



### LAST WEEK'S ATTENDANCE

Our School Target is 97%

**LAST WEEK: 94.2%**

Nursery (Seahorses)	-89.3%
Reception (Turtles)	-96.0%
Year 1 (Jellyfish)	-90.0%
Year 2 (Puffins)	-93.9%
Year 3 (Sharks)	-96.6%
Year 4 (Penguins)	-95.6%

**Well done Sharks!**

### STARS OF THE WEEK

**Georgia Crisp  
Joys Oglah  
Alex Stolcers  
Donovan Hall  
Kate Smith  
Caleb Wake  
Jana Aljiez**

### 2019 SCHOOL DIARY

Thurs 31st January	3.20pm—Meeting for Y3 Parents—Robinwood 2019
Tuesday 12th February	Y1 Hula Hooping Festival, Alnwick
Friday 15th February	Parents to classrooms to see books after assembly
Friday 15th February	3.15pm—School Closes for Half Term
Thursday 28th March	9am—Year 3 Sharks Class Assembly
Thursday 4th April	9am—Year 2 Puffins Class Assembly
Monday 25th, Tuesday 26th, Wednesday 27th March	PARENTS' EVENINGS

**BUY SCHOOL UNIFORM AT - [bit.ly/alfsuniform](http://bit.ly/alfsuniform)**

#### Y3 Geology Workshop

Yesterday we welcomed Steven Wright to school to lead a geology workshop for our Year 3 children as part of their 'Extreme Earth' topic. He showed the children a range of different rock samples, some of which he had collected from real active volcanoes!. He shared his vast knowledge and experience of geology with the children and gave the children a chance to create their own volcanic eruptions with lava and ash clouds.



#### Y2 Gymnastics Workshop

On Tuesday our Y2 children travelled to Ashington Leisure Centre to take part in a gymnastics festival. They learnt new skills on the parallel bars, trampolines, balance beams and springboard. The children impressed us with their usual excellent behaviour and levels of determination that helped them succeed. We've got photos of the workshop on our Facebook page and on the school website. Well done Year 2!

#### PUNCTUALITY CHALLENGE

We had a good start to this week with punctuality but have been disappointed by a few lates near the end of the week that have added to our total. To achieve our target of no more than 28 lates this half term we really need to have 3 weeks of excellent punctuality. It'll be such a shame for all of the children to miss out on a whole school treat again.  
**So far this half term we have 22 lates.**

#### WORD OF THE WEEK CHALLENGE

We've been really pleased about how our new 'Word of the Week Challenge' has taken off. The vast majority of children have enjoyed finding, learning and telling us about their new words. In class each week we are choosing a 'Fab Five' (or 3 in year 1!) of these words that we think the children will all benefit from learning about and reinforcing these throughout the week. We've also chosen a word of the week from each class to be displayed in the hall. The important thing is that the children have a really good understanding of the word they have found and can use it in a number of contexts; although dictionary definitions are helpful, asking children to use the word at different times and in different ways really helps them to learn its meaning and help extend their vocabulary. We also have to remember that many words in the English language can have more than just one meaning and try to help the children learn these!

#### Y3 ROBINWOOD MEETING

It's the time of year again when we start thinking about taking our Y4 children to Robinwood next November. Our aim is to take every child in the class. We have arranged a meeting for Y3 parents in the Sharks classroom straight after school on Thursday 31st January to discuss the visit further. This is an opportunity for parents to ask any questions before we make a firm booking. Robinwood really is an opportunity for the children not to miss.

#### GARDENING CLUB UPDATE

This week our Gardening Club harvested their first potatoes and enjoyed trying them once cooked! We've also taken delivery of a new poly tunnel thanks to a kind donation from a local lady, Mrs Allen, in memory of her late husband, Ted Allen. It'll come to very good use!

#### APPLICATIONS FOR NURSERY AND LITTLE PEBBLES

Our Little Pebbles 2 Year Old Provision is proving to be hugely popular. Places are limited and are allocated quite well in advance. It is recommended that parents submit applications for places to the school office as early as possible. Our application forms also include details of deadline dates and our admissions policy and criteria. Parents are also reminded that they must apply separately for nursery (Seahorses) places—again, very well in advance. Little Pebbles usually join us the term after their 2nd birthday whilst Seahorses join us the term after their third birthday.

#### SWIMMING—NEXT WEEK

Swimming lessons for next week are for **Year 1 on Thursday** and **Year 3 on Friday**. Please ensure children come to school with their swimming kit. We ask for a contribution of £4 per lesson (children have 1hr lessons every other week) or £2 if your child is entitled to Pupil Premium. These contributions allow swimming to continue.