

LINKS NEWS (Part 2)

PE AND SPORT AT AMBLE LINKS

Using increased government funding to support PE and Sport in Schools we are very pleased to have secured the services of Miss Patterson as an apprentice PE and Sport Teaching Assistant this year. She will be working closely with Mrs Goodfellow, who co-ordinates most aspects of PE and sport in school. Their roles will be to support staff in PE lessons, supervise swimming lessons, co-ordinating after school sports and organising sporting events. Our dynamic duo will also be responsible for ensuring that children have access to a range of activities at playtimes and lunchtimes. Don't be surprised if you get a call from one of them for PE or Swimming Kit reminders either!

AFTER SCHOOL SPORTS CLUBS

At present the following clubs are available - letters have been sent out to relevant year groups.

Dance Club (Y2,Y3 and Y4) -Mondays 3.30pm—4.30pm

Karate Club - Mondays at 6pm - 7pm

KS1 Football Club - Tuesdays 3.30pm-4.30pm

KS2 Football Club- Thursday 3.30pm-4.30pm

Please send reply slips from letters back to Mrs Goodfellow who will let you know if your child has been allocated a place.

OTHER SPORTING OPPORTUNITIES AVAILABLE

Mrs Goodfellow also runs two other clubs out of school time that are open to children from Y2 upwards.

Wednesdays 6.30pm-7.30pm—Running Club—meet at Castlemania

Thursdays 6.30pm-7.30pm-Junior Netball Club - at JCSC (£1 per session). Please see Mrs Goodfellow for more information.

SCHOOL FACEBOOK PAGE

One of the best ways to keep up to date with what is going on in school is through our Facebook page at www.facebook.com/linksfs.



We regularly post information and updates about school events as well as lots of photographs of what the children are doing in school. Once you 'like' the page this information is easily accessible. Please note that the aim of our Facebook page is to provide parents with updates and information. We love to see your positive comments and post likes but will not tolerate negative or derogatory comments on our school page; these will result in users being blocked and further action taken if necessary. Please speak to us directly about any questions or concerns you may have or direct these through email addresses provided on the school website.

PARENTS' MEETINGS—NEXT WEEK

We have arranged a series of brief meetings for parents next week to give you an opportunity to meet your child's new class teacher and find out a little more about life in their new class and key stage. Meetings will be held at 3.30pm in one of the classrooms in your child's key stage area. If you'd like to come along, please collect your child at the normal time and come back into their classroom where we will arrange for the children to join after school clubs whilst you are at the meeting. Meetings will be on Tuesday 12th for Reception (Turtles), Wednesday 13th for Key Stage 1 (Jellyfish and Puffins) and Thursday 14th for Key Stage 2 (Sharks and Penguins). We will arrange another meeting for nursery parents in a couple of weeks when the children have had a chance to settle in.

LIVE KITCHEN - ONLINE MENUS AND PAYMENT

We're very excited to soon be introducing the Live Kitchen system which will allow children to select their school meals online with parents or when they come into school.

Parents will also be able to make payments for dinners online. Please read and return the Live Kitchen letter we have sent home to get set up.



SCHOOL COUNCILLORS

During this week the children in each class have been voting for our new School Councillors for this academic year. We're pleased to announce that our new councillors are: Cameron Smith, Holly Bell, Poppy Hall, Ted Purvis, Eve Patterson, Liam Short, Scarlet Paterson and Layton Coford. We look forward to working with them during this year and hearing their ideas for supporting EdUKaid and improving provision in our school.

PARENT TEACHER ASSOCIATION

We have a very active PTA who raise many hundreds of pounds for the school each year. We're always looking for more volunteers though. Please call into school to find out more.

CAR PARK SAFETY

We continue to monitor and review safety on our school park and will soon be installing a fence that will encourage pedestrians to use the marked crossing rather than cutting directly across the car park to the main school entrance. Although the school gates are locked at the start and end of the normal school day parents bringing children to Breakfast Club and collecting from after school clubs are still able to access the car park. Parents are asked to carefully consider the speed at which they are driving and ideally use the St Cuthbert's side of the school car park. We will hopefully make some further changes shortly to make this area even safer.

FREE RESOURCES AVAILABLE TO OUR PUPILS

We really value the use of ICT in school and provide the pupils with a range of ICT resources to use in the curriculum. We also invest in a range of online resources that the children can access at home. Children in Years 1-4 will be provided with a password card in their homework book (please encourage children to keep these safe and secret) that will give them access to a range of these resources that can be accessed through the 'links' section of our school website. Please spend some time exploring these resources with your children. Children have additional access to our computer room at least once per week to complete homework tasks and can also access the computer room at some after school clubs. Children in KS1 and KS2 also have bi-weekly computing lessons when they are not swimming.

STAFF ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

We're pleased to welcome Mrs Ailsa Dellbridge (who many of you will already know) to our office team this year. Other than that there are no other changes to our staff in school apart from a few moves.

Mr Heeley and Miss Lightley continue to be the Designated Safeguarding Leads who you should speak to if you have any concerns about the safety or wellbeing of any of our pupils.

Miss Black continues in the role of Special Educational Needs and Disabilities Co-ordinator (SENDCO); she will continue to liaise with parents of pupils with any special educational needs and supports all other staff in this area. If you have any concerns about your child's educational needs please speak to their class teacher in the first instance.

Mrs Goodfellow continues in the role of Medical Needs co-ordinator and will liaise closely with parents of children who have any specific medical needs/allergies etc.

Teachers are happy to meet with parents at any time to discuss any issues; please give us a call to make an appointment as we are not always able to see parents immediately. Mr Heeley and /or Miss Lightley are also available to catch on the playground before or after school.