



STARS OF THE WEEK

Minnie Henderson
Rowan Aitchtracey
Kayson Taylor
Kaiyra Hutchinson
Emmie Rowell
Charlie Nealon
Jennie Tuff

IN TO WIN WINNERS

Earlier this week we held our In To Win Draw for Spring 2. All children in Reception to Y4 who achieved 100% attendance for the whole half term (with no more than 1 late mark) were in the draw with one child from each class being drawn to visit Spurreli for an ice cream treat. Our lucky winners are:

Remi Schofield, Jonas Taylor-Smith, Sofia Dmytrenko, Zakk Anderson, and Frankie Richardson.

All children who were in the draw will enjoy an ice lolly treat in school shortly.

SAFETY ON WHATSAPP

We are aware that a number of our pupils use WhatsApp despite the minimum age for users being 13.

A recent BBC investigation has found that children as young as nine have been added to malicious WhatsApp groups promoting self-harm, sexual violence and racism.

If children have access to WhatsApp it is important that parents closely monitor the content that they are seeing and ensuring that the appropriate settings are in place. The BBC article can be found here:

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/articles/cy0l4z8n1p9o>

Some useful guidance from the NSPCC about WhatsApp can be found [HERE](#).



BAG2SCHOOL COLLECTION THANK YOU

Thanks to everyone who donated to our Bag2School Collection this week. Your donations are always gratefully received. The collection raised £124 towards PTA Funds.

REVIEW OF ATTENDANCE

This week our Education Welfare Officer has completed her 3 weekly visit to review pupil attendance. Based on our attendance policy and procedures we (which can be found [HERE](#)) will send out letters when a child's level of attendance is concerning us or there has been a further decline in attendance following previous letters. We encourage parents of pupils whose children have been absent from school with illness on a number of occasions to arrange to meet with Jane, our school nurse, who may be able to offer help, support or advice that could help attendance improve.

Improving school attendance is a key government priority and there is already new guidance in place that schools will follow from September which we will communicate to you as they come into play. Good attendance at school really does make a difference!

SCHOOL UNIFORM

We've been very pleased with the feedback received about our new school logo and are already seeing children coming into school with uniform items that include the logo. Parents are reminded that there will be no time limits for children to be wearing the new uniform and 'Amble Links First School' uniforms may still be worn for as long as the uniform is usable. Please do not buy the new uniform items until you really need to!

We know that school uniform items can add a financial burden to families so the only 'branded' items we expect the children to wear are sweatshirts or cardigans. Although other items can be purchased online through our [UNIFORM PROVIDER](#), many equivalent unbranded items can be bought more cheaply at supermarkets.

Despite the cost of new sweatshirts we continue to be surprised to see that many are still unnamed. Even your child's initials on the label in biro helps!

ATTENDANCE AND PUNCTUALITY

Our School Target is 97%

OVERALL LAST WEEK (R-Y4): 93.8%

	Last Week	This Year	Lates this week
YN (Seahorses)	92.3%	91.5%	0
YR (Turtles)	93.3%	94.7%	0
Y1 (Jellyfish)	93.3%	94.4%	1
Y2 (Puffins)	92.4%	94.8%	0
Y3 (Sharks)	95.4%	94.0%	0
Y4 (Penguins)	94.8%	96.7%	1

2024 SCHOOL DIARY

Monday 6th May	SCHOOL CLOSED FOR MAY BANK HOLIDAY
Friday 24th May	Parents to classrooms after assembly to see books
Friday 24th May	3.15pm School closes for half term.
Monday 3rd June	School reopens
Wednesday 5th June	Y4 Quadkids athletics at Amble Links
Thursday 6th June	Y3 to Children's Countryside Day at Wooler
Friday 19th July	2pm—School closes for Summer Holiday

ALL HOLIDAY DATES FOR 2023-24 and 2024-25 CAN BE FOUND ON THE SCHOOL WEBSITE [HERE](#).

SCHOOL DINNERS PREORDERING ESSENTIAL!

For children who have school dinners, please order these in advance WITH your child through SchoolGrid. If meals have not been preordered the meal choice for your child will default to the daily main meal. We are increasingly finding that children are telling us that they do not like the meal that they have been given as a result of meals not being ordered by parents. In order for us to be able to run a cost-efficient meal service we are not always able to provide an alternative.

SUMMER TERM ASSESSMENTS

During the summer term, many of our year groups take part in important national assessments including optional KS1 SATS tests in May (Y2), Phonics Screening Checks in June (Y1) and Multiplication Tables Checks in June (Y4). It is vitally important that absences are avoided during these times as this could impact results for your child and overall school results that we are measured on.