

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back to school after the Easter break!

We'll be setting off on an exciting learning journey this term as we explore **our new topic 'Watery Worlds'**!



We'll be finding out about the **seas** around the UK, especially the North Sea and its creatures. We'll be learning about the work of the RNLI and welcoming a representative into school then visiting our local lifeboat in Walton. We'll be learning about Harwich and its lighthouses and going on a boat trip on the Harwich Foot Ferry!

Homework will be given out on Thursdays and needs to be **handed in on the following Tuesday morning**. We'll be continuing with weekly differentiated times tables tests, plus our new system of learning spellings at home with a test every half term instead of every week.

PE will be on a **Tuesday afternoon**.

Main Activities/Outcomes	How you can help at home/useful information
<u>English</u> We'll be writing character profiles and describing settings based on the 'Lighthouse Keeper' stories. We'll write some diary entries from the point of view of the historical figure, Grace Darling. We'll have a go at creating 'Seaside' poems! We'll be working hard to improve our reading comprehension skills!	As we'll be writing character profiles/describing settings, chat with your child about the characters/settings in the books they read at home, or in films they watch. Help your child prepare for the SATs tests by asking them questions about what they've read e.g. 'What happened in the middle of the story?'; 'How did the main character feel when...?' Work on the spellings you've been given for the half term. Can your child improve their score?
<u>Maths</u> Much of our maths will relate to the seaside! As well as continuing to practise our addition, subtraction, multiplication and division skills, we'll be doing lots of problem solving on a seaside-theme.	Encourage your child to use their maths skills in everyday life. Practise telling the time (using an analogue clock). Keep learning the 2, 3, 5 and 10 times tables, and more! Practise using your multiplication skills to work out division problems.
<u>Science</u> We'll be learning about the animals in the North Sea and the plants on the Greensward and in our locality. We'll be finding out about lifecycles and food chains.	Talk about what plants and animals need in order to grow. Discuss how different creatures/plants are suited to life in different habitats. Have a go at growing some plants or give your child some responsibility for looking after an existing plant.
<u>History & Geography</u> We'll be studying the seas around the UK and their characteristics. We'll be studying local maps e.g. of Frinton, Walton & Harwich. We'll learn about important historical figures such as Grace Darling and a little about the Titanic disaster.	Encourage your child to look at maps and atlases. Can they find our country and local area? Can they name any important landmarks in the local area (e.g. the Clock Tower on the Greensward).
<u>Art/DT</u> We'll be looking at the work of the artists Hokusai and Goldsworthy. We'll also be learning different printing and sculpting techniques.	What can you find out about the works of the artists Hokusai & Goldsworthy? What are they famous for?
<u>ICT</u>	Help your child to do simple research using the internet. Encourage your child to use PowerPoint at home.

<p>We'll be using a search engine to find out information about our topic. We'll be making a presentation about the life of Moses.</p>	
<p><u>RE/PSHE</u> We'll be thinking about people who are important to us. We'll be learning about significant individuals in the religious sphere e.g. Moses, Noah, Buddha, Mu'adin.</p>	<p>Encourage your child to talk about people that are special to them. Help your child to see the importance of showing respect to those who perhaps think differently or have different beliefs.</p>
<p><u>PE</u> We'll be preparing for Sports Day by doing team games and running races. We'll be working on basic games skills – throwing, catching, hitting a ball, running, skipping, jumping, hopping, taking turns</p>	<p>Can your child throw and catch a small ball? Can they hit a ball with a bat or racket? Can they skip? Can they work well in a team? Are they supportive of their team mates?</p>
<p><u>Music</u> We'll be exploring the basic elements of music through listening to and evaluating music, singing, playing instruments, composing and improvising.</p>	<p>Can your child clap to the pulse when listening to music? What different instruments can you hear? Is the music fast or slow? Can you sing along to a favourite song and keep in tune and in time?</p>

We'll be continuing with the **Class Dojo System** – the children really enjoy this and find it very motivating! Don't forget you can check how they're doing by logging in at home!

Please note that the children will be sitting their SATs tests from the 14th May until 25th May 2018. Please refrain from taking any holidays or making any appointments, if possible, during this time.

Thank you for all your much valued support,

Mrs Stubbs, Mrs Britton, Mrs El-Safy and Mrs Bateson

