



Respect, Happiness, Growth



Newsletter, September 2017

Dear Parents and friends,

Hello and welcome to a new term at Amble First School. You may have noticed a new face at the school gates. I am delighted to introduce myself as your new headteacher. Your children have already given me a fantastic welcome and I know with their enthusiasm and your support we are going to have a great year! The staff team have been working hard to prepare an exciting curriculum and learning environment in order to give your children the best opportunities to grow and develop as individuals. I look forward to sharing their journeys...

Mrs Helen Bruce

Ofsted news

Going out with the Newsletter tonight is a copy of our Ofsted inspection report which was carried out on 4-6th July 2017. Please read it carefully. We are pleased that it recognises that your children are "**polite, happy and well behaved**" and that there is "**strong care and support**" for you children from our staff. With this strong foundation, a leadership team at full capacity (thanks to Mrs Jenkins☺) and committed governors I have full confidence that we will address the issues that require improvement. I would welcome your constructive comments about the Ofsted report if you could complete the attached form.

Dates for your diary

- **Parent Assemblies** - Family and friends are all welcome to watch children celebrate and share their learning - always a Monday afternoon at 2.45pm.

October 2nd - Year 4

October 9th - Year 2

October 16th - Year 3

November 6th - Year 1

November 13th - Reception

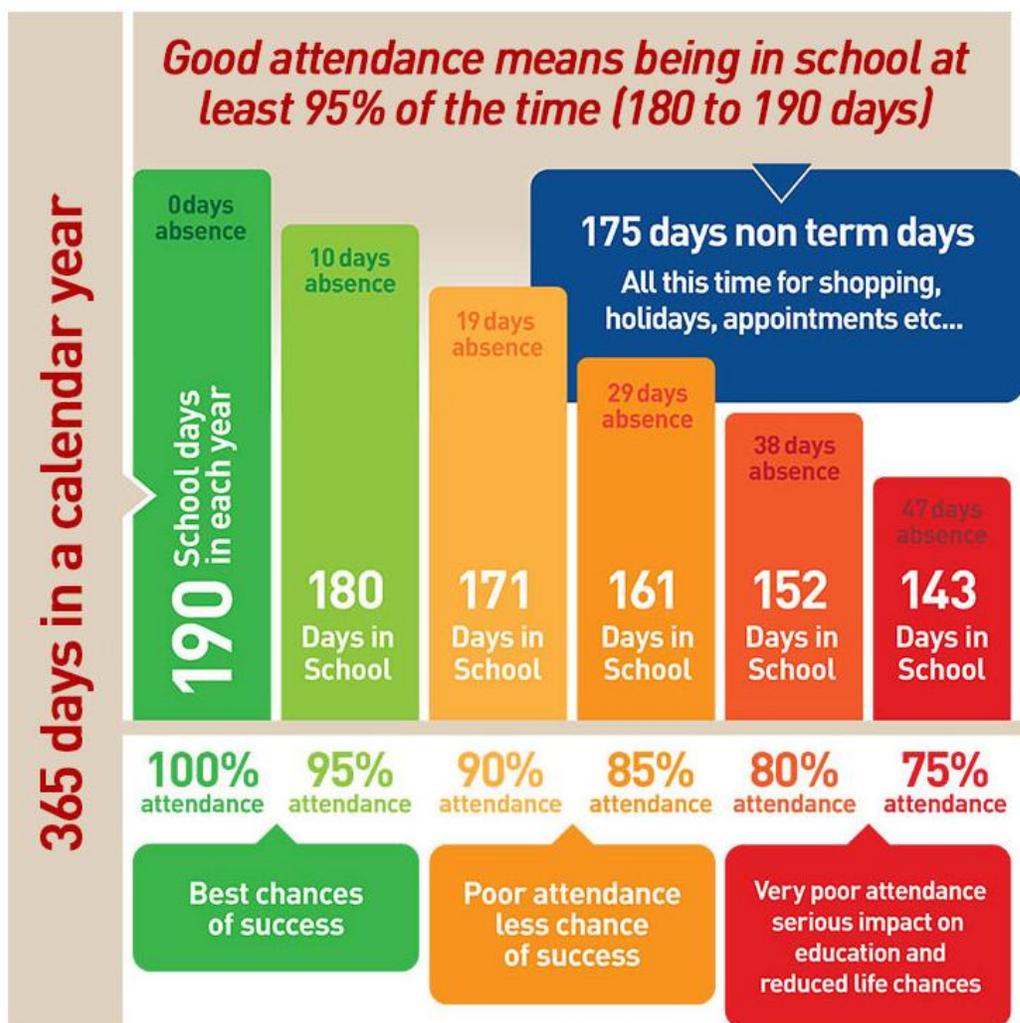
- **Numeracy parent drop in** - This term we will be offering you a chance to come and see your children working in a Maths lesson. The children are going to demonstrate how to solve problems in Maths and the teachers will be showing you how to help at home. The sessions will be run during the school day either first thing in the morning or the last session of the day. The dates are as following:
September 27th - Reception
November 15th - Year 4
November 22 - Year 3
November 29th - Year 1
December 6th - Year 2
- **Macmillan Coffee morning - September 29th** - Get baking ready to support our charity event for a very worthy cause! We are inviting all parents and friends to bring in cakes or biscuits to sell on September 29th. All proceeds to Macmillan cancer support. More details to follow.
- **Year Two SATs parents meeting-** This is a very important year for our year two pupils. All year two parents and carers are invited to learn more about their learning journey. We will share with you the expectations for the end of the year and explain the purpose of the end of year SATS (Standard Attainment Tests). To give you the best chance to attend we are running two meetings (you only need to come to one as they will be the same!) on **Monday September 18th at 9am** or **Thursday September 21st at 2:30pm**
- **Year One Phonics parents meeting-**All year one parents are invited to our phonics meeting. We will share with you the work we are doing in school and lots of fun resources and activities that you can do with your children at home. To give you the best chance to attend we are running two meetings (you only need to come to one as they will be the same!) on **Monday October 2nd at 9am** or **Monday October 2nd at 2:30pm**

Swimming

Swimming starts again on Tuesday 19th September for year 1, 2,3, and 4. Please ensure you have your swimming kit and swimming money..

Attendance

Attendance is a key improvement we are keen to make this year. As you can see from the table below, it really does make a difference.



DID YOU KNOW? A two week holiday in term time means that the highest attendance you can achieve is **94.7%**

In school we are working hard to give the children every incentive to attend. We have

- **Weekly Reach For The Stars** award for the class with the highest attendance
- **Our monthly and termly 100% honours list** recognising individual outstanding achievement

These are celebrated on Fridays in achievement assembly, on our monthly newsletters and will be an addition to our new website.

We are also monitoring attendance very closely to help us identify attendance patterns or issues.

Here is a helpful reminder from the Department of Education of how you can help.



HOW PARENTS CAN HELP –

- ✔ Establish a good routine in the mornings and evenings so your child is prepared for the school day ahead.
- ✔ Make sure your child goes to school regularly and follows the school rules.
- ✔ Ensure your child arrives at school on time – not late.
- ✔ Arrange dental and medical appointments outside school hours when possible.
- ✔ Always inform the school if your child is absent due to illness – this should be followed up with a written note when your child returns to school.
- ✔ Take truancy seriously – if your child is not attending school as you expect they may be putting themselves at risk – Who are they with? What are they doing?
- ✔ Take family holidays outside term time.
- ✔ Talk to your child about school and take an interest in their school work (including homeworks).
- ✔ Attend parent evenings and school events.
- ✔ Praise and reward your child's achievements at school.
- ✔ Always support school staff in their efforts to control difficult or challenging behaviour.
- ✔ Discuss any problems or difficulties with the school – staff are there to help and will be supportive.



Do not be afraid to ask for help if a problem arises.

We would love to improve our attendance figure so please work with us to make this happen!

Best wishes from,

The Amble First School Team

Parental Feedback Ofsted report 8.9.17

Please feel free to make any constructive comments about the Ofsted report below-

