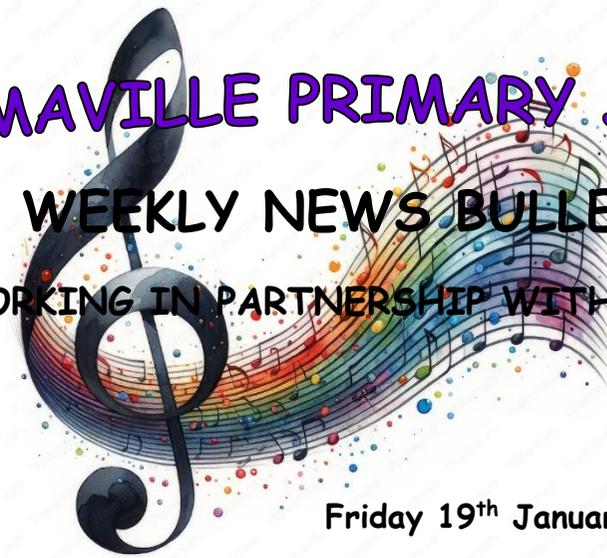




EMMAVILLE PRIMARY SCHOOL

WEEKLY NEWS BULLETIN

WORKING IN PARTNERSHIP WITH PARENTS



Friday 19th January '24



This week, we welcomed back the Music Workshop team, who took us on a guided tour around the world, where the children experienced music from countries such as Brazil and China.

Along the way, they learned rhythms, beats and tunes from different cultures and styles, and were able to play a wide range of interesting instruments to accompany the brilliant music played by the team.

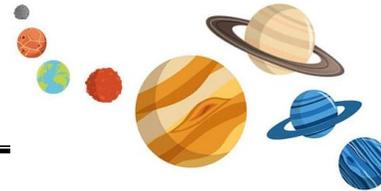
Mr Saddington





On Thursday last week, Year 5 arrived to find a visitor in their classroom - Mark from the Education Group was there to take them on the longest journey they will ever take - all the way to space! Through the magic of VR, they blasted off from Earth and took a guided tour of our solar system. The VR was so realistic, and covered much of what the children had learnt in their Science lessons last term in such an exciting way. Mark was very impressed with their knowledge and questions. What a fantastic way to deepen their understanding - it certainly isn't something they will ever forget!

Mr Saddington and Miss McKean



The spring term has got off to a great start with the children returning to school full of enthusiasm for the year ahead.

Music Workshop and Choir

This week in school we have welcomed the Gateshead Music Service who performed workshops for the children. As always, a learning activity enjoyed by both staff and pupils. Included in the bulletin, are some photographs taken during the music sessions and a write up from Mr Saddington.

This term, the Emmaville choir have an opportunity to participate in a singing event organised by the Gateshead Music Service; an event that will take place at the Glass House (formerly the Sage). We are delighted that our pupils will be involved; however, it does mean that they must show commitment to the choir by attending weekly after school rehearsals. The Sing Up performance takes place on the afternoon of Tuesday 26th March. Parents will be able to attend the performance, and arrangements will be detailed in a letter that Mrs Jarvis will be sending out.

Attendance

I am delighted by the whole school attendance figure of 97.3% for the week ending 12th January and hope that attendance continues to be as good.

The following is a gentle reminder of the importance of regular attendance. When children are absent from school, it can have a detrimental impact upon a child's life chances and that is not something we want for any of our children.



'Together we grow'



Emmaville attendance and punctuality policy can be found on the school website.

We ask that all Parents/Carers familiarise themselves with the attendance policy and work closely with school staff to overcome any problems which may affect their child's attendance.

The following are key points taken from the policy.

The Law

You need to make sure your child attends school regularly and on time. You will be breaking the law if you do not do this and there are no good reasons for your child missing school.

Research has proven that there is a high correlation between school attendance and academic performance and success. Absence from school is often the greatest single cause of poor performance and achievement. It is therefore important that we help our children to establish good attendance habits early on in their primary school career.

Did you know?

Percentage Attendance	Days missed over a school year
100%	0 days missed
95%	10 days missed
90%	20 days missed
85%	30 days missed
80%	40 days missed

We aim to achieve a minimum of 96% attendance for all children, apart from those with chronic health issues.

Attendance Categories for Emmaville

Persistent Absence	Concern	Below Average	Good	Very Good	Excellent
Less than 90%	90 - 93.99%	94 - 95.99%	96 - 97.99%	98 - 99.99%	100%

Role of Parents/Carers

Promote good attendance;

Contact the school office before 9.30am (0191 4132460) on the first morning of absence;

Ensure that contact details are up - to- date;

Avoid taking family holidays in term time;

Make sure that children arrive at school on time but no earlier than 5 minutes before the official school opening time.

Leave of absence

We do discourage parents from taking children out of school during term time. However, if permission is required, **at least two weeks'** notice should be given prior to the leave. All families are required to use the request for leave of absence form (available from the school office or it can be downloaded from the school website).

School will reply to all applications in writing stating whether or not the absence has been granted. Please be mindful that families can be fined if they take children out of school for more than 5 days. Authorised absence is only granted in extreme circumstances.

Medical appointments

Please note that parents/carers are discouraged from making medical or dental appointments during the school day. However, we realise that this is sometimes unavoidable but where possible children should only be removed from school for the minimum period of time.

If you are asked for medical evidence you will need to provide copies of G.P./hospital appointment cards or letters.

Lateness

Poor punctuality is not acceptable.

Please help us to establish good time keeping as we feel that this is a vital life skill which will help our children as they progress through their school life and out into the wider world.

Being 10 minutes late each day for one year is equal to 33 hours - approximately 6 days!

Minutes lost each day by being late	Days lost per year (approx.)
5 minutes	3 days
10 minutes	6 days
15 minutes	9 days
20 minutes	12 days
30 minutes	18 days

Morning registration is between 8.50am and 9am. Your child will receive a late mark if they arrive after this time.

The register closes at 9.30am. If your child arrives after this time, they will receive an unauthorised absence mark.

Thank you for taking the time to read this information. Working in partnership together will ensure that the pupils at Emmaville School do not miss out on educational opportunities

ITV News

A journalist from a local news channel visited Emmaville on Wednesday. The purpose of the visit was to explore the importance of handwriting in primary schools. The children in Wales class were filmed during a handwriting session, and Miss Woolard was interviewed. We believe that this will be included in an ITV news broadcast on Wednesday 31st January at 6pm. The broadcast can also be viewed for up to 24 hours following it being shown on television by clicking on the following link. <https://www.itv.com/news/tyne-tees>

Many thanks to the parents who gave permission for their children to be filmed. Of course, they were all very excited about the prospect of being filmed and were complimented upon the welcome they gave to the journalist, their behaviour, and upon their beautiful handwriting skills.

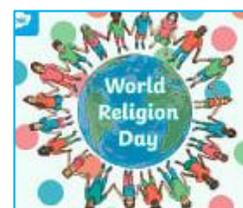
Parent/Carer Parking

This week we have received more complaints about inconsiderate parking, particularly to the rear of the school. Please do not park on grass verges or where it makes it difficult for access or visibility. Careless parking could result in an accident, and I am sure that is the last thing that any of us want to happen.



Diary Dates up until February half term

As part of our World Religion Day celebrations taking place next week, we will be welcoming to Emmaville on Monday 22nd January, Brother Kadim. Brother Kadim will lead two assemblies where he will talk to the children about his life as a Muslim and Islam. During the week in RE lessons, pupils will look at some of the 6 major religions and things they have in common. The children will then be asked to complete either a poster, piece of artwork or mind map as part of a reflection task. Some of the children's work will be displayed in school.



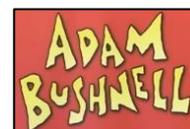
Wednesday 24th January - First Toddler Group session in 2024

Friday 26th January - Year 6 pupils to participate in the Holocaust Education Trust live webcam

Tuesday 30th January - Open the Book Assembly for children in KS1 and Y3

Thursday 1st February - Adam Bushnell will be working with the children in Early Years

Friday 2nd February - Adam Bushnell will be working with the children in Year 1



Tuesday 13th February - Year 4 - Year 6 Assembly with Sam Cree

Wednesday 14th February - Year 5 and Year 6 pupils to visit Thorp Academy for a performance of Matilda

Friday 16th February - School closes for half term

Monday 26th February - School reopens

More dates may be added as the term progresses.

Avril Armstrong



School Attendance - Week Ending 12.01.24

Year 6: North America	96.6%	South America	96.9%
Year 5: Antarctica	96.3%	Oceania	98.4%
Year 4: Africa	96.5%	Asia	99.0%
Year 3: Northern Europe	98.6%	Southern Europe	95.0%
Year 2: Northern Ireland	99.3%	Wales	97.4%
Year 1: England	98.5%	Scotland	94.5%
EYFS: Gateshead	95.7%	Newcastle	99.3%
Crawcrook	97.1%		



Well done to Northern Ireland and Newcastle for the best attendance last week.

Stars of the Week

Head Teacher - Lenny (North America)

For being a very sensible, helpful boy. Lenny recently found Scarlett's (Northern Europe's) fitbit. He promptly returned it to Scarlett who was absolutely delighted. Thank you Lenny.

North America - Mason

For his super start to North America class.

South America - Jake

For amazing use of hyphens in his English work.

Antarctica - Spencer

For great effort with homework.

Oceania - Theo

For super thinking in Science.

Africa - Sophie G

For settling in well to her new school and an all-round attitude

Asia - Rowan

For his fantastic effort in English and his handwriting.

Northern Europe - Brooke

For working really hard on her phonics! Well done Brooke!

Southern Europe - Dylan

For his beautifully presented work and effort in class.

Northern Ireland - Maisie

For her amazing stickability in Maths this week.

Wales - Benjamin

For such a fantastic first week back and always being ready to learn.

England - Milo

For his brilliant attitude to learning and work in Maths.

Scotland - Jack

For working so well with his friends.

Gateshead - Oakley

For being a super star when coming into school this week!

Newcastle - Samuel

For fabulous effort with his reading.

Crawcrook Nursery - Albie

For fantastic answers in group time.