



LAST WEEK'S ATTENDANCE

Our School Target is 97%

LAST WEEK: 93.1%

Nursery (Seahorses)	-88.2%
Reception (Turtles)	- 92.3%
Year 1 (Jellyfish)	- 91.4%
Year 2 (Puffins)	- 91.6%
Year 3 (Sharks)	- 94.7%
Year 4 (Penguins)	- 96.2%

Well Done Penguins!

STARS OF THE WEEK

**Charlie Nealon
Huda Alsholi
Callum Berney
Emma Mudd
Shannay Ugwu
Faith Elliot
Noah Baxter**

2019/20 SCHOOL DIARY

NEW Tuesday 7th January 2020	SCHOOL REOPENS FOR SPRING TERM
NEW Thursday 30th January	3.15pm—Meeting for Y3 Parents for Y4 Robinwood Residential
*** NEW*** Friday 14th February	Parents to classrooms to see books after assembly
NEW Friday 14th February	3.15pm - School Closes for Half Term
NEW Monday 24th February	PARENTS' EVENINGS
NEW Tues 17th & Wednesday 18th Weds 18th March	PARENTS' EVENINGS

CHRISTMAS EVENTS

It's been a very busy week in school with Christmas events. On Sunday, our KS2 choir children, led by Mrs Kelly and Mrs Oliver, sang for a large crowd at the Harbour Village. On Monday and Tuesday the children in Y2-4 sang and performed brilliantly for parents in their Christmas performance, Prickly Hay whilst the children in Early Years enjoyed a visit to Heighley Gate to have breakfast with Santa; - the children were highly praised by the adults that took them for their superb behaviour. On Wednesday, our choir sang at St Oswald's Court before enjoying a drink and chat with the residents. Also on Wednesday, the whole school enjoyed our Carol Service at a packed St Cuthbert's Church. Thursday was Christmas Jumper and Christmas Dinner Day at which the children enjoyed a delicious turkey dinner with all the trimmings as well as waitress service from the staff. Unfortunately, the elves returned from their holiday on Monday so have been up to a little mischief each day this week—adding to the children's excitement! It's been a very busy week for everyone but thoroughly enjoyed by all. We hope that the great start to Christmas that we've had at school will continue at home for all of our children and their families!

PTA AND EDUKAID FUNDRAISING

Over the last few weeks our PTA ladies (men are more than welcome to join too!) have done some sterling work in organising their Christmas Fundraising events including the Christmas Market and Christmas Raffle. In total they have raised over £1800 during the Christmas period. Thanks to everyone who has supported the events in any way. As well as our PTA fundraising, we have also raised money to support Mgao Pre-Primary School in Tanzania through non uniform day and Christmas Jumper Day; our PTA also give a percentage of the money they fundraise to EduKaid. We are pleased to announce that we will be sending a cheque for £450 to EduKaid this week—we have also kept a little money aside to send some small, late Christmas presents to the children there. The money we send goes a long way to resourcing the school. We hope that a visitor from EduKaid might come along and tell us more about how we are helping the children at Mgao next year.

GOODBYES AND WELCOMES

Today is a sad day for us today as we say 'goodbye' to Mrs Lockey who leaves us to pursue her teaching career. Mrs Lockey joined us as a Teaching Assistant in 2015 and loved working in school so much that she decided to train as a teacher! Mrs Lockey has done a wonderful job covering our Y3 Sharks this term before whilst we went through an appointment for a Special Needs Coordinator. We'd like to thank Mrs Lockey for her hard work at Amble Links, wish her luck and look forward to hearing how her career in teaching develops.

In January, Mrs Debbie Smith will be taking over in Y3 and as our SENDCO—Mrs Smith has many years of teaching experience and has already spent a number of days in school with us getting to know the children. We're also pleased to welcome Zoe Ramsay to our staff team as a cleaner. Zoe will replace Mrs Jones who is staying with us and focusing on her other role as a Teaching Assistant.

WE REALLY HOPE THAT THE CHILDREN WILL CONTINUE TO READ AT HOME OVER THE HOLIDAYS—THIS MAKES A HUGE DIFFERENCE!!!

WORD OF THE WEEK CHALLENGE

Our favourite words chosen this week are: Y1—appetising (Kayden M), Y2- swamped (Oakley D) Y3- dwelling (Kaidan R), Y4-mature (Jamila S)

BREAKFAST CLUB & AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS

Breakfast Club will start as soon as we return to school on Tuesday 7th January. Children in Reception to Y4 are welcome. Breakfast Club runs from 8am and for the small cost of £1 per day, children enjoy toast, cereal and a drink before playing with friends and always getting to school on time!! Breakfast Club is held in the Little Pebbles Room. Cost is £1 per day.

After School Clubs will restart on Monday 13th January. Children who have places in existing clubs should continue to come along as usual. Parents should ask about availability of club places at the school office. Currently, gardening and Lego Clubs are full.

SCHOOL UNIFORM

As we got near the end of term we have noticed that a few children are not wearing the correct school uniform, mainly regrading footwear. Our school uniform policy is that children wear **BLACK SHOES** to school. Please ensure that children are wearing the correct footwear when they return to school in January. Uniform items can be purchased online via the link on the school website. We now only keep a very limited supply in the school office.

PUNCTUALITY TARGETS

Unfortunately we did not meet our punctuality target again during this half term. We continue to write to the parents of the small number of children who are persistently late to school and also seek support from other agencies when there is no improvement. We hope that there will be an improvement during next half term and that all of the children will be able to enjoy a treat at the end of the half term. Due mainly to illness, only 3 children in nursery achieved their attendance treat this half term for achieving 97% attendance or better. Children in nursery choose a Teeny Ty toy if they reach this goal during each half term.

SWIMMING—NEXT YEAR

First swimming lessons of 2020 are for Y2 and Y4 on 16th and 17th January.