

As your child enters a new school year, we hope that the following information will be useful to you.

The areas of study in Literacy and Maths will include the following:

- We will continue to develop the children's reading comprehension skills through studying a wide variety of texts through both fiction and non-fiction.
  - The children will continue to develop their writing skills by focusing on the structure of their work and increasing their use of punctuation.
  - The children will follow a broad and varied mathematics curriculum in line with the National Curriculum.
  - The children will learn through a topic-based approach to teaching and learning and will cover a new topic each half term.
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- Autumn A - All About Me and My Local Area: (Including Brass Band Traditions.) As part of this topic, the children will be learning to play a pocket trumpet. These lessons will take place throughout the year on a Tuesday afternoon. The school will provide the instruments. You may be pleased to know that we are unable to allow the children to take the trumpets home! This will include a theme day and the children are invited to come to school in traditional Northumbrian colours (red, yellow, black or white or a combination of these colours) from the Northumbrian flag and the Northumbrian tartan!
  - Autumn B - North East England  
We will compare different locations in the North-East including cities, seaside towns and rural areas.
  - Spring A - Let's Rock - The Stone Age to the Bronze Age
  - Spring B - Stories by Roald Dahl
  - Summer A - The Ancient Greeks - This will include a theme day and the children are invited to wear an Ancient Greek Costume.  
Summer B - South America: The Rainforest

### Homework

Your child will bring home a piece of homework on a **Friday**. This will be a piece of Big Talk homework for you to discuss with your child in preparation for our Big Writing session the next **Wednesday** or a piece of maths, English or topic homework. Please return homework and homework folders to school **by the following Thursday** ready for the next piece of homework to be sent home.

### Reading

The children will usually read once a week in school and more often where time and teaching support allows. Some children may be in a reading intervention group and may read more often. When your child reads in school the focus will be on reading in depth, discussing the events in the story and making predictions. **It is therefore important that your child has prepared for their reading session by covering the set pages at home.** Please could your child not read beyond the set pages so that we can use the text for prediction work.

**Please sign your child's reading record** to show that he/she has read at home. Books should be returned to school on a **Monday** and a **Thursday** unless otherwise stated in your child's reading record!

### P.E.

P.E. lessons will take place on **Monday and Tuesdays**. Your child should have a full P.E. kit in school including a change of t-shirt, shorts and sandshoes. For outdoor PE your child may wish to have warmer clothes such as a pair of tracksuit bottoms or leggings and warm top. For health and safety reasons please remove any jewellery your child may wear. The children will also start swimming lessons on a **Tuesday** during the Autumn term and will need a swimming costume/shorts, a towel, a swimming hat and goggles.

### Spelling

Your child will be given a list of the spelling examples and sound patterns we are covering in school. These will not be assessed through weekly spelling tests but we will assess the children's spelling ability at regular intervals throughout the year.

### Water Bottles

The children often want drinks of water throughout the day. It saves time if the children have their own water bottle in school. Please provide **water only**.

### Fruit

Children in Key Stage Two are not entitled to free fruit. If your child would like fruit he/she may bring his/her own **fresh fruit** to school to eat in the classroom during the morning.

### Meet the Teacher

On Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> September at 9.00am we will be holding our meet the teacher session. In this meeting we will give you an overview of the year, look at the usual structure of your child's day and demonstrate some of the strategies we use when teaching maths and literacy. You will also have the opportunity to ask any questions you may have.