



LINKS NEWS

ISSUE 172- February 13th 2015

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Attendance for Week 5

Our school target is 95 %

OVERALL LAST WEEK- 93%

Reception (Turtles) 98%

Year 1 Jellyfish- 90%

Year 2 Puffins - 89%

Year 3 Sharks- 93%

Year 4 Penguins - 94%

Well Done Turtles!

STARS OF THE WEEK

Callum Straughan

Libby Mitchell

Sheena Ireland

Ameila Wilson

Ellia Waddell

Bethan Moore

2015 SCHOOL DIARY

NEW Monday 23rd February	Return to school NO TRAINING DAY
Sunday 1st March	4pm PTA Meeting—The Old Storehouse
Friday 6th March	WORLD BOOK DAY CELEBRATION
Tues 17th and Weds 18th March	Parents' Evenings NO SCHOOL SHOP
NEW Wednesday 18th March	Bag2School Collection

PTA EVENTS

Yet again we'd like to thank everyone who helped out or supported the most recent PTA Events. We recently received £328 worth of cheques from Bags2School whilst the Discos also raised £225. We are currently looking into some new playground equipment which the PTA are planning to help pay for. Don't forget that if you wish to join our PTA they will be holding a meeting in the Old Storehouse on Sunday 1st March at 4pm -everyone welcome!

WORLD BOOK DAY—HOLIDAY HOMEWORK

Don't forget that we will be celebrating World Book Day on Friday 6th March when we will be asking children to dress up as their favourite book characters. Along with Mathletics and Reading, the only other homework we have set for half term is for each child to write a book review (using the template provided) about their favourite book. There will be prizes for our favourite reviews which children may also want to decorate/illustrate appropriately.

Animal Antics

We were visited by Stef from "Animal Antics" who brought in a selection of animals for us to look at and hold. There were rabbits, mice, a snake, a bearded dragon, a tarantula and an owl. We also learned the signs for each animal, talked about what they ate and had a great time. This visit was kindly supported by a donation from The Rotary Club of Amble and Warkworth following their annual Christmas collections.



SCHOOL UNIFORM—NEW SUPPLIER. LOWER PRICES. MORE CHOICE

We are pleased to announce that you can now also purchase our school uniform online through Tesco's Uniform Embroidery Service. The service provides school uniform at very reasonable prices; allows you to choose a wider range of uniform items such as backpacks and reversible fleeces; offers free delivery (for embroidered items), donations to our PTA and Clubcard points. We've even added some dressing up costumes! Take a look at our school's uniform website at:

bit.do/alfsuniform

We will continue to hold a small stock of sweatshirts, cardigans, bookbags and PE bags in school. These can be bought for the usual prices from the school office although supplies will become limited.

IMPROVING SCHOOL ATTENDANCE

We are very pleased that latest data from Ofsted shows that we were able to reduce our absence rates again last year. Unfortunately over the last few weeks though our attendance rates have been affected negatively again by bugs and viruses that seem to be 'doing the rounds'.

Last week we received information from the Department for Education that from the 2015-16 academic year they will be reducing the threshold for pupils who are currently considered to be 'Persistent Absentees'. The current threshold for this is 15% (around 28 days absence). In the next academic year this is to be reduced to 10% (or 90% attendance). The government says that this is a positive factor for young people as there is a clear link between attendance and attainment.

As we do already, we will continue to monitor every child's attendance closely including overall attendance and patterns of absence. We will continue to give you a termly report about your child's attendance and punctuality, reward good attendance, challenge poor attendance and work closely with the Local Authority Education Welfare Officers who are likely to become involved with 'Persistent Absentees'.

If your child is absent from school please contact us as soon as possible with the reason in order for us to record this appropriately. Thank you for your ongoing support.

Last week's MATHLETICS WINNER was DEBORAH BURN with 7520pts. See the hall wall for class winners too.