



SUPPORT FOR LIFE THROUGH
COMPASSION, PERSEVERANCE & RESPECT

Wednesday 8th September 2021

AUTUMN HALF TERM 1 – NEWSLETTER

We hope that you had a fabulous summer. All the staff would like to thank you for the kind gifts you gave us at the end of last term - it is very thoughtful of you. We are looking forward to, and excited for, the new term. We have lots planned for the children, and in particular have some great ideas for school trips and visitors to help with our learning. I would like to formally welcome Miss Crowe to the team. She will be working in Puffin Class with Miss Murray and Mrs Brealey, and is excited to get to know all the children.

Nut-Free School

As mentioned in my email, we are now a nut-free school. Please do not send in your child with any products that contain nuts. If you have any queries about specific items please let me know.

Covid-19

We will continue to monitor, taking advice from the Local Authority and the Government, will continue to assess the risks, and amend procedures as appropriate. Please ensure that if your child is self-isolating as a result of having symptoms, or because they have been told to do so by an external agency, you tell us immediately (even at the weekend). This allows us the maximum amount of time to switch to online learning for your child, and ensures that all other procedures are followed in a timely manner.

Please be aware that, as before, we cannot socially distance your children from each other, and it is often a challenge for the staff to socially distance from your children too. However, we are continuing to ensure that we do as much as possible to minimise risks, and reduce the number of different children and adults your children come into contact with.

As discussed in my email, please ensure that your child has waterproofs and wellies in every day so that we can vacate the classrooms regularly, as well as appropriate other clothing for the conditions (inside and outside). We are continuing to minimise things being brought in from home, so again please do not bring book bags or other items to school.

Homework

Over the summer we have reviewed how we are doing homework. We recognise that people have busy lives and sometimes struggle to fit some bits of homework in. As a result, we are adopting the following homework schedule:

- Starfish (Reception) - daily reading / word pots and Numbots 3 times a week. Topic work on an ad hoc basis given on Tapestry.
- Puffin - daily reading and Numbots / Time Table Rock Stars (TTRS) 3 times a week. A single piece of homework on Google Classroom each week.
- Seal and Orca - daily reading and TTRS 3 times a week. A single piece of homework from a half-termly menu on Google Classroom each week.

Mrs Threlfall: Head Teacher

Embleton Vincent Edwards C of E Aided Primary School, Embleton, Alnwick Northumberland NE66 3XR

Tel & Fax: 01665 576612 Email: admin@vincentedwards.northumberland.sch.uk



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If you have a particularly busy week and are struggling to fit things in then please let us know.

Please record daily reading on the Go-Read app. Numbots and TTRS automatically logs when sessions are completed. If anyone has any problems accessing Tapestry or Google Classroom please let me know. Similarly, if you are struggling to access Go-Read, numbots or TTRS please get in touch. We will be sending out passwords again this week in case you have lost them!

New Building Update

We are still waiting for the work to add a new classroom to the school to go out to tender. As a result, we still have no idea when building work might start. As soon as I have any further information I will let you know.

Parent Governors

Your Parent Governors are Fred Bosanquet and Joanne Bevan. Whilst clearly if you would like to speak to a governor all are approachable and happy to chat with you, Fred and Joanne are your nominated representatives on the governing body.

Wraparound Care

We continue to offer wraparound care from 7.30 am, and until 5.30 pm. Please speak to Melissa if you would like to book any sessions. We prefer bookings in advance, although can take additional children on a short notice basis if you are stuck. We will continue with clubs for Puffins, Seals and Orcas Tues-Thu each week.

PE – Years 1 to 6

PE will continue to be on a Thursday afternoon. This half term we have Grant Watson coming in to school to teach tennis to the children in Puffin, Seal and Orca classes. Please send your children in to school in their PE kit in the morning. Tennis will take place outside, so please ensure that your child has their hoody, joggers and trainers. Swimming, for Seals and Orcas, is planned to start in January 2022.

Music

Mr Easton will be coming in to do general music lessons with children in Puffin and Starfish classes, and will be teaching guitar to Seals and Orcas this year. He will be in school on Wednesday mornings.

Beach School

We will be continuing to attend Beach School every Friday. Please ensure that children wear school PE kit to come to school. We will be staying down at the beach at lunchtime. As ever, we will continue to assess the weather and conditions each week, and will adjust our sessions accordingly, whether that be by working in the dunes, going to a sheltered spot on the beach, going down slightly later, or coming back earlier. Please be aware that shower-proof cagoules are not sufficient as the weather turns more Autumnal! Additionally, can I please ask that the hats that are used do not have large bobbles on the top, as it is very challenging to put up hoods and keep heads warm and dry. Please make sure that your child has both wellies and trainers in school on Fridays, as your child needs something to wear on their feet, other than wellies, in the classroom.

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Communication

Important information, newsletters, diary dates, class pages and weekly school and class blogs are on the school website at www.embletonprimaryschool.com . Please use this as your first port of call for finding the information you need. If there is anything else you would like to see on the website please let us know.

We will continue to send out information via email as our primary means. Please make sure that if you change your email address or phone number, you let us know. If you would like to speak to a member of staff please either catch us at the beginning or end of day, email us (admin@vincentedwards.northumberland.sch.uk) or give us a call.

Payments to School

Please ensure payments to school are made promptly. This is particularly important for lunch money. Lunch money is due on the Monday for that week or a half term ahead. The school can accept cash or cheques.

Morrisons Voucher Scheme

We will be collecting the Morrisons It's Good to Grow vouchers for gardening equipment - so please ask your family and friends to donate the vouchers to us if they get any!

PFA

The Parent and Friends Association is continuing to run the 100 Club this term, and is hopeful that a planned bag-pack will be able to go ahead just before Christmas, as well as a Christmas hamper raffle. Additional funds raised by the PFA mainly go towards paying for visits and visitors to school, or other enhancements to the school curriculum. For example, this term we are looking at a visit from an author, a local rock expert, and a day of science from the Kielder Observatory. We are also planning a number of trips for children in the local area. The PFA is looking for a Chair and a Secretary, as well as new ideas for fundraising opportunities. If you are interested then please let us know.

And finally...

We are hopeful that we can head towards a more 'normal' school year this year. Thank you for all your support, as ever, and please remember that if you need any help, support or advice please speak to us and we will do our best to help you!

Kind Regards,

Nicola Threlfall
Head Teacher

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