Amble Links First School LINKS NEWS

FIRST SCHOOL

ISSUE 385- January 8th 2021

www.facebook.com/linksfs



ATTENDANCE LAST WEEK BEFORE CHRISTMAS

Our School Target is 97% LAST WEEK: 97.5%

 Nursery (Seahorses)
 -100%

 Reception (Turtles)
 - 98.7%

 Year 1 (Jellyfish)
 - 95.3%

 Year 2 (Puffins)
 - 95.5%

 Year 3 (Sharks)
 - 99.3%

 Year 4 (Penguins)
 - 98.2%

STARS OF THE

WEEK

Kabe Ramsay
Charlie Nealon
Barney Falkous
Ava Purvis
Shannay Ugwu
Lola Paterson

2021 SCHOOL DIARY

Friday 12th February	School Closes for Spring Half Term *
Monday 22nd February	School Reopens
Monday 19th April	Rescheduled Y4 residential visit to Robinwood— TBC

*THERE ARE CURRENTLY NO PLANS TO OFFER ANY FORM OF CHILDCARE PROVISION IN SCHOOL DURING THE FEBURARY HALF TERM BREAK

BACK IN LOCKDOWN

Following much discussion with teachers and governors last Sunday, we agreed on Monday that we would fully open school on Tuesday 5th January as planned. The Prime Minister's announcement late on Monday evening telling us we were going into another lockdown and that schools would be closed changed all of that. We very quickly had to put plans in place to close school to most children and move to remote learning whilst also offering places to vulnerable children and children of parents who are 'critical workers' if needed. We'd like to thank all parents for keeping children at home on Tuesday in order for us to put these plans into action and get home learning packs out to the children. We have a significantly larger number of children in school than during the last lockdown and all staff continue to be at work to teach and support these children whilst also providing a comprehensive remote learning package for those at home. A big thank you to all of our staff who have helped to make all of this happen with very little notice.

FOR THE CHILDREN WHO REMAIN IN SCHOOL

In order to keep children and staff who remain in school as safe as possible, it is important that our safety routines are followed closely. Drop off time for all children is between 8.50am and 9.00am and pick up is between 3.00pm and 3.10pm. Please keep within these times, ensure social distancing, wear a face covering and keep to our one way system. As children who are coming to school are mixing with more households it is vital that out of school lockdown rules are followed closely especially regarding household mixing—the fewer contacts between households the better! In order to keep our class bubbles open safely these rules must be followed.

WARM CLOTHES

As part of our Covid risk assessment we need to ensure that classrooms are kept well ventilated with windows open as much as possible. This means that classrooms are a little colder than usual. We recommend that children wear an extra layer of clothing under their school uniforms to help keep them warm.

PE KITS

Children should still come to school in bottom half PE Kit on their allocated day. ${\bf BAGS}$

The only bags that children should bring to school with them are packed lunches for the small number of children that have them.

DOODLE MATHS

Well done to the Puffins who have been our best class with Doodle Maths this week with 67% of them working in the Green Zone. The children are loving this new program that they have access to and many have already accessed additional resources and improved their avatars! Look out for competitions coming soon!



REMOTE LEARNING

We have made a number of changes to our remote learning provision since the first lockdown to ensure that the children have the best possible opportunities to continue the curriculum that was planned for them if they were in school. Although we appreciate the challenges that parents face in supporting remote learning it is important that all children engage with the tasks that are set to ensure that as little learning as possible is lost. School staff will continue to closely monitor remote learning and will get in touch with parents and children quickly if we identify the need for further support. Please ensure that work on Google Classroom is 'Turned In' and that the daily task sheet is completed with as much information as possible about how your child got on with their tasks. On some of the platforms that children are using such as Doodle Maths, Reading Plus and Busy Things we are already able to see how the children are getting on. We'd also love to see examples of children's work sent into teachers by email - addresses will be on the email that you received containing this newsletter.

Please don't hesitate to get in touch with us if you feel your child needs any additional support with their work or with accessing their remote learning.

Finally, we'd like to say a very big thank you for all of the brilliant work that has already taken place at home this week!

READING PLANET

For a number of reasons we have decided not to send reading books home with children during this lockdown. It is still important though that children read regularly at home with an adult. Children in Y4 have access to Reading Plus which will support them with this and provide feedback to us about their reading. We are soon launching Reading Planet with some of the younger children—this will allow teachers to assign age/ability appropriate online books to the children and help assess how well they are reading and understanding them—we are hoping to roll this out to all pupils shortly. Reading any texts at home with an adult is still very valuable though.

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

