



**15.05.26**

## **Executive Headteacher's Update**

Dear Parents/Carers,

Huge congratulations to our Year 6 pupils for the way they approached their Sats tests; they were calm, organised, determined and particularly loved Mrs Popay's sausage and bacon rolls to start the day! Well done to them all for trying their very best.

Other assessments are still taking place, such as Year 1 phonics, so please keep supporting with good attendance.

We will be keeping you informed of your child's/children's attendance more regularly, so look out for attendance certificates coming home next week.

Below is a link to our Facebook group, in case you are finding it tricky using the QR code:

<https://www.facebook.com/share/g/1CNfoBbRsJ/?mibextid=wwXlfr>

We will be having an 'Elmer Day' on Friday 22nd May, so the children can come in multi-coloured/colourful non-uniform, and if able to do so, bring a donated item to be used in the creation of a hamper for the School Fair on 13th June. Please also remember to support the EPFC with its Blue Bag recycling day on Monday!

**Important:** Rewiring of our school kitchen needs to begin on Thursday 21st May, in order to be finished before the return to school. The Hall and kitchen will be out of use on 21st and 22nd May, therefore, please can KS2 pupils bring an appropriate packed lunch from home. Mandy will be able to prepare sandwich lunches for our younger pupils, using the staff kitchen area. We apologise for this inconvenience, but need to maintain school safety.

Please also be reassured that we do not have any asbestos contaminated sand products in school

Warm regards,  
Mrs Diane Lakey



# ELMER DAY

#ElmerDay

Dress in your **briest** colours and join us for a **celebration** of everyone's **favourite** patchwork elephant!

Instead of money for non uniform day, please donate an item for the Summer Fair hamper raffle:

Starfish class - something **blue** or **green**

Puffin class - something **yellow** or **pink**

Seal class - something **red** or **purple**

Orca class - something **black** or **white**

**Thank you!**

Embleton Primary  
Fundraising Charity  
Registered Charity Number 1203302

GO  
ALL  
IN.



At The National College, our [WakeUpWednesday](https://www.thenationalcollege.com) guides empower and equip parents, carers and educators with the confidence and practical skills to be able to have informed and age-appropriate conversations with children about online safety, mental health and wellbeing, and climate change. Formerly delivered by National Online Safety, these guides now address wider topics and themes. For further guides, facts and tips, please visit [thenationalcollege.com](https://www.thenationalcollege.com).

### What Parents & Educators Need to Know about

# IMAGE-ALTERING FILTERS

From playful puppy ears on Snapchat to 'beauty mode' on TikTok, image-altering filters are now a routine part of how young people communicate online. While many are harmless, others subtly reshape people's faces and bodies. This can blur the line between reality and edited content, potentially influencing how children and young people see themselves and others.

#### WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

##### ALTERED BEAUTY STANDARDS

Many beauty filters smooth skin, reshape facial features, or adjust body proportions. Over time, repeated exposure to these filters can shift a child's idea of what is 'normal' or attractive, creating unrealistic expectations about their own and others' appearances.

##### PRESSURE TO LOOK PERFECT

Filtered images can often attract more 'likes' and positive comments. This can encourage children and young people to rely on editing tools to gain others' approval, rather than feeling confident in their natural appearance.

##### LOW SELF-ESTEEM

Regularly viewing heavily filtered content can lead to comparisons with unrealistic images. This is linked to body dissatisfaction and reduced self-esteem, particularly among children and teenagers.

##### HIDDEN ADVERTISING

Some filters are linked to beauty products or trends, subtly promoting third-party brands. Children and young people may not recognise this as advertising, while also sharing personal data – such as facial images and usage habits – with apps and third parties.

##### BLURRED REALITY

As filters become more advanced and natural-looking, it can be difficult for children and young people to distinguish edited content from real life, especially when filters are used in everyday photos and videos.

##### SEXUALISED EDITS

Certain filters can make users appear older or more muscular. This may attract unwanted attention, increase the risk of images being shared without consent, and expose young people to unsafe interactions.

## Advice for Parents & Educators

#### START OPEN CONVERSATIONS

Talk regularly about filters, such as how they work and why people use them. Ask the children and young people in your care how filtered images make them feel and encourage honest discussion without judgement.

#### CHALLENGE 'PERFECT' POSTS

When viewing content together, gently point out the signs of editing, filters, or posing techniques. This builds critical thinking and helps children and young people question unrealistic images.

#### REINFORCE WHAT'S REAL

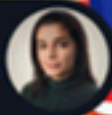
Help children and young people understand that filtered images are digitally altered and are not an accurate reflection of real life. Emphasise that they don't need to meet these artificial standards.

#### PROMOTE OFFLINE CONFIDENCE

Encourage activities that build self-worth beyond appearance, such as sports, hobbies, friendships, and creative interests, so that confidence isn't tied solely to online validation.

#### Meet Our Expert

Parven Kaur is a digital parenting expert and founder of Kids n Clicks, a platform dedicated to helping parents navigate the online world alongside their children. She is an expert contributor for internal matters, offering practical guidance on emerging online safety issues. Her insights have been featured by the BBC, The Telegraph, Talk TV, and other major media outlets, supporting families across the UK.



See full reference list on page 2/3



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## Attendance

Class	Weekly attendance	Annual attendance
Starfish	100	96.69
Puffins	100	93.58
Seals	88.19	91.41
Orcas	99.01	93.07

**Did you know?** Each pupil has 175 non-school days a year to spend however they like. The table below shows the significant impact of absence over time.

Days of school add up to lost learning						
Days in school	190	186	180	175	171	170
Percentage attendance	100%	98%	95%	92%	90%	<90%
	Excellent	Excellent	Good	Caution	Cause for concern	Serious concern

**Absence Procedures** If your child is ill, please keep them at home until they are well enough to return to school. Please notify us by phone call or email before 9.15am if your child is to be absent, and continue to inform us on a daily basis if they continue to be ill.

**What are the risks of missing a day of school?** 'Being in school is important to your child's achievement, wellbeing and wider development. Pupils with the highest attendance throughout their time in school gain the best GCSE results. The higher a pupil's attendance, the more they are likely to learn, and the better they are likely to perform in exams and formal assessments.' The Education Hub - Department for Education.



## **Classroom Updates - Starfish Class**

We continued with Daisy Hirst's 'I Like Trains' story this week. We spent time exploring the children's own experiences through family photos of train journeys. This led to a fantastic group discussion where the children shared stories about their travels and the different trains they have encountered. The children have completed various challenges relating to our story by making trains from playdough and recycled materials, drawing electric trains, using tweezers to pick up buttons to fill a train, drawing 'small dogs' train journey, adding coins to make amounts to pay for train tickets and using chalk to draw train tracks on the playground. We also added some messy play to our week with a jelly and gloop tuff tray! The children loved the tactile challenge of scooping, pouring, and squishing these different materials. It was a brilliant (and very sticky!) way to encourage curious exploration and imaginative play. At beach school we had a story about a stripy fish who loved to play hide and seek. We made our own stripy fish and then took them on an adventure in the dunes.





## Classroom Updates - Puffin Class

It has been an incredibly busy and productive week this week! We kicked things off with an exciting Blue-Bot lesson with Miss Scott, where the children were thrilled to master early programming by controlling floor robots via iPads. Our historical journey continued as we plotted Amelia Earhart's brave attempt to fly solo around the world, while in PSHE, we tackled the mysteries of modern finance. We had a wonderful discussion about the difference between cash and "tapping" cards—gently debunking the myth of the endless money supply—and even thought of some ways the children could earn some pocket money of their own! Our physical activity took us from energetic PE sessions with Callum and Sam to the beach, where we practiced standing long jumps; we quickly realized that jumping on sand is a true test of balance! While at the beach, we also explored the world of materials, identifying various substances and their uses in the environment. Finally, in maths, our Year 1s have been mastering their doubles while Year 2s have shown great focus on fractions of numbers. Well done to both year groups for another week of hard work and enthusiasm!





## Classroom updates - Seals Class

It has been another action-packed week in Seal Class, with our History lessons taking us into the heart of a rebellion! We have been learning the dramatic story of Boudicca and her brave stand against the Roman Empire. The children were fascinated by her leadership and the impact she had on British history. In English, we have been preparing to write our own recounts of *The Iron Man*. To get our thoughts in order, we carefully sequenced the key events of the story using storyboards, ensuring we have a solid foundation for our upcoming writing. In Science, we turned our attention to the properties of light, specifically investigating which materials are the most reflective. The children enjoyed testing different surfaces to see how light bounces off them and discussing why reflective materials are so important for safety. Our creative side also shone as we put the finishing touches on our repeating patterns in Art, with the children showing great precision and a keen eye for design. We also introduced a new way to recap our learning this week: the Kahoot quiz! The children were absolutely enamoured with this interactive challenge.





## Classroom updates - Orca Class

Firstly, allow me to congratulate the Year 6 pupils for showing determination, perseverance and maturity during SATs week. Secondly, I want to thank the Year 5 pupils for being adaptable and remaining focused on their work while the exams were taking place.

In geography, the children can identify what and where the Ring of Fire is and why it has so many earthquakes in that area.

More work on Ancient Greece in History this week, as we explored the Battle of Marathon and battle tactics. We also delved deeper as to the significance of the Athenian victory over the Persians at Marathon and why it was such an important victory not only to the Greeks but to ourselves too.

Who has heard of American artist James Rizzi? Orcas have. And what's more they have recreated their own artwork in the cartoonish Urban Primitive Art style.



Alexander's.



Aidan's.



Faye's.



# Embleton Vincent Edwards CE Primary School Friday Flyer

## Dates for your Diary

Monday 18th May am

	Seals Class NUFC Multi-sports Festival (Wear PE Kit and bring Swimming Kit and Packed Lunch with you to school)
<b>Wednesday 20th May</b>	KS2 Visit to Newcastle City Mosque with Ellingham friends Starfish Parents' Lunch
<b>Thursday 21st May</b>	Open the Book (leading our Collective Worship)
<b>Friday 22nd May</b>	Elmer Day (wear brightly coloured clothes to school) Half-term begins
<b>Wednesday 3rd June</b>	Trinity Tots to visit Starfish Class

**PE days for Reception Starfish, Puffins will be on Mondays and Wednesdays. Y6 will have PE on Mondays. Y3, 4 and 5 will continue to swim on Mondays too. Please send your children to school wearing their PE kits on their PE days. Thank you**

## Stars of the week

### Names:

**Starfish:** Poppy

**Puffins:** Fedir

**Seals:** Penny

**Orcas:** Faye