

Spring Term 2021

Welcome back to Skiddaw Class

What should I wear to school?

Please remember to come to school in your uniform and a pair of sensible shoes or ankle boots. On your PE days, Mondays and Thursdays you are asked to come to school in your PE kit wearing your trainers, bring a spare pair of shoes or a change of clothes if the weather is going to be wet. Please remember to bring a coat to school every day.

What can I bring to school?

Please remember to bring essential items only in your book bag. These may include:

- ✓ a named water bottle
- ✓ your reading book and reading record
- ✓ a snack
- ✓ your packed lunch if required.

Sometimes you may need to bring letters or payments into school. These go in our green box and should be in named securely sealed envelopes please. Water bottles will be stored in school by our sinks but will be returned home every Friday to be washed.

How can my parents get a message to my teachers?

We are continuing with our staggered arrival and pick up times so parents can't come into school with you each morning. However, if they need to pass on some important information there are several ways this can be done: a handwritten note brought into school or an email to the school office. If the information is not urgent, please email our class email account at skiddaw@levens.cumbria.sch.uk. We will aim to get back to you within 48 hours of you sending your message.

What homework is set in Skiddaw Class?

Homework will continue to be set every week on Monday and your child may need help in how to organise their time so that the tasks are completed and handed in before the following Monday. All homework tasks are tailored specifically to your child's ability. This will usually take the form of a sheet of paper with clear instructions on a task which might be Maths (number facts or games), English (spellings or sentence work) or a topic based task. Spellings and number facts tasks are presented in a way that supports long remembered learning. Practising a little and often, rather than completing the whole sheet in one go, is recommended. Children will need support in managing this and getting in good routines that fit around their other weekly commitments and that will serve them well for the rest of their lives!

IDL is an online spelling and reading programme which everyone in our class will be using.

TTRockstars (Y3 and 4 only) is an online game for supporting learning and progress in times tables which everyone in years 3 and 4 will be using. Both these programmes can be accessed at home, details on our class page of the website.

Reading is also part of Skiddaw's weekly homework and everyone should read at least five times a week for 10-15mins; 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 essential to develop fluency and comprehension skills. Children, as well as parents, can write notes about their reading in reading records. Please refer to our homework policy published on our website for further information on homework.

What will we be learning in the Spring Term?

Maths: In the first half term, we will be exploring a progression of methods of multiplying and dividing before going onto fractions. We will be working very hard on quick accurate recall of times tables, up to 12x, this term. Year 2 - 2x, 5x and 10x, with year 3 these and 3x, 4x and 8x. Year 4s all these with quick recall and then 6x, 7x, 9x, 12x. All multiplication facts need to be recognised and known in multiplication and division forms e.g. 3×5 , 5×3 , $15 \div 5$ and $15 \div 3$, including calculations where there is a missing number somewhere other than at the end e.g. $15 \div ? = 5$. We will be applying our number knowledge to using money, exploring length and statistics, the new name for presenting data in graphs and charts.

English: Last term we began reading *The Ickabog* by JK Rowling and we will continue to enjoy reading and sharing this wonderful brand new fairy tale and using it to inspire our writing. We will be researching and writing information texts, using atlases and maps too linked to our Science and Geography. We will be writing riddle poems. It is in our guided reading sessions every week that the children will be discussing and exploring a range of different types of age appropriate texts in detail starting with non-fiction texts. Spelling/phonics, punctuation and grammar will be worked on each day in morning tasks and English and will include learning more common tricky word spellings, more homophones, applying prefixes and suffixes and also the two sounds represented by c and g.

Science: Animals including humans about muscles, digestion, teeth and food chains.

Geography: The UK - we will learn the countries and capitals of UK, learn lots of counties and cities too. We will name and locate physical and human features including rivers and mountain ranges as well as describing places using the 8 points of the compass.

PE: We will be playing netball and lacrosse this term.

Computing: Typing and keyboard skills, computer control and online safety.

RE: Exploring our Christian Value of 'Endurance' and understanding parables Jesus told. The role of Good Friday in Easter's Holy Week.

RSHE: We will be exploring belonging to groups, safe relationships (using NSPCC resources) and money and work.

DT: We are very much hoping to take part in this year's Lego Challenge.

Art: Landscapes and seascapes and the work of JMW Turner and Van Gogh.

Languages: French including countries and parts of the body.

Music: Rhythmic and melodic patterns including Y2 learning to play the violin.

We will be continuing to use our school website, especially the blog and our class page (found via Pupils, Skiddaw Class), to keep you informed and share our learning with you with photos and information.