



SUPPORT FOR LIFE THROUGH
COMPASSION, PERSEVERANCE & RESPECT

Monday 12th April 2021

SUMMER HALF TERM 1 – NEWSLETTER

Welcome back to school after the Easter break. We are all really looking forward to the new term which hopefully will not be disrupted by any coronavirus-related issues. This term we are really lucky to have Miss Ridley working in Seal Class, alongside Miss Scott and Mrs Gabriele, and Mr Baxter working in Puffin Class alongside Miss Murray and Mrs Threlfall. Miss Ridley and Mr Baxter are student teachers on their final placements, and they will be leading the learning in Seal and Puffin, under the watchful eye of the class teachers and myself.

Coronavirus

All the mitigation that we have had in place over the last few months will remain in place this term. Orca and Seal classes will form one bubble, and Puffin and Starfish will form another. We will continue to make sure that the two bubbles are deconflicted at all times. Please continue to maintain appropriate social distancing and stick to the 'rule of 6', in line with government requirements when outside of school. Hopefully these measures will enable us all to get through the term unscathed.

Please ensure that your child does not bring things into school from home. The only exception is bringing in a rucksack and water bottle on a Friday, or returning school resources such as reading books.

We are hopeful that we won't have to revert to large scale distance learning again, but if children do need to self-isolate we will be expecting them to join in with lessons via distance learning. If this happens we will provide you with appropriate IT and other resources that are required.

If you or your child have symptoms please continue to follow the government guidelines and self-isolate pending the outcome of a PCR test. Remember that if you do an LFD test at home and it is positive, it must be backed up with a PCR test as well. If your child does have to self-isolate for any reason please let us know as quickly as possible, so that we can assess who else might have to isolate from school.

Exciting News

In other news we are very excited to announce that the governors have applied for planning permission for an extension to the school to provide a new classroom space. This will allow us to continue to grow, and ensure that the Orca class have their own classroom space, rather than having to section off part of the hall, as we are doing currently. It also involves a bit of internal remodelling - moving the office and main entrance to the opposite side of the school, with access straight from the street; and consequential moving of the staffroom, and redoing the toilets. We are hopeful that we will receive the necessary funding for the extension and that work will be able to start in the Summer holidays. If you would like to see the plans you can view them on the Northumberland Planning Portal.

Mrs Threlfall: Head Teacher

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It is inevitable that the build will not be finished in time for the start of the Autumn Term, so there will be some disruption involved that will include using other spaces in the village for our learning. We will, of course, keep you fully informed of our plans when we have finalised them.

Wraparound and Clubs

We continue to offer wraparound before and after school each day. We are offering clubs from 3pm-4pm on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays this term. Please speak to Melissa if you would like to book your child in for any of these options.

Beach School

Current rulings allow us to return to Beach School, which we are delighted about! Most weeks we will return to school for lunch, but some weeks we might take a packed lunch with us and stay out longer. We will let you know in advance if this is the case. The weather is definitely still changeable so please ensure that your child has full school PE kit on, including hoodie and tracksuit bottoms, and that they bring waterproofs, wellies, hats and gloves. Please also ensure that they have trainers with them, so that they can put them on when we get back to school. Please make sure that your child brings a rucksack and a water bottle on Fridays. As the sun starts to get warmer please ensure that your child has sun cream (and can apply it themselves).

PE

PE takes place twice a week. One session will be during our beach school session and the other will be as follows. On your PE day please come into school IN PE KIT.

- Puffins will be doing PE on Tuesdays
- Orcas and Seals will be doing PE on Thursdays

We will not be returning to swimming lessons this term, as we would not be able to keep bubbles separate due to transportation and mixed ability levels in the pool.

Regular Practice

We are keen that your children continue to master the basics and increase their fluency in reading and maths. The best way of doing this is through regular practice. As a result, we expect the following to occur:

- a. daily reading to an adult (even those that are free readers). Please make sure that all reading is logged using Go-Read. Please make sure that you ask your child questions about what they are reading. Attached are some different questions that you could ask.
- b. those children who have a Reading Eggs / Eggspress log in to spend some time on it 3 times a week.
- c. children to go on Times Table Rockstars and / or Numbots three times a week.

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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 and texts. Please make sure that if you change your email address or phone number, you let us know. This is particularly important should we need to contact you in an emergency. If you would like to speak to a member of staff please email us (admin@vincentedwards.northumberland.sch.uk) or give us a call and we can arrange a meeting.

Kind Regards

Nicola Threlfall
Head Teacher

Questions to ask your child when reading

All year groups

What has happened so far?
What do you think will happen next? Why do you think that?
Can you think of another word the author could have used instead of that one?
What does that word mean?
What is an illustrator? What do they do?
Who is your favourite character? Why?

Year 1 and above

What is that punctuation mark?
Which is the noun/verb in the sentence?
Can you find any adjectives/adverbs on the page?
Why do you think the author used that word?
Who are the main characters?
Is there a hidden message in the story? What is it?
Do you like how the story ended? Can you think of another way the book could have ended?

Year 3 and above

Which tense is the book written in?
When/where is the story set? How do you know?
Which is your favourite/worst/funniest/scariest part of the story? Why?
What happens in the story's opening? What happens next?
If you could change one thing in the story what would it be? Why?

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