



SUPPORT FOR LIFE THROUGH  
COMPASSION, PERSEVERANCE & RESPECT

Monday 6<sup>th</sup> January 2020

### **SPRING HALF TERM 1 – NEWSLETTER**

I hope that you have all had a great holiday period, and are looking forward to what 2020 brings. I would like to take this opportunity to formally welcome Megan, who started in Orca Class during last term, and Arthur, Connie and Caroline who join us in nursery this term. They are four new families to our school, and I know that you will make them feel very welcome.

#### **Quality of Education Update**

We continue to work incredibly hard to ensure that your children get an inspiring and effective education, and are very proud of our achievements. We are really grateful for the support that you continue to give your children, whether it be through listening to them read daily, helping them with homework, encouraging them to go on Timestable Rockstars, or just asking them what they have been learning about at school. If your child is not very forthcoming with what they have been doing at school, you can always have a look at the class and beach school pages on the website as they give you a good idea and can be a great starting point for discussions!

#### **Weather**

As you know the weather remains very changeable so please remind everyone to make sure that their children are appropriately clothed for all eventualities. Please ensure that your child has wellies, and ideally waterproof trousers, in every day as this will mean that we can still go outside. Please make sure that your child has a warm coat, hat and gloves. In the event of ice a path will be gritted round to the school entrance from the gates. Please ensure that you keep to the path. The school will not take responsibility for any injuries that occur if people do not keep to the path. In the event of snow we will make every effort to keep the school open. That said, if we need to close information will be on the Northumberland County Council Website, and the school website. We will also endeavour to let you know via email.

#### **School Funding**

You will undoubtedly be aware from the media, that school funding continues to remain of significant concern. Whilst the new government has promised additional funding, we will not see any of it until next year at the earliest. Meanwhile, costs continue to increase and it remains very challenging to balance the books, whilst giving your children the education experience that they deserve. Yet again, I am incredibly grateful to the PFA for all the work they do fundraising, and why am very thankful to all of you who support PFA events. The bag-pack and Christmas Fair again raised over £1000. £1000 helps to cover the costs of about 3 class trips throughout the year, and pays for our subscription to Reading Eggs and Timestable Rockstars. Your support means we do not have to cancel these elements of our offer, and means that we rarely request any contributions towards visits.

I would also like to thank Indira and Marlie's grandmother, Elizabeth, whose craft group very kindly donated the proceeds of their tabletop sale to school funds. We are going to use the money to buy a sewing machine for Orca class to use as part of their DT projects, and use the remainder to buy additional craft resources. Thank you also to Thomas and Jack's grandma, Pauline, for donating an additional sewing machine.

Mrs Threlfall: Head Teacher

Embleton Vincent Edwards C of E Aided Primary School, Embleton, Alnwick Northumberland NE66 3XR

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### **PFA Bingo**

The PFA Bingo is at the Creighton Hall on Saturday night. If you have any prizes to donate to the event, and the associated raffle, please can you drop them in to the office as soon as possible (a great opportunity to get rid of unwanted or unneeded Christmas gifts!) Please come along, although be aware that there are a range of members from the local community who also come and take it very seriously!

### **Parent/Carer Workshops**

There will be a range of workshops this half term to help support you in your child's learning:

- Thursday 30th January 3-4pm Year 6 SATS information
- Thursday 6th February 1.30-3pm NSPCC Number Day
- Tuesday 11th February 4.15-5pm Internet Safety

### **Wraparound**

We continue to offer wraparound care from 7.30 am, and until 5.30 pm. Please speak to Melissa if you would like to book any sessions. We prefer bookings in advance, although can take additional children on a short notice basis if you are stuck.

### **PE – Puffins and Orcas**

This half term Puffins and Orcas will be doing gymnastics on a Tuesday. Please ensure that your child brings PE kit into school on a Tuesday.

### **Beach School**

We will be continuing to attend Beach School every Friday. Please ensure that children wear school PE kit to come to school. We will continue to monitor and assess the weather and conditions each week, and will adjust our sessions accordingly, whether that be by working in the dunes, going to a sheltered spot on the beach, going down slightly later, or coming back earlier. Assume that your child will ALWAYS be going and dress them accordingly. Please ensure coats are properly waterproof (not just shower proof), and that your child is wearing layers underneath their school hoodie. Please also ensure that your child is wearing warm socks - the plastic soles of many wellies do not insulate the children very well, and cold feet quickly become uncomfortable. Please make sure that your child has both wellies and trainers in school on Fridays, as if we do have to return, your child needs something to wear on their feet, other than wellies, in the classroom.

### **Holidays during Term-time**

Please remember that it is really important that your child attends school every day that they can. As a school we cannot authorise days off during term-time, unless your child is sick, as time off during term-time is illegal in all but exceptional circumstances. More than the legality, though, is the fact that your child will miss out on important learning. All our lessons are carefully sequenced to ensure that new information is presented in small steps, and builds on the lessons that have gone before. If a child misses out on a week of learning, it means they do not have the building blocks in place for future learning.

### **Music**

Orca class continue their trumpet lessons each Wednesday this half term therefore please make sure that instruments are brought into school. Children that have music lessons with Caro are also reminded to bring their music and notebooks with them each Thursday.

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### Communication

Important information, newsletters, diary dates, class pages and weekly school and class blogs are on the school website at [www.embletonprimaryschool.com](http://www.embletonprimaryschool.com). Please use this as your first port of call for finding the information you need. If there is anything else you would like to see on the website please let us know. We will continue to send out information via email and in book-bags. Please make sure that if you change your email address or phone number, you let us know. This is particularly important should we need to contact you in an emergency. If you would like to speak to a member of staff please either catch us at the beginning or end of day, email us ([admin@vincentedwards.northumberland.sch.uk](mailto:admin@vincentedwards.northumberland.sch.uk)) or give us a call.

### Payments to School

Please ensure payments to school are made promptly. This is particularly important for lunch money. Lunch money is due on the Monday for that week or a half term ahead. The school can accept cash or cheques.

### School Applications

If you have a nursery-aged child, please remember that you need to apply for a school place for Reception by next week. Let us know if you are having problems accessing the form online.

### Diary Dates

Please find below diary dates. Note that the Family Worship is on alternate Friday mornings and Parent Lunches are a mix of Tuesdays and Wednesdays.

Monday 6 <sup>th</sup> January	School Resumes for Spring Half Term 1
Friday 10 <sup>th</sup> January	Parent Assembly – 8:45am
Monday 13 <sup>th</sup> January	Puffin & Orcas Parent Consultations 2:30-4:30pm
Thursday 16 <sup>th</sup> January	Orcas Parent Consultations 2:30-4pm
Tuesday 21 <sup>st</sup> January	Parent Lunch – Midday
Friday 24 <sup>th</sup> January	Parent Assembly – 8:45am
Thursday 30 <sup>th</sup> January	Year 6 SATS Information 3-4pm
Thursday 6 <sup>th</sup> February	NSPCC Number Day 1:30-3pm
Friday 7 <sup>th</sup> February	Parent Assembly – 8:45am
Tuesday 11 <sup>th</sup> February	Internet Safety 4:15-5pm
Wednesday 12 <sup>th</sup> February	Parent Lunch
Thursday 13 <sup>th</sup> February	School breaks for Spring Half Term Holiday
Friday 14 <sup>th</sup> February	Teacher Training Day
Monday 24 <sup>th</sup> February	School Resumes for Spring Half Term 2

Kind Regards,  
Nicola Threlfall – Headteacher.

Mrs Threlfall: Head Teacher

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