheduled in some meetings for parents to meet with class teachers over the next couple of weeks. These meetings will help explain to parents what to expect for their child in their new class and give information about wider school routines and expectations. We hope that as many parents as possible will be able to attend. Dates are in the diary on this newsletter and have also been emailed to parents.

#### WHAT IS YOUR CHILD LEARNING IN SCHOOL? ONLINE NEWSLETTERS

As we have done n previous years, teachers will continue to produce a half termly class newsletter on the school website that explains what the children will be learning during that half term along with some resources that can be accessed to support their learning. We hope parents find this useful.

The newsletters can be found HERE.

## FREE STORIES TO READ OR LISTEN TO

The website below contains a wealth of free books that children can read themselves or listen to. These are a great option for bedtime stories for children and can be filtered based on age, length of story and themes. Why not have a try?



2023 SCHOOL DIARY	
***NEW***	2.30pm-Y1 & Y2 Meet your
Wednesday 13th September	child's teacher meeting
***NEW***	2.30pm-Y3 & Y4 Meet your
Thursday 14th September	child's teacher meeting
***NEW***	2.30pm -Reception Meet
Wednesday 20th September	your child's teacher meeting
***NEW***	Nursery, Reception, Y1 and
Friday 22nd September	Y2 Monster Phonics Day
***NEW***	Macmillan Coffee Morning
Friday 29th September	(after assembly)
***NEW***	PARENTS EVENINGS
Monday 2nd & Tuesday 3rd	
October	
***NEW***	9am - Harvest Assembly
Thursday 12th October	·
***NEW***	3.15pm—School closes for
Friday 27th October	half term break

ALL HOLIDAY DATES FOR 2023-24 and 2024-25 CAN BE FOUND ON THE SCHOOL WEBSITE  $\underline{\mathsf{HERE}}$ .

## MONSTER PHONICS APP & WEBINAR

This year, the children in Nursery,
Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 are beginning
an exciting new approach to learning phonics using a
scheme called 'Monster Phonics'. The approach involves
learning with the help of 10 monster characters.
Teachers have already sent information about Monster
Phonics to relevant parents. For parents who would like to
help children more with their phonics learning at home,
Monster Phonics produces a couple paid apps (both
available for £3.99) as Monster Phonics Bundle that can
be downloaded onto devices at home.

#### **HOMEWORK**

When planning our homework we carefully consider what will most benefit the children as well as the challenges that parents face in supporting children with homework. Our homework is designed as a series of short tasks that can be spread out over the week. As children get older, they should also require far less support in completing their homework although we would still appreciate your support in getting them to complete it. In KS1 and KS2, children will receive their new homework tasks on a Friday and should return this on a Wednesday. We check which children are in the Doodlemaths Greenzone on a Friday morning and also record how many times they have read with an adult at home by checking on a daily basis that reading records have been signed. Your child's weekly tasks will be detailed in their homework book . Teachers contact parents of pupils not completing homework to offer advice and support,

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