



Whittingham
CoFE PRIMARY SCHOOL

Class 1 Topic Letter

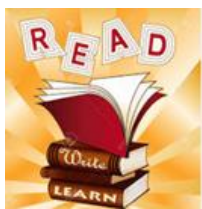
Autumn Term 1 2018

Grace Darling/Coastguard

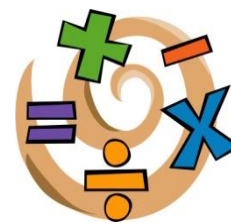
Class Teacher - Mrs Fortescue supported by Mrs Dodds

Welcome back! I hope you have all had a lovely summer break and that the children are excited and ready for the year ahead. We have lots of activities planned and the first term is briefly outlined below.

In Literacy the children will be reading and writing fantasy stories, poems and information texts. Where possible these will link with one of the other subject areas, particularly, Geography, History or Science. There will also be a focus on phonics work for the Year 1 children as well as spelling, grammar, punctuation and handwriting for all children. It is expected that children will read to an adult at home every night for a minimum of 10 - 15 minutes and that their reading record is signed. The children, especially those in Year 2 can also comment in their reading record to say what they enjoyed about the book. **Reading books should be in school every day.**



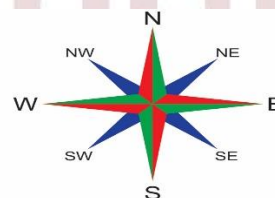
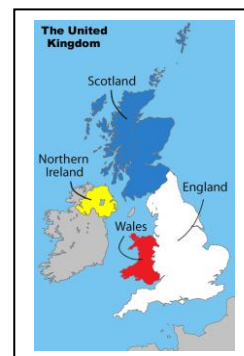
In Numeracy the children will begin the year really focusing on place value and addition and subtraction. They will also be developing their skills in mathematical fluency, reasoning and problem solving. There will be some homework around these areas of learning and we would appreciate your support by helping your child at home with this.



In History the children will be learning all about Grace Darling and her courageous rescue of crew and passengers of The Forfarshire off the Farne Islands. As part of this topic we hope to welcome volunteers from the Grace Darling Museum into school to help the children understand more about Grace and what she did, as well as what life was like for her in Bamburgh and on the Farnes during the 1800's. As we have other trips planned we won't be going to Bamburgh, so why not go as a family and visit the museum and church and if you are feeling adventurous the Farne Islands. The children will also be learning about the history of the Coastguard/RNLI and how it has changed over the years. As part of this learning I plan to take class 1 to visit the RNLI in Amble and after half term the Tynemouth Voluntary Brigade Service where they will find out about Breeches Buoys.



In Geography the children will learn about the four countries, and their capital cities, which make up the United Kingdom and its surrounding seas. They will also record the weather which will be an ongoing project across the year noticing changes in the weather and the seasons. As part of this work the children will also learn about the points of a compass.



In R.E the children will be learning about Christianity: God and Jesus. This will include ways in which Jesus is special to Christians and some of Jesus' friends. They will also learn about the Christian Celebrations and festivals during the months of September through to December.



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In Computing the children will learn about staying safe online, keeping personal information private and identifying where to go for help and support. They will also learn how to log on and save and retrieve information. Online technologies will also be used across the curriculum.

In Art and Design the children will create clay sculptures of lighthouses. They will also use colour, pattern, texture, line, shape and form to create drawings, paintings and prints relating to Grace Darling, lighthouses, animals and the sea.



In Music we will explore musical elements through our fun and exciting new music scheme 'Charanga'. Music unit: Hands, Feet, Heart.

In Design and Technology the children will be making links with one of the books used in Literacy, The Lighthouse Keeper's Lunch, to design and make a healthy lunchbox as well as a variety of other picnic snacks.



In PSHE The children are learning about New Beginnings and Saying NO to Bullying.

The children should come to school on a Monday in their P.E kit. On Monday afternoons



they will go to Willowburn Sports Centre in Alnwick. Between September and December they will participate in multi-skills, gymnastics and trampoline lessons led by coaches from Willowburn. I will be teaching the children dance and football in school on a Friday.

We will also continue our Mile a Day run every morning therefore it is advisable that your child comes to school wearing their trainers with their school shoes in their bag to quickly change into before lessons begin.

In Global Citizenship and SRE class 1 will be learning about Myself and Others (Y1) and Everybody needs caring for (Y2). Across the term they will be working on achieving the UNICEF Rights Respecting School Award.

In Science the children will be learning about animals, including humans. This involves identifying and naming a variety of common animals and noticing that animals have offspring which grow into adults. They will also learn about the basic needs of animals for survival. To enhance this learning I plan to take the children to the Lobster Hatchery during our visit to Amble. Here they will learn about the life cycle of a lobster as well as seeing all of the stages of growth. If we are lucky we may also be able to release young lobsters into rock pools.



The children will also need a pair of wellies (to be left in school, if possible) for Forest School and Outdoor Learning lessons.

Many Thanks

Mrs Fortescue