

September 2020 Newsletter



Welcome back everyone! It's so lovely to have all the children back and I am grateful for your patience and understanding with the new Covid 19 rules.

I hope this is a fantastic term for your child/children and that they settle well into the 'new normal'!

Mrs Bruce 😊



A big thanks to our caretaker, Julie, who has never stopped working in the Summer holidays to deep clean the school, paint the classrooms and the outside of the mobile and organise a brand new door for Reception!



A huge good luck to Miss Taylor who has started a new job at Barndale. Thank you for all your time and hard work at Amble First School. We will miss you!



A big welcome to Miss Rebecca Mawson who will be joining year four as their Teaching Assistant.



Attendance

We have started so well with attendance in our first week back - a fantastic 98% (above National Average!). If your child will be absent from school, please phone the school office on 01665 710388 before 9am so we can record it on our system.

If you are going on holiday, you must complete a holiday form, a minimum of two weeks in advance which can be picked up from the school office or by emailing admin@amblefirst.northumberland.sch.uk

PLEASE continue to be vigilant about the government advice - If your child or anyone in the household has the following symptoms:

- a new and persistent cough,
- a high temperature,
- a loss of, or change in, their normal sense of taste or smell (anosmia).

Please don't bring your child to school. Phone the school office and we will support you with how to proceed.

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Home/school books and equipment

Reading books can continue to go home although with limited frequency. No reading records will be issued initially to reduce contact. Once pupils have finished a reading book they can bring them in to be changed on Tuesdays and Thursdays only. Books returned will be stored and sanitised for 72 hours (before being re-used). Books will not be shared between bubbles.

There will be no homework books issued in September. We are working on many creative ways to complete learning at home which year group teachers will share with parents separately.

Children should limit what is brought into school to essentials- reading books, packed lunch, coats. Children can still wear their PE uniform on their set PE day.



Reading week 7.9.2020

This week we will assess all of our pupils' reading skills- comprehension, phonics and fluency. We will also be running lots of fun activities to remind everyone of the importance of reading and the creative ways this could be done! The teachers will be inviting the children to share their favourite book of all time in return for a very special bookmark. Which book will be the most popular book in Amble First School? Results will be posted!



Writing week 14.9.2020

This week we will assess all of our pupils' writing skills- spelling, grammar, punctuation and fluency. We are going to embark on a whole school writing adventure to keep it fun- more details to follow... (there's bound to be some dressing up!!)



Maths week 21.9.2020

This week we will assess all of our pupils' place value skills and raise the profile of fun ways to practice\ learn mathematics. We're hopeful for nice weather and lots of outdoor active maths to inspire!

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Parents consultation/parents meeting

Following this we will be ready to have our first parent consultation/parent meeting but as you can imagine with Covid guidelines, this may not happen as usual (parents evening- parents come into school to discuss face to face with teachers). We will get in touch with you as soon as the guidance on how to proceed becomes clear!

- **Year Two SATs parent meeting-** Usually, in September we would hold a parents meeting to explain the SATs (Standard Attainment Tests- national government expectation in year two) and how we can work in partnership to help your child reach their full potential in Reading, Writing and Maths. This year Miss Gascoigne-Owens will put out a video link explanation before parents consultations at the start of October.
- **Year One Phonics parent meeting-** At the start of October, Mr Wonders will share a video link about the Phonic National test at the end of year one. 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.



Cashless system

Our new cashless system is proving very successful, saving us a lot of admin time and reducing unnecessary contact. If you haven't registered yet, please do so as soon as possible. This is now the way to pay for your child's dinners, swimming, trips, etc. or book a place at our breakfast/after school club.

The deadline for the breakfast/after school club bookings for the following week is every Sunday (this will be changed to midday on Friday after October half term).

If you have any problems with registration please see Miss Nowak.

Nursery/Toucans parents - we are still waiting for the company to create these groups, so please bear with until it's all sorted. We keep a record of all dinners and/or sessions taken (Toucans) and you will be able to pay for these once it's all set up.

Best wishes from,

The Amble First School Team

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