

Scafell Class



Information Booklet & Curriculum

We hope you enjoyed the summer holidays. It is lovely to have everyone back in school ready for an exciting year ahead.

Our curriculum this term involves:

Maths: This term we will be focusing on number. This will help consolidate knowledge and understanding of place value and the number system exploring large whole numbers, decimals and negative numbers. We will then go on to calculation using all four operations mentally and in writing. Towards the end of this term we will explore geometry; including 3D shape, coordinates and symmetry.

English: In English we will be starting with some imaginative poetry using similes, metaphors and alliteration. We will then move on to learning about ourselves and develop our skills to write our own autobiographies. We will also link our writing with our topic work focusing on Ancient Egypt where we will be writing diary entries based on those of Howard Carter and his discovery of Tutankhamun; instructional texts such as 'How to build a pyramid'; the process of mummification and newspaper reports.

We have two Guided Reading sessions per week and will continue working on spelling rules and patterns, handwriting, punctuation and grammar during morning tasks and English lessons. This term we will also be focusing on word classes; nouns, verbs, adjectives, adverbs etc. and developing our understanding of more complex punctuation such as semi-colons, apostrophes and colons.

Science: Properties and Changes of Materials: This topic involves discovering the properties of materials and the changes of substances (reversible and irreversible) using a variety of processes such as dissolving, burning, freezing, filtering etc. The topic also covers mixtures and how mixtures can be separated. A practical topic to get the scientific minds working!

Topic: Ancient Egypt. We will begin by locating Egypt on the map and discussing the countries historical timeline, comparing Egypt in the modern day to Ancient Egypt. We will discover who the people of the time were, their lifestyle and culture, beliefs and practices including Mummification!

PE: Swimming every Wednesday morning (beginning the second week of term) and PE with Mrs Craggs every Thursday afternoon; Invasion Games; Hockey first, followed by Netball.

Computing: This term we will be developing our skills to search safely and effectively online, complete web research challenges, check accuracy of information, update Wikipedia, design the next Apple product and develop a secure class webpage.

Music: Percussion and Composition (beginning Autumn Term 2). The children take part in a singing assembly every Wednesday and will enjoy practising for the Christmas performance. Yes...only 16 weeks away!

RE: Exploring this terms value of Respect and learning about Celebrations in different religions and cultures.

French: (beginning Autumn Term 2). Learning 'All About Moi', developing our language skills and knowledge.

Art: Inspired by Egypt. A creative Egyptian based topic using a variety of artistic techniques. We will also be focusing on the great work of Picasso which fits perfectly into our autobiography work for English.

PSHE: SEAL units – exploring 'Good to be Me' and 'Say NO to Bullying'. We will also be exploring the meaning of RESPECT and linking it to promoting British Values.

Forest Schools: We will also be learning a variety of skills in our woodland area through our activities starting next week.

Teaching in Scafell – Hello from Miss Dawson

As you are aware, I am new to Levens School and I am delighted to be full time class teacher of Scafell; with Mrs Farraday still teaching two afternoons a week. Although a newly qualified teacher, I have worked within schools for nine years; both mainstream, Special Educational Needs settings and a children's home as a Teaching Assistant. I am very much looking forward to working at Levens Primary this year and getting to know the school, staff, parents and governors; but most importantly, the children!

PE and Swimming

We start swimming the second week of term (Wednesday 10th September). The children will need to bring in to school their kit which should include a swim hat to keep their hair dry so that they are comfortable for the rest of the day. Please try to ensure your child is punctual and prepared on Wednesdays to be on the bus promptly.

Outdoor PE takes place with Mrs Craggs on Thursday afternoons up to half term. Please can the children have long tracksuit bottoms and warm fleeces or jumpers as the days become cooler.

Trips and dates for the diary

- 1) Westmorland County Show: Thursday 14th September Sheeps, pigs, goats, alpacas! The children will be spending the day at the County Show next week.
- 2) Ancient Egyptian Day in Carlisle: Thursday 1st February. A fun-filled day looking at Egyptian artefacts, making Egyptian head-dresses, learning about the Gods and Goddesses, helping with mummification and meeting a real life Egyptian lady! The session begins at 10am at Tullie House Carlisle (transport organised by school) and the children will be back to school in time for a usual pick up. More information will follow nearer to the time.
- 3) Residential to Lockerbie: 27th-29th June 2017. Thank you to everyone who has already forwarded a deposit to secure our booking. Please could we request a further instalment of £30 by Friday 29th September. Outdoor pursuits and great memories to be made. Scafell children, and staff, look forward to their residential at Lockerbie Manor, Scotland.

Arriving and Leaving School

This year we will continue to keep our bags on name-labelled pegs in the cloakroom rather than bringing them into the classroom. As soon as the children enter the classroom in the morning, there is a task for the children to begin. We aim for everyone to feel organised, calm and ready for the school day, beginning with registration by 8.45am each day.

At 3pm, the children will be dismissed by the teacher through our fire exit, instead of through the main door. This is to ease congestion with our younger children. We expect that your child is being collected, unless we have been informed that they are attending YoYo club or are walking home alone.

Equipment

Although the school is well supplied, we do try and encourage children to have and look after their own pencil case containing essential items: pencils, writing pens, crayons, rubbers and a sharpener. Please can you also encourage your child to have a water bottle in school to use during lesson time, as well as at break. Hydration is important with all the thinking going on in the classroom!

Homework

This year the children will have a homework diary, a spelling book, and a homework folder. Please try to discourage your child from doodling on the front of their books/files, as this will spoil the overall presentation of their lovely hard work!

Homework will be set every week (as in previous years) and it is each child's responsibility to record their homework task in this book and be organised with their homework. A Maths task will be set every week (either a task or MyMaths) plus one other activity. This might include English, Topic or Art. Homework will be set on Fridays and should be completed and handed in by the following Friday.

MyMaths: These tasks will be set regularly and children will be given the opportunity to complete these tasks in school at lunchtimes if internet access is problematic.

Spelling lessons: Each Thursday the children will be taught strategies to support spellings and are given a list of 10 to learn. These will be tested the following Thursday by Mrs Farraday.

Reading: Reading is important and part of Scafell's weekly homework task. Everyone should try to read regularly, most evenings and at the weekend where possible; keeping a note of all reading (either independent or with someone) in reading records. This helps us to monitor reading and talk to the children about their reading routines and interests. Some children love to read independently, however others may still need some extra support and discussion when reading, to develop their understanding. We encourage the children, as well as parents, to write notes about reading in reading records.

Uniform

Smart – the key word in Scafell – and we don't just mean smartly dressed! Please can all uniform including PE kits be clearly named. Jewellery, make-up and nail polish are not permitted on school days. Although stud earrings are allowed to be worn, they must be removed for all physical activities to ensure the child's safety. Long hair should be tied up as much as possible (always in PE). All children should wear sensible school shoes and have a coat in school every day – the weather is too unpredictable! Girls can choose to wear tights or long socks to keep their legs warm as the days get cooler; as in previous years, no leggings please.

We hope you have had a wonderful summer and are able to attend our classroom drop-ins on Monday 18th September between 3-4pm. However, in the meantime, if you have any questions or concerns please do not hesitate to come see either of us in Scafell Class. We are always happy to help.

We look forward to a positive and successful year ahead.

With our best wishes,

Miss Dawson and Mrs Farraday.