

Selside Endowed Church of England School

Selside. Kendal. Cumbria. LA8 9LB

Tel: 01539 823649

Email admin@selside.cumbria.sch.uk

7th September 2020

Dear Parents,

Welcome back and welcome to Selside to those who are new to school. I hope that you have had a restful summer and stayed safe and well. It has been lovely to see everyone's smiling faces as we start the Autumn Term.

This year Class 2 will be taught by myself and supported by Miss Plant and Mrs Ryan. Some of you may recognise Miss Plant as she spent her teaching placement with us last Autumn and Mrs Ryan joins us with a wealth of classroom experience from her time working in schools in the Manchester area. Miss Plant is in school every day and Mrs Ryan is in all day Monday and Tuesday afternoons. Their support will allow us to teach the children in smaller groups for some lessons and provide personalised support and interventions where appropriate.

Children will continue to receive specialised teaching in P.E. from Mrs Jones on a Wednesday afternoon. On Wednesdays children should come to school in their P.E. kit and school shoes, bringing their trainers to change into. I recommend bringing a spare pair of socks too as feet can get wet!

We teach key skills lessons in Maths and English each day and provide opportunities to apply these skills across the curriculum in other subjects. We always try to provide a more personalised approach to learning; lessons are carefully planned and include opportunities to both consolidate and extend pupils learning according to their individual needs. Throughout the week, the children have opportunities to read with an adult exploring books through questioning and discussion; alongside other reading activities as part of our English lessons.

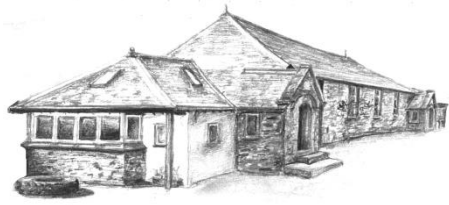
As the children progress through school into KS2 we feel it is important to continue developing their personal thinking and learning skills. Therefore, in the 'Investigators' and 'Discoverers' we have created opportunities for independent choice and challenge. They have independent choice if they are early finishers and at other points in the timetable. We provide opportunities for both child initiated and open ended challenges.

We aim to involve your child in their learning as much as possible to help them become reflective, independent and effective learners. Your child has 'Personal Challenges' which they are working towards and we assess their progress through day to day observation, marking, assessment and discussion with the child. We also try to use the outdoors as much as possible, in all areas of the curriculum; having a pair of wellies and a set of waterproofs in school at all times enables us to do this. If you're having a clear out and have any Class 2 sized wellies/waterproofs they would be gratefully received.

As some of you will know, I recently attended a training course to deliver a mindfulness course called 'The Present' in school. I will start to re-share this with the children this term and if you have any questions about this please let me know.

I have attached a timetable for your information. With the exception of P.E. there is an element of flexibility so subjects may be moved around based on the children's needs, the weather (some lessons will have outdoor elements) and with everyone's wellbeing at heart.





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This term we have lots of exciting projects to sink our teeth into. In Science we are learning about light and electricity and you may hear using our bodies as percussion instruments in Music. Geography is focussed on understanding maps and History on the impact of World War Two on the Lake District. In D.T we are designing and building Anderson shelters and our creative focus is 'Make Do & Mend'. We will be learning about changes in Selside and Kendal during World War Two – if you have any photos/local family history you would like to share please get in touch.

What you can do to help at home:

- support your child with their reading by listening to them read and talking to them about their book
- practise weekly spellings (tested and changed on Tuesday). Don't forget to use Spelling Shed!
- practise times tables
- practise telling the time on a daily, using different types of clocks
- use Mathletics/Times Table Rockstars Sometimes the children will have targeted work set on Mathletics linked to our learning in class which we have set them, other times they can have a go at a section of their choice or use Live Mathletics.
- Maths and English homework tasks (set on Wednesday, handed in on Tuesday mornings). This is a slightly different format from previous years.

- Week 1: Children will usually have two pages to complete in each homework book which will be linked to the work we have completed in class. The questions on each page become progressively more difficult, so do not worry if the grey circled questions are sometime too tricky. If you feel able, once your child has had a go it is ok to help them (please just put a pencil star by the question so I know they had help) or they can bring it in to school and we can look at the question together.
- Week 2: Children will have a reading challenge that they are working on from the Book Bingo sheet in the front of their reading record which they should spend 20-30 minutes on. They can write a book review/ do some writing or draw a picture inspired by their challenge if they wish – there is no expectation to do this every time! The most important thing is to establish a regular reading routine and to talk about what they are reading. Maths will be set on Mathletics based on the work completed in class or be a times table battle on Times Table Rockstars.

As mentioned in previous correspondence please only send your child/ren into school with the essentials. We are using reading folders to transport reading/homework/spelling books to and from school and then to store them in the classroom. Please can these be in school every day, along with a waterproof coat, a named water bottle and a packed lunch (if required).

If you have any questions or concerns at any time please catch me in the playground, send me an email or contact me by phone through the Office.

Best wishes

Anna Young

