




Newsletter

I hope you had a happy half term!  Well done to all our spelling bee superstars- the winning pictures are on the school website and to every pupil and parent who put in extra effort to learn those tricky words. The government have now announced that pupils in year four will take a Multiplication Tables Check in May/June from 2020 (A non-statutory check can be done this year) so we want to prepare our pupils purposefully byhaving a times table rock star competition! More details below.



Thank you for the super turnout at class assemblies on Thursday morning and to the PTA for organising tea, coffee, juice and biscuits. The children have really enjoyed the extra time after the assembly and the feedback about what our school curriculum should look like has been invaluable. The school team are currently designing a super new teaching and learning policy ready for September 2019 which will include this feedback.

Mrs Bruce ☺



Attendance

Our whole school attendance level has dropped below our target level of 96% for the first time this year! This is mostly down to pupil illness in the Spring Term.

Spring Term 1 was a tough term for pupil illness. Thanks to all families for following our attendance policy. The main rules are:

- A morning phone call before 9am, if possible, to report absences.
- A note from the doctors/dentist/hospital etc. to confirm appointments in school time.

As much as we want pupils to attend, it is important to follow the following advice to prevent the symptoms spreading:

- In line with NHS advice: if a child is **Vomiting or has diarrhoea**. - Children with these conditions should be kept off school. They can return **48 hours after**

their symptoms disappear. Most cases of vomiting or diarrhoea get better without treatment, but if symptoms persist, consult your GP.

We would encourage you to send pupils to school with minor ailments such as coughs and colds. We always monitor these children and phone home if their case worsens.



Reading challenge

60% of pupils have completed the termly reading challenges. This means that 60% of our pupils are reading for **10 minutes every single night**. That is amazing!! Every term pupils have a chance to win the year group prize book. Many other pupils have made super efforts and increased their reading stamina. This is having a huge impact in school- The buzz for reading and the confidence level of pupils can be seen in every class. Pupils are understandably proud of a change in book level or their class reading chart.

Look out for our eggcellent easter extravaganza - launching on Monday 11th March.



Congratulations to our super year four gymnasts and golfers

See the website for a picture of our year four athletes who bravely challenged 12 schools in the Coquet and Ashington School Sport Partnership to finish in fifth position. Very well done!

We also entered a team of golfers into a Coquet and Ashington School sport partnership event- some of our pupils experiencing the game for the very first time! Mr Wonders was impressed with pupil skills on the day and commented on how well they represented our school with excellent attitudes and behaviour. Thank you golfers!

Bear, our Alnwick Falcons rugby coach, has also asked me to pass on his praise to all KS2 pupils and his KS1 after school club! He said it is a pleasure to come to Amble First and work with great sporting attitudes!

We have a dance teacher coming to work with KS2 this term and we are looking for a team to enter the Coquet and Ashington dance competition. Mr Wonders is also preparing KS2 for a partnership football competition.

Go Amble First!

Dates for your diary:



Assembly format

We are trying a new assembly format in the Spring Term. Year group assemblies will take place on a Thursday morning at 9am followed by tea\ coffee\ juice and biscuits for parents\ carers and pupils in that year group.

The remaining dates for assemblies are:

7.3.19- Year Two

21.3.19- Reception



Easter dates

The children will be walking to St Cuthbert's for an Easter Experience run by the parish. The dates are:

- 1:30pm - Year 2 - Tuesday March 26th
- 10:45am - Year 4 - Thursday March 28th
- 9:15am - Reception - Tuesday March 26th
- 10:45am - Year 1 - Tuesday March 26th
- 9:15am - Year 3 - Thursday March 28th

Please let class teachers know if you are able to help walk the children to and from the event.

Parents and carers please come along to share our Easter Service at St Cuthbert's on **Thursday 4th April, 2:00pm**. All classes from Reception to year four will be sharing Easter songs, poems and prayers that they have been learning. If you can help with the walk to and from church please let your child's class teacher know.

Parents
Evening

Parent's evening

Week beginning 25th March 2018, more details to follow from class teachers.



STEM week

Week beginning 11.3.18 is **Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) week**. Our year four pupils are going up to the high school on Wednesday morning to earn a STEM certificate!

We are going to repeat our travelling professors day. Watch as your teachers turn into professors for the day!



PTA

The PTA would like to invite you to an adult fundraiser for a change! How would you like to win £30 and a bottle of wine for each participant?

All you have to do is come along to our quiz night on **Thursday 4th April**. From 7:30pm 'til 10pm. Teams are a maximum of six people. Entry costs are £3 per person.

Bring your own drink (yes alcohol allowed) and snacks - remember to bring your own glass

Winning team to win £30 and a bottle of wine each.

***Complete the return slip and put it in an envelope with entry money before Monday 1st April**



Egg competition

We will be holding a decorate the egg competition week beginning the 1.4.18 (last week of term) Bring your entries in from Monday 1st April. You can enter:

- individually, for your class competition,
- as a family for the family competition.

Entries will be judged on **Wednesday 3rd April**.

Easter egg prizes are being donated by the PTA.



Times table rock star

Each class will be tested (in an age appropriate way!) in class on:

Reception: Doubling up to double 10

Year One: The 2, 5 and 10 times table

Year Two: The 2,3,5 and 10 times table

Year Three: The 2,3,4,5,8 and 10 times table

Year four: All tables up to X 12!!

Top performers from all classes will be invited to key stage finals in the hall to determine who are the times table rock stars.

Teachers will also be rewarding pupil with times table rock star goodies for best improvements and best effort so give it your best shot!

After School Club

There is a limited number of places (8 in total) in our after school club and they

will be issued on a first come basis. Please return booking forms promptly to avoid disappointment and ensure your child gets a space when required.



I would like _____ tickets (1 per person) for the quiz night on **Thursday April 4th**.

I have included £3 per person. Total £ _____

Please hand back to school in an envelope.