

### Maths:

Our maths this term will focus on fractions, decimals and percentages. We will first review the concept of a fraction, exploring what a fraction is and is not. Our work on equivalent fractions will be vital to understanding using fractions later in the unit. We will look at the different ways fractions can be used as numbers and operators, before moving on to adding, subtracting, multiplying and dividing fractions. When we are comfortable with fractions, we will apply our knowledge to decimals and percentages, with year 6 taking time to also explore ratio and algebra.

**English:** This term our work in English begins with writing narratives based on 'The Highwayman' by Alfred Noyes. We will also be reading and identifying the features of creation stories, including the Christian creation story, before writing our own versions of Mayan Creation tales. Our non-fiction writing will relate to our learning in other areas of the curriculum and include biographies, non-chronological reports and explanations. In guided reading we will continue to study novels and non-fiction texts in our two sessions each week and extend our spelling and handwriting skills during morning tasks and English lessons. The function of a range of punctuation, including inverted commas, brackets, semi-colons and apostrophes will be explored to use and apply in our own writing; as well as developing our understanding of sentence grammar and verb tenses. Our class novel this term is Wonder by RJ Palacio (please do not be tempted to watch the film).



**Science:** Science this term will focus on Evolution and Inheritance. We will examine how living things change over time; as well as looking at adaptation. The second half of the term will look at life-cycles and reproduction in plants and animals.



**Topic:** We begin by exploring the physical and human similarities and differences between Guatemala and the UK. We will then move on to investigate the Mayan civilisation in the context of a non-European society which provides contrasts with Britain.

**PE:** Invasion Games – netball and lacrosse.

**Computing:** Our computing topic begins this term with databases where we will design and use a flat file database. We will also revisit how to be safe online and take part in Safer Internet day in February.

**RE:** Understanding Christianity – Creation and Fall – conflicting or complimentary? Exploring our Christian Value of 'Endurance'. Lent and Easter.

**DT:** Bridge Building Challenge!

**Art:** Animal studies by Steven Brown and Carolee Clark. Observational drawings of plants and animals, including work by Georgia O'Keefe.

**RSHE:** Living in the wider world: money and work - identifying job interests and aspirations; career choices and workplace stereotypes.

Respecting Ourselves & Others: expressing opinions and respecting other points of view, including discussing topical issues.

**French:** At the Café – food and drink.

**Music:** Understanding and knowledge of different genres of western music, including: classical, disco, rap, gospel and rock & roll.

**Forest Schools:** Nature Explorers

### PE

Outdoor PE takes place with Mrs Craggs on Monday and Thursday afternoons and children should come to school in their PE kits and wearing their trainers. Please can all children have long tracksuit bottoms; warm fleeces or jumpers; suitable waterproof jackets and a change of shoes in school as we plan to go outdoors regardless of the weather. Long hair should always be tied up and stud earrings must be removed.

## **Equipment**

Although we do have supplies in school, we try to encourage all children to have their one pencil case to be stored in their drawers. **These should contain essential items only like pencils, writing pens, pencil crayons, rubbers and a sharpener.** Please can you also encourage your child to have a named water bottle in school to use during lesson time as well as at breaktime. These will be stored and refilled in school during the week and returned home every Friday for washing.

## **Arriving and Leaving School**

Our staggered start and finishing times continue into the spring term. If you would like your child to enter or leave the school site independently, please let us know these arrangements in writing by emailing us in advance. Please note, children in Scafell are not permitted to escort younger children on or off our site.

## **Homework**

Homework will continue to be set every Friday.

**Maths** - Each week, students will be set maths homework which should take roughly 30 minutes to complete. Activities vary by week to consolidate and enhance the work completed in school. Students may also access TTRockstars at home and should practice as regularly as they can.

**Spelling** - All pupils have a list of up to 5 spellings to learn each week and these are often supplemented with word work activities.

**Reading** continues to be part of Scafell's weekly homework and everyone should read at least five times a week; keeping a note of all reading in Reading Records. This helps us to monitor reading and talk to the children about their reading routines and interests. Some children may prefer to read independently, although times to share a book and read with an adult are still really valuable to develop fluency and comprehension skills.

## **Uniform**

Please may we remind all parents and children that jewelry, 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. Long hair should be tied up and all children should wear sensible school shoes and have a coat in school every day.

## **Edinburgh Trip**

Unfortunately, we are not able to continue with our optimistic plans to visit Edinburgh in February. We are currently trying to rearrange the trip for later in the year and will inform you of any plans as soon as the DfE permits the planning of residential visits for schools to resume.

## **Assessment Meeting**

During the spring term, we usually host a meeting for parents of children in year 6 about their end of KS2 assessments. We will be back in touch with you later in the spring term with news about whether this can go ahead.

## **Website**

Please keep in touch with school via our website. The blog is a fantastic way to keep informed about your child's learning experiences and the calendar provides early notification of forthcoming events.

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to email us. Another formal opportunity to meet with us about your child's learning and progress is scheduled for later this term.

With our very best wishes,  
*Mr Dean and Mrs Farraday*