



October 2022 Newsletter

We have had such a lovely start to the year and it hasn't taken the children long to get into the swing of being back at school. The children have recently voted for new School Councillors and Puffin Patrollers and these children will play a key role in helping us to make Amble First School even better!

This term we are looking to redefine the vision for our school and we would like your help to do this. We would like to know what you want for your children during their time at school and in the future. If you could spare a couple of minutes to complete the following survey, we would really appreciate your thoughts to help us to create a vision that can be shared by all members of the Amble First community.

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdLD31zm3vaB5TJ9EzpEwytdi-F2-1B9_UGsTKBDij9xxvXw/viewform?usp=sf_link

Mrs Lizzie Jackson

Harvest festival

We welcome you to join us for our Harvest Celebration on **Tuesday 18th October**. This will be held at St. Cuthbert's Church at 10am. Children will be sharing songs, poems, stories and prayers with you. We will also be collecting donations for the Amble Food Bank and would welcome any tins, boxes, packets of food that you have spare. Please bring these into school at any time from the week beginning 10th October.



Halloween Celebration

As Halloween falls on the same day as the school photographer is visiting school, we have decided to hold our Halloween celebration on **Friday 21st October**. Children are welcome to come to school in fancy dress, though please be aware that this is also their PE day. We will also be holding our annual pumpkin competition and welcome entries from all pupils. Please send these in on the Friday morning and the children will then be able to take them home for the half term holiday.



Dinners

Please could we kindly request a week's notice if you are making changes to children's lunch choices. This will enable us to ensure that we order enough supplies in the kitchen. We do understand that sometimes things happen and this is not always possible, but would request that you please inform the office as soon as you are able.

Water bottles and packed lunches

A polite reminder that water bottles brought into school need to 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.

Due to allergies, we are also a **nut-free school**. No products containing nuts should be sent into school.

Parents/carers meetings

By now you should have received a letter offering you an appointment to meet with your child's class teacher. The aim of these meetings is to discuss how well your child has settled into their new class and is an opportunity for you to ask any questions. The following times are available for each class:



Nursery: Tues 11th 3:30pm - 5:00pm

Reception: Tues 11th and Wed 12th 3:30pm - 5:00pm

Year 1: Mon 10th and Wed 12th 3:30pm - 5:00pm

Year 2: Mon 10th and Tues 11th 3:30pm - 5:00pm

Year 3: Tues 11th and Wed 12th 3:30pm - 5:00pm

Year 4: Tues 11th and Wed 12th 3:30pm - 5:00pm

School photographer

The school photographer will be in school on **Monday 31st October** to take individual photos of children. Children will also have their photographs taken with siblings who are in school on this day.



Reading books

At Amble First, we place great importance on reading and we are proud to be able to provide a wide range of texts for children to take home to share with you. Unfortunately, over the last year many of our books have not been returned and this has resulted in a very costly bill of over £1600 to replace them. Whilst we understand that sometimes accidents happen and things go missing or get damaged, could we kindly request that books are returned to school regularly so that all children can benefit from them.



Phone contacts and change of address

Could all changes to phone numbers and/or home address be updated by email or in person as soon as possible. **Minimum of 2 emergency numbers must be provided.**

Reminder: Admissions to Middle School - Year 4 children

The online portal for admissions to Middle School will be open from 12th September. You can access the portal using the following link.

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

All applications must be completed by the 31st October.

Special dinner day

Our "Special Dinner Day" this term is on Thursday 6th October 2022. If you would like your child to receive a dinner on that day, please email the office by Monday 3rd October.

Children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 are entitled to universal free school meals, therefore don't need to pay (but parents must reply by email if child is usually having packed lunch).

If your child normally has a school lunch each day, you do not need to reply.

Cowboy Dinner Menu

Mini sausages

Smokey beans

Smiley potato faces

Crunchy cucumber sticks

Melt in the middle chocolate pudding