# Amble Links First School LINKS NEWS

FIRST SCHOOL

ISSUE 427 - February 11th 2022

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# STARS OF THE

## WEEK

Jonas Smith
Zach Allan
Bexley Mather
Joanie Dryden
Cora Cooper
Poppy Willis
Lexi Arries

### ATTENDANCE LAST WEEK

Our School Target is 97% LAST WEEK: 96.3%

 Nursery (Seahorses)
 -96.3%

 Reception (Turtles)
 - 96.1%

 Year 1 (Jellyfish)
 - 96.1%

 Year 2 (Puffins)
 - 92.5%

 Year 3 (Sharks)
 - 98.0%

 Year 4 (Penguins)
 - 97.4%

Well Done Sharks!

#### OUR BEST ATTENDANCE THIS SCHOOL YEAR!

Last week we recorded our best week of attendance for the whole school year so far! It's also pleasing to see that many of the children whose attendance status was red at the end of the autumn term is improving. We appreciate that Covid absences have been unavoidable in recent months and consider these carefully when analysing our attendance data. We are more concerned about short and regular periods of absence that bring children's attendance levels down . We find that children who miss school regularly struggle to catch up and keep up with their peers as well as finding it more difficult to maintain strong relationships with their peers. We hope that having our first attendance star of the year on our hall board will give everyone a boost and that as Covid cases reduce and warmer weather approaches, our attendance levels continue to improve.



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# NEXT FRIDAY'S ACTIVITIES WEAR WHAT YOU LOVE DAY!

Next Friday is the last day of our half term and also marks us reaching the halfway point of the school year. As mentioned in a previous newsletter, we will be holding a 'Wear What You Love' non-uniform day on Friday 18th February to replace our usual

Valentines Discos. In return for a £1 donation children can come to school in their favourite clothes, or costume (but please ensure that these are warm enough for playtimes and sensible shoes are worn!)

#### BISCUIT DECORATING

Another aspect of our fundraising will be a chance for the children to decorate a heart shaped biscuit. For just £1 each the children will be provided with a

homemade heart-shaped shortbread biscuit that they will be able to decorate in school on and bring home to share with family members! If every child in school takes part in both of these activities we'll raise over £300 for our PTA who help us with lots of those little extras for the children throughout the school year.



#### 2022 SCHOOL DIARY Friday 18th February Decorating Heart Biscuits fundraiser Friday 18th February Wear what you love day (Non-uniform) Friday 18th February School Closes for Spring Half Tuesday 1st March School Reopens for Spring Half Term 2 Wednesday 2nd March Bag2School Collection Tuesday 29th March PARENTS EVENINGS Wednesday 30th March PARENTS EVENINGS Friday 1st July Additional Bank Holiday date for Queens Platinum Jubilee

#### SWIMMING UPDATE

Our swimming lessons continue to be working really well. Year 2 parents are reminded that the children do not return to school until around 3.20pm each Tuesday following their lessons. In order to reduce the number of people waiting around at the end of the school day please aim to arrive just before 3.20pm to collect children on Tuesdays. The children continue to do very well with their swimming lessons and changing is getting much quicker too. Hopefully we'll soon start seeing a steady flow of badges coming our way too!

#### PARENTS EVENINGS

These will be held on Tuesday 29th March and Wednesday 30th March and will be face to face meetings. As previously, Mrs Dellbridge will be getting in touch with parents who have more than one child in school to arrange meetings as close together as possible to prevent too much waiting around in the cold. We will also be in touch with parents who have not made appointments if we feel it is particularly important to discuss their child. To reduce indoor mixing we will be asking to parents to wait outside prior to appointment. For this reason we would recommend that, wherever possible, children do not attend with parents. After School Club will still be running in the computer room although there will be no KS2 football session held that week.

#### OUR NEXT BAG2SCHOOL COLLECTION

Our next Bag2School collection is on Wednesday 2nd March. Please bring in any old or unwanted clothing items or shoes in any bag/bin liner. These will be collected and a donation is then made to our PTA based on the weight of the bags collected. We'll send out a flyer but Bag2School do not now provide bags

themselves. PLEASE DO NOT SEND BAGS INTO SCHOOL BEFORE TUESDAY 1ST MARCH AS WE HAVE NO ROOM TO STORE THEM!

#### USING THE SCHOOL CAR PARK

During the recent storms our main school gates were damaged, meaning that we have not been able to close them as we usually would at busy drop off and pick up times. Despite the large signs we have in place we have noticed that a number of parents are still bringing vehicles onto the school site. Access to the school car park is for staff, visitors and deliveries only. This helps us protect pedestrians on the school site as well as the vehicles that are parked there.

#### WORLD BOOK DAY

We'll be celebrating World Book
Day on Friday March 3rd which is
the first week back after half
term. The children will be
invited to dress up as a favourite
book character and we'll also be
running our Potato Book
Character Competition again!
SEE HERE FOR DETAILS More
info next week..

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

