

SUPPORT FOR LIFE THROUGH COMPASSION, PERSEVERANCE & RESPECT

Tuesday 23rd January 2024

Spring Half Term 1 Newsletter

Sorry for the delay in getting this newsletter out to you. Christmas seems such a long time ago now, but thank you so much, from all the staff, for your fabulous gifts. We do appreciate your kindness.

Weather

This is traditionally the half term where we may have 'snow days'. If we have to close the school building due to bad weather (or any other reason) we inform the Local Authority who put it on their website. We also put it on our website, and endeavour to send you an email to let you know. If we do have to close the school building for any reason, we will not be stopping learning! We will, as soon as is practicable (and by 10 am at the latest), put work on Google Classroom or Tapestry as appropriate.

When coming into school if it is icy or snowy we will use the main school reception door for all children to enter by. Please take care on the road/path outside school as it is not routinely gritted.

Please ensure that your child has wellies, a warm coat, waterproof trousers, a hat and gloves in school **every day**. We will be going outside every break time, regardless of the weather.

Fundraising

Many of you will be aware that school funding, as with many public services, continues to be incredibly tight. As a school we are given a set amount of money per child that attends. Unsurprisingly, the amount that we get in has not gone up at the same rate as our costs and, as in every school, our staffing costs also come out of this single funding pot. Similarly, the increase in energy prices, transport costs for trips, and increased costs of resources continue to challenge. It is a continual struggle to balance the books, whilst at the same time providing your children with the quality of education they deserve. This is why I am incredibly grateful to the EPFC for all the work they do fundraising, and why I am very thankful to all of you who support EPFC events. The funds raised over the last year have helped fund trips and activities for all the children.

Workshops

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

Thu 8th Feb 24
Mon 12th Feb 24
3.30-4.00pm
Year 6 SATS information (Year 6 parents/carers)
Internet Safety Workshop (all parents/carers)

Class Worship

This half term's Class Worship will be led by Seal Class on Thursday 8th February at 8.45 am. Unfortunately, due to space constraints we can only invite Seal Class parents to attend.

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 we can take additional children on a short notice basis if you are stuck.



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PE - Puffin Class

- This half term Puffin Class will be doing PE on a **Monday** afternoon. Please come into school in PE kit.
- After half term Puffin Class will be doing PE on a Wednesday with NUFC.

PE - Seal and Orca Classes

- PE will continue with NUFC for this half term. It will be on a **Wednesday** so please come into school in PE kit.
- Please note that after half term Seal and Orca class will be going swimming again. This will take place on a Monday afternoon and will start the first day back after the half term holiday.

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. There have been a number of children over the last term who consistently came in on a Friday without something - backpack, waterproof trousers, hat or gloves. Please make sure that your child has all the right equipment before they leave you on a Friday.

Book Fair

We will be holding a Scholastic Book Fair just before half term. Children will have an opportunity during school time to look at the books, and will let you know what interests them. We will open up the shelves for browsing/buying books at the following times:

- Tue 13th Feb 3.10-4.00 pm
- Wed 14th Feb 3.10-4.00 pm
- Thu 15th Feb 3.10-4.00 pm

Community members are also very welcome to come and browse/buy books during these times so please share this information wider.

Communication

Important information, newsletters, diary dates, class pages and weekly school and class blogs are on the school website embletonprimaryschool.com/website/. 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 bookbags. 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) or give us a call.

Mrs Threlfall: Head Teacher



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Payments to School

Please ensure payments to school are made promptly as we are unable to offer credit. This is particularly important for school lunches. Lunch money is due on the Monday for that week, you are also welcome to pay a month or half term ahead. Please use the Parent Pay cashless system.

Kind Regards

Nicola Threlfall Head Teacher

Friday 2nd February	NSPCC Number Day activities at the beach (children only)
Thursday 8th Feb 8.45 am	Seal Class Worship (Seal Class parents only)
Thursday 8 th Feb	Orca Class – NUFC Football Festival – Shilbottle Primary
Thursday 8th Feb 3.30 pm	Y6 SATs workshop (Y6 parents only)
Monday 12 th Feb 5:00-5:30pm	Internet Safety Workshop (all parents/carers)
Tues 13th- Wed 15th Feb 3.10-4.00 pm	Scholastic Book Fair – Book Shop Open
Friday 16th Feb 3.10 pm	School finishes for half term
Monday 26th Feb 8.30 am	School restarts for half term 2
Monday 26th Feb	Seal and Orca classes start swimming
Wednesday 28th Feb	Puffin and Starfish classes start NUFC PE
Wednesday 6th Mar	Reception and Y6 Heights and Weights
Tuesday 12 th Mar	Puffin Class Parent Lunch
Wednesday 13th Mar	LEGO Masterpiece Tournament
Wednesday 20th Mar	Reception Vision Screening
Thursday 21st Mar 8.45 am	Puffin Class Worship (Puffin Class parents/carers only)
Thursday 28th Mar 3.10 pm	School finishes for Easter holidays