

Scafell Spring Newsletter 2017

Dear All,

Welcome back to the New Year and a new term full of exciting events including hockey training at Dallam, World Book Day and of course our residential visit to Edinburgh.

Our curriculum this term involves:

Maths: This term we continue to develop skills to solve all calculations and multi-step problems in a range of contexts. Our knowledge of multiplication tables is improving but we will be continuing to work to improve speed and accuracy; and use known facts to find new facts. This term we will be looking at fractions. This work includes: comparing and ordering; finding equivalents; and converting improper fractions to proper fractions. Year 5 will be learning how to add and subtract fractions and year 6 will be going on to multiply and divide fractions. This unit of work also looks at the relationship between decimals and percentages. Our work on measurement includes calculating area, volume and perimeter; converting between different units of measurement, including imperial units. We will be able to identify the value of missing angles in different polygons and year six will learn about vocabulary and properties related to circles.

English: Much of our writing this term will be linked to our topics and our trip to Edinburgh. We will be researching information about animals in captivity in order to formulate our views so that we can debate this controversial topic prior to our trip to Edinburgh Zoo and in preparation for some persuasive writing when we return. Writing this term will also involve reading and writing autobiographies and biographies, information texts and instructions. We will be analyzing some classic poetry this term including *The Jaberwocky* and *The Highwayman*. Our spellings will continue to focus on the Year 5&6 wordlist. Each week we have two guided reading lessons that develop skills in inference and deduction and enable the children to work in small groups. Our work also includes understanding sentence grammar and further work on word classes and punctuation.

Science: Forces: This term we will be exploring forces and developing our scientific skills through practical investigations. We will be looking at magnets and the effects of gravity as well as identifying the effects of air resistance, upthrust in water and friction.

Topic: Our Ancient Greece topic continues until half-term, after which we begin our Geographical topic which involves developing our understanding of locations. Including comparing Edinburgh, Levens and Athens in terms of physical and human geography.

PE: hockey, cross-country running, lacrosse, gymnastics.

Computing: This term we hope to create our own films about Edinburgh and continue to develop our programming skills using *Scratch*. We will be looking at staying safe on-line on Safer Internet Day.

Music: Exploring World Music

RE: Understanding *Forgiveness* and places of worship

DT: Buildings and Structures. Researching and making Greek Temples.

ART: Greek Art. Architecture and Cityscapes

PSHE: SEAL Going for Goals. How can we deal with worries!

FOREST SCHOOLS: Small world structures, building shelters, Team challenges and games.

Unfortunately, due to my illness, we were unable to visit our forest schools area last term, but intend to enjoy several visits over the next two terms.

Edinburgh Trip: Wednesday 15th to Friday 17th February

Information meeting in school on Monday 16th January at 6pm. The children are welcome to come along to find out more about all aspects of this visit. Anyone who is unable to attend the meeting will receive information documents, including a kit list, the following day.



PE

We start hockey at Dallam this week on Wednesday morning and for the following two weeks. The children should come to school wearing their kit and bring gum guards and shinpads in their bags. PE is timetabled for Tuesday afternoons and will move from Wednesdays to Thursday mornings after the Dallam Hockey sessions.

Equipment

Although we do have supplies in school, we try to encourage all children to have their own pencil case in class containing essential items like pencils, writing pens, pencil 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.



Homework

Homework will continue to be set on Thursdays each week. We will continue to use MyMaths regularly, have spellings every week to learn and be set additional tasks recorded in homework diaries. Please encourage your child to read regularly at home and record their reading in reading records so that we can track their reading and monitor their choices. The children are not too old to read to an adult. Hearing your child read and talking to your child about their understanding is really beneficial to their understanding and helps develop comprehension skills, as well as being worthwhile, quality time with your child.

Uniform

Please may I remind parents and children that the wearing of jewellery, make-up and nail polish is not permitted on school days. Stud earrings are allowed to be worn but must be removed for all physical activities. Long hair should be tied up for PE lessons. All children should wear sensible school shoes and have a coat in school every day.

If you have any questions or concerns please do not hesitate to come to see either of us in Scafell Class; we are always willing to listen, answer your queries and share any information you may require.

With our best wishes,
Mrs Farraday & Mrs Craggs