



Principal's message

As we enter the final days of our Autumn Term at Ambleside Academy, I'm thinking about all that we have achieved as a school community during such unsettling and often challenging times.

The most important thing is that your children are receiving a good quality of education, and are working hard to catch up on the learning that they have missed. School is calm, clean and orderly and your children are polite, considerate and well mannered. I have included some year 1 writing in this week's newsletter, so that you can see the standard of work that our 6 year olds can achieve.

Home learning is well set up and can quickly be activated if children have to isolate. I am grateful to the staff who now quickly turn their kitchens, bedrooms or landings into classrooms so they can film their daily teaching inputs and post the videos onto Class Dojo, then mark and provide feedback on the children's portfolios, and via Purple Mash. I must also say a big thank you to those parents who have engaged so well with remote learning – I love seeing your messages on DoJo and feel this has been another way in which we are able to better communicate with you.

Our school value of Resilience has been a key character strength which we have all needed to draw upon: it helps us keep going when times are tough; helps us bounce back when things go wrong; helps us keep trying when the work is hard, or we are tired; and helps us adapt when our routines change.

We all appreciate your smiles, greetings and well wishes, when we see you on the playground at the beginning and end of each day – it all makes for a positive atmosphere at our school. I sincerely hope you are able to enjoy time together as family groups over Christmas, and that you stay safe and well.

I'm so proud of our school. See you in the New Year!

Ms Bromley

17th Dec	Last day of term
4th Jan	First day of Spring term
11th Feb	Last day of Spring 1 term
12th Feb	INSET day
22nd Feb	First day of Spring 2
4th March	World book day
19th March	Red Nose Day
31st March	Autism Awareness Day
1st April	Last day of Spring term
3rd April	Good Friday

Amazing Authors

In November, two classes were rewarded for their regular reading at home with a virtual visit by author Louise Davidson. The children enjoyed hearing her read her Tales of Norris - the boomerang cat who spends his time in and out of a rescue shelter, and they loved asking her questions. The book is suitable for the very certain sense of humour of Y3/4 pupils, and is available via https://www.amazon.co.uk/dp/1788787374/ref=cm_sw_em_r_mt_imm_awdb_YN5QFb0_TMK255

Please remember to sign your child's reading diary. Children who read the most at home are rewarded with half termly prizes, as well as by the pleasure, joy and knowledge that being a reader can bring.

Attendance

We are still working hard to improve attendance – thank you to those of you who get your children to school come wind, rain or shine. We have improved by 2% this term with whole school attendance now running at 91%

Super Swimmers

Penguins and Crocodiles love the water! Two of our year 5 classes have had a super splashy week of daily swimming lessons. The children have behaved brilliantly and made good progress with this crucial skill. We aim for children to be able to swim 25 metres by the time they leave primary school. Seven swimming superstars who deserve a special mention are Lyla, Chidinma, Charna, Renae, Ashlynn, Renee, and Layla-Grace – they are brave and confident athletes.



The Friday routine will continue next term. Children to be collected between 12:00 and 12:15pm with the exception of Nursery, Rainbow, and Y5/6 intervention pupils. Please speak with Mrs Marsh (Assistant Principal) to request places in Rainbow hub.

