



October 2021 Newsletter

It is hard to believe that we are already into the month of October and that the children have been back in school for 4 weeks. This term really does seem to be flying by! I have been talking with the children on a number of occasions about our Core Values and Puffin Code and it is lovely to see how well they demonstrate these as they go about their work and play. Children are clearly very proud of their school and I have been working with the School Council to see how we can make it even better, so watch this space!

On a personal note, I would like to thank every one of you for the welcome that I have received since starting here at Amble First. It has been lovely to chat with many of you in the mornings and after school and it has made me feel very grateful to work here.

As always, if you need anything, please do not hesitate to get in touch with me, or any of the other staff.

Mrs Lizzie Jackson

Walk to School Month

October marks the start of Walk to School Month. We are challenging as many children as possible to walk, scoot or cycle to school. We will be talking with the children about how walking instead of using the car can help to protect the environment. There may also be a competition or two to take part in!



Special Dinner

Our children love our "Special Dinner" days and this term we are offering our ever popular "Cowboy Lunch" on Thursday 7th October 2021 at the cost of £2.20.

Children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 are entitled to universal free school meals, therefore don't need to pay (but have to return the booking form if usually having packed lunch).

Cowboy Dinner Menu

Banging Burgers
Campfire beans
Fireside fries
Crunchy cucumber sticks
Icy, Ice, Ice-cream or Freshly Baked Cookie



Flu vaccination

For those who returned forms in the summer term, the flu vaccination will take place in school on **30th November.**

PE kits

We continue to encourage children to wear PE kits to school on the days that they have PE lessons. Children who take part in after school sports lessons should come to school in uniform and change for the session. We are currently looking into the possibility of offering a school tracksuit which can be worn on PE days and which would be suitable, particularly in the colder months, for wearing all day. In the meantime, please can children continue to wear black shorts/joggers/tracksuit bottoms and their school t-shirts and jumpers.

Great North Air Ambulance Clothing Collection

Thinking of having a clear out before Christmas? The Great North Air Ambulance have asked for our support with donations of clothing, bedding, curtains, towels, belts, paired shoes. Please no bric-a-brac or school uniforms with the logo on. We will be sending out bags this week and these will be collected on **Tuesday 12th October**. This will help us to raise a great amount of funds for a fantastic cause and we will also receive 15p per kg for our school.



If there are any old shirts in your clearout, these would be gratefully received in school for painting lessons.

Halloween Day

We are very excited to announce that we will be holding our Halloween celebration on **Friday 22nd October**. Children are welcome to come dressed in costumes should they wish and they will take part in different activities during the day. Please ensure that clothes are suitable for the weather. We would also love to create a spooky trail of pumpkins around the school yard so get carving and bring them in for all to see. £1 entry for each pumpkin. Prizes will be awarded for the most creative entries.



Parents' Evenings

This term, meetings will take place via phone calls again. A sign-up sheet will be sent out for you to choose a convenient time to receive the call.

Dates will be as follows:

Nursery	Tues 12th
Reception	Tues 12th, Wed 13th
Year 1	Mon 11th, Tues 12th, Wed 13th
Year 2	Mon 11th, Wed 13th
Year 3	Tues 12th, Wed 13th
Year 4	Tues 12th, Wed 13th, Thurs 14th

Harvest festival

We welcome you to join us for our Harvest Celebration on **Thursday 21st October**. This will be held at St. Cuthbert's Church at 10am. Children will be sharing songs, poems, stories and prayers with you. Nursery and Reception children will be recording their celebration in school and this will be shared on Tapestry. We will also be collecting donations for the Amble Food Bank and would welcome any tins, boxes, packets of food that you have spare.



Reminder - Admissions to Middle School

If you have not done so already, please remember to complete your application for Middle School. The portal will close on **31st of October 2021.**

<https://www.northumberland.gov.uk/Education/Schools/School-admissions-places-appeals-1/Yr-5-Middle-Yr-7-Secondary-Yr-9-High-entry-applica.aspx>

Water Bottles and Packed Lunches

A polite reminder that water bottles brought into school should be named and should contain water only. We ask that children do not bring juice for two reasons; some juices can be high in sugar and as a school we try to promote healthy eating/drinking. Secondly, spilled juice is very sticky which creates mess in the classrooms and can cause problems with unwanted insects, particularly in the warmer months. We would also request that children do not bring bags of sweets or large chocolate bars in their packed lunch boxes. Many thanks for your support with this.

Times Tables Rockstars

Times Tables Rockstars is a fun way to help children practise their times tables. There are a number of different challenges that they can try and these can be done in less than 5 minutes. Children really enjoy trying to beat their own scores. Staff will be promoting TTRS with the children and will set up some competitions over the coming weeks. Ask your children to tell you more about it and encourage them to practise as often as possible at home. Please contact staff if you have any difficulties with logging on.



The Amble First School Team