



Message from the Academy

Dear parents and carers,

I sincerely hope the half term break has given you all a refreshing change, rest and some family time after a busy start to the new year.

This half term will see us preparing for Christmas and continuing some exciting curriculum developments. Our newly formed School Council has met and put in a bid for some playground/playtime reforms and new equipment. We are keen to support their ideas and look forward to seeing supplies arrive soon. Keeping our children safe and happy at break times is a key priority. It is also so important that we work with our children and give them a voice – they have taken to their responsibilities well.

The School's Eco Committee has also been recently formed. They will be working on issues with sustainable living linked to climate change and how we can work now for a better future.

Over the last few weeks, I have got to know the staff and many of the children and hope to continue relationship building this term, and with you our parent body. To help this process, I would like to invite you to a virtual coffee morning. On Friday 12th November, at 9.30, I will be ready and waiting to chat with parents via a zoom link from school. Anyone can join and just listen, ask a question, make a good suggestion or just chat. Bring your own coffee and biscuits! I am hopeful that we will be able to have 'real' parent drop-in sessions soon so that we can meet in person.

As our children are able to mix more at school, we are seeing how best to support their changing needs in terms of socialisation. We have been aware of some issues with children struggling to make appropriate links and play sociably. Our staff will be working with all children to improve their sense of respect and, through our programme of assemblies, we will be developing key values. This week, our theme is Pride. Later this term we will be covering Kindness, Anti-bullying week, Self Esteem, Sustainability, Teamwork and Family values/Gifts – all as part of our assemblies and Personal, Social and Health education programmes. We also hope to be able to invite parents to rewards assemblies soon.

Whilst there have been many excellent developments at Emneth Academy, we are always keen to further develop. We rely on your support to help us in the education of your children. We cannot be all eyes and ears on everything that happens, and hope you will continue to work with us to solve any problems that arise. Our staff work very hard to ensure our children are happy and are learning and achieving. Your support is vital in the learning partnership we provide.

Thank you for the super comments and your co-operation in the recent parent consultations – it is always helpful to speak with you about your children. We hope you will also find the new notes sheets useful.

Take care, Elaine Huntington, Principal

Attendance

There are 190 school days per year, leaving 175 free for other activities. Please do not allow your child to miss important days of learning unless it is absolutely necessary. Our aim this year is to exceed 97% attendance. Our attendance procedures can be found on our website.

Please be aware that the local authority may fine for unauthorised leave.

October Attendance 90% down 3% from last month

Year to date attendance 92%

Can we please ask that children arrive on time?

Late arrivals will cause disruption in the class. Many thanks.

Class R	93%
Class 1	87%
Class 2	96%
Class 3	83%
Class 4	91%
Class 5	89%
Class 6	93%

Year R Focus

The children in Class R have had an absolutely amazing first half term at Emneth Academy learning all about themselves. They started the half term settling into school life, learning lots of new routines and expectations and getting used to what a day in school looks like - which they have adapted to so well. They have made lots of new friends and it has been lovely to see them all so happily engaged and busy.



The teaching of Phase 2 Phonics has started and the children so far have already learnt 20 new graphemes (s, a, t, p, i, n, m, d, g, o, c, k, ck, e, u, r, h, b, f, l) which they are beginning to use to read and spell CVC words. The children are really enjoying learning a new grapheme every day and the formation phrase to go with it. Thank you to all the parents who attended the phonics workshop back in



October.

In the daily maths meetings and lessons, the children have been exploring numbers to 5 and comparing groups of identical and non-identical objects to 5 using mathematical language more, fewer and the same.

We have thoroughly enjoyed engaging in lots of different learning experiences and challenges within the early years indoor and outdoor environment during continuous provision since starting school including:

- Planting and caring for daffodil bulbs
- Making their own healthy lunch
- Hammering golf tees into pumpkins
- Making spooky potions
- Creating music using body percussion
- Ordering and naming the human life cycle
- Creating self portraits
- Exploring the skeletal system
- Using toys and resources from the past



We walked around Emneth exploring the local village learning about where they live, where the school is and the surrounding area. We also looked at recognisable buildings, open space and roads to create maps of the local area. Additionally, they went on an Autumn Walk around the school to look at the seasonal changes since summer finished and to discover using their five senses to describe what they could see, hear, feel, smell and taste.



The children have enjoyed learning about and raising awareness for National Fitness Day 2021, World Mental Health Day 2021 and Harvest Festival.



Mr Bear has also been busy visiting lots of the boys' and girls' homes for the weekend and is looking forward to meeting more families over the upcoming weeks. What an amazing first half term Class R have had at school, the EYFS team cannot wait for Autumn 2!



Dates for your diary

16th November
Year 6 Measurement
Program – details to
follow

19th November
Children in Need

1st December
Flu Immunisations –
Follow up

10th December
Christmas Jumper Day

15th December
Christmas Lunch
-details to follow

17th December 2021
Last day at school

4th January 2022
INSET day

5th January 2022
Children back in school

31st January 2022
Year 5 and 6 Bikeability
Details to follow



Children in Need

19th November 2021 is Children in Need Day. For a donation of £1 children can come into school wearing pyjamas. No slippers please. Children should wear trainers or shoes. Buckets will be on the gate at drop off and pick up time.

Did you know?

Did you know that a giraffe's tongue is about two feet long and they can even lick the inside of their ears?

Academy Council

If you wish to contact our Chair of the Academy Council, you can do this via the School Office.



Harvest collections – Many thanks for your kind donations for the Wisbech food bank.

Emneth Academy donated 160 kg of food which equated to approximately 450 meals.

Well done everyone!

Lunches

Norse have had some staff changes over the last couple of weeks. The menu for this half term will remain the same as last half term. They have said that as soon as the new staff are in post they will bring in the new menu, we will let you have this as soon as we are made aware of the date the new menu starts.