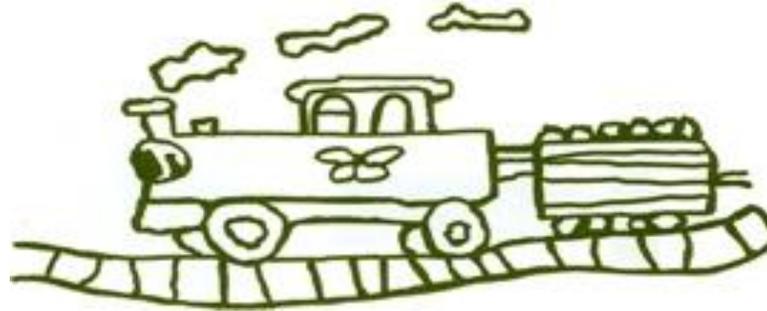


# Grange View C.E



# First School

Welcome to this half terms  
Topic Information letter  
for Willow and Chestnut  
Class

Mrs Metcalfe, Miss Conroy  
and Miss McQuade



# Courageous

# Castles

## Numeracy:

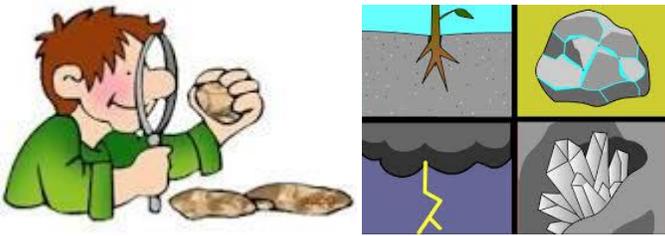
Y3 - We will be revisiting some elements of Multiplication and Division and then moving onto Area and Perimeter. We use a variety of fluency applications and then develop our problem solving and Reasoning skills.

Y4 - We are continuing with our hard work in maths and will be looking into decimals, money and time using the White Rose Maths scheme of work. We use a variety of fluency applications and then move onto Reasoning and Problem Solving.

## Science - *Rocks and weathering.*

Our big theme this term is Castles, therefore the children will be learning about different types of rocks, investigating their features and properties and using branching databases to sort and classify them.

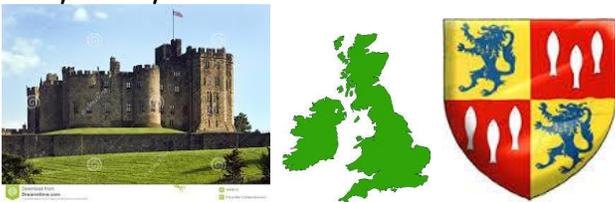
Following this they will also find out about types of weathering and how other materials and types of rocks are mined and found in other parts of the country, on this occasion we will be making comparisons to Cornwall.



## History: Castles, Percy Family

Our big theme this term is Castles which provides a vehicles for all our curriculum learning.

Depending on COVID restrictions, we will try to have a trip to Alnwick castle and following on from this will be studying in depth the history of the Percy family.



## Geography

As part of Geography the children will be learning to read a map and recognise the symbols using a key. They will be studying the land features of where castles were built and the surrounding areas. As well as studying the contrasting localities and land use of Northumberland in

## Literacy

### Reading

During this half term children will read in a variety of situations throughout the week at school in a shared whole class session, in a small group guided session, one to one with an adult and also independently. The children will look at a range of stories set in imaginary worlds, and a variety of recounts.

### Writing

The children will write in the following genres; recounts - identifying the key features and creating their own recount of their summer holiday and our visit to Alnwick castle. The children will be focusing on making their writing descriptive for the reader, creating atmosphere and suspense. Each week the children will have the opportunity to develop their own writing style during a creative 'big writing' session. The children will be given a specific topic focus then given time to create their own piece of extended independent writing.

They will learn to improve their sentence structure, grammar and punctuation as well as continuing to work through their spellings in a weekly test.

### Speaking & Listening

Children will encounter a variety of speaking and listening opportunities. Presenting information they have collected to their class and through team building activities.

## Music - Recorders Tuesdays

As part of our Music connections, the children have been learning to play the recorders Drums. Since September, our teacher has been coming into school each week and teaching us. We have learnt songs on our recorders and three notes so far. We have been learning how to read music ready to learn some more notes to play.



## PE - Games, Athletics. Mon and Wed

Wherever possible (weather dependant) we aim to get outside. We will be focusing on ball games and athletics to improve our fitness skills.



## PSHE - Health and Wellbeing

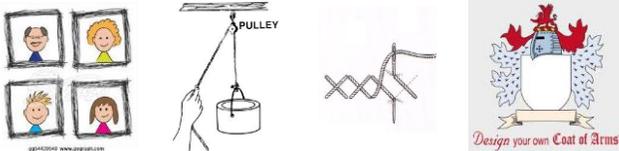
Y3 - Children will be learning about healthy life styles and the importance of looking after ourselves and keeping safe. They will also be learning some first aid to help in emergencies.

Y4 - Children will be learning about the importance of how to look after themselves and stay safe. They will explore areas such as hygiene, sleep, habits and first aid.

## Art/DT - Coates of Arms, portraits, pullets and cross stitch

Children will be developing their skills to create their own Coates of Arms using the medium of paint and pastels. As well as recreating portrait drawing of different members of the Percy family.

The children will be investigating pulleys and designing and making their own to then apply the skills further in the forest area.



## RE - Islam

**Which is the most important pillar of Islam to Muslims?**

This term children will be learning about the Islamic faith and its leaders. They will look at Muslim culture and how this religion has developed.

## ICT - E safety, Probots

At the start of the term the children will be given a recap on the importance of safety, reporting incidents and staying safe online. They will look into hurtful language that can be used or seen on the internet and what they should do in different scenarios.



Children will be improving their programming knowledge by using the probots for the first time. These are similar to the BeeBots that they have used before, but have more advanced features so they can practise their programming skills.

## MFL - French - Our School

As part of their language learning the children will be practising and learning basic skills such as saying numbers, describing places and using adjectives in French. They will be focusing on the theme of our school! Learning basic words and phrases to describe our school.



## Homework

**Reading** - Children will be bringing home their home reading books during the week. It would be helpful if you could either write or sign the book to say you have heard them read, it helps us to avoid repeat reading the same pages.

**Spellings and Times Tables** - Children will be given differentiated spellings to learn for their weekly spelling test on a Friday morning. Please help your child as much as possible learn these words as they will help with their confidence and fluency as both a reader and writer. They will also have a specific times table to focus on within Times Table Rock Stars - the participation so far has been excellent and shows great improvements in the pupils speed.

**Maths / English Homework** - Children will be given some Maths homework on Mathletics each Friday that needs to be completed by the following Friday morning for class dojo rewards. The maths homework is usually linked to the work they have done that week in Numeracy and should be appropriate for them to complete independently. Once a term they will also be given a short writing task to complete in their purple home writing books, the focus of which will be written in their books along with the date for it to be handed in. Usually they have about three weeks to do the writing. The thought process behind this writing, is for your child to work on their ideas and sentence construction with you, in the hope that they will learn new phrases and ideas which they can then use in their everyday writing in class.

Thanks for your help and continued support

## Swimming

As in our previous half term, swimming is still not going ahead due to COVID. We will update you if there are any changes to this.

## Forest School / PE Kits

Classes will be using the forest area whenever possible, we have waterproof trousers which we provide for each child but please ensure that their wellies and warm winter coat /hat / gloves are in school so that are comfortable.

We are intending to do PE on Monday and Wednesday, so please ensure that they have their PE Kits as well as appropriate footwear in school on these days.

## Home Time

If you need to change the usual arrangements for picking up your child from school, please let school know as soon as possible. As you will understand we cannot allow children to leave the school premises unless we have permission from parents or carers.