



Bamburgh Class – Autumn Term 1: Ben's Magic Telescope

Welcome to Bamburgh Class (Year 1 and 2). We hope you have had a wonderful summer holiday. Your teaching team are Miss Richardson class teacher and Mrs Hutchinson teaching support assistant.

Topic – Ben's Magic Telescope

Our topic this term is based on the book 'Ben's Magic Telescope' by Brian Patten. This is a wonderful book based on looking closely at the environment that we live in, through the use of a telescope. The children will be making their own telescopes and using them throughout the term to explore our school and surrounding environment. This will link to our Science work which is based on finding living things in their habitats. We will be taking our telescopes outside to look carefully at where creatures and plants are found in the school grounds. Using our eyes, we will be studying how animals are suited to their environments and how they are part of the 'food chain'. Using non-fiction books, the children will then find out facts about the different creatures they find and create their own Information texts.

In our topic the children will also look at the work of Andy Goldsworthy a British sculptor, photographer and environmentalist who created sculptures using natural resources found in the environment. On our beach school trips children will design and create their own natural sculptures in the style of Goldsworthy.

Beach School Days

This term we have planned 6 exciting beach school trips linking to our telescope theme. The dates are as follows:-

- Friday September 11th – Mini-beasts
- Thursday September 17th – Plants and Seeds
- Friday September 25th – Autumn Migrations
- Thursday October 1st – Grace Darling
- Friday October 9th – Estuaries
- Thursday October 15th – Pirates

Please see our class topic web and curriculum overview for further information about our class topic and curriculum areas.

PE

For your information, we will mostly have P.E. outside on a Tuesday but this can sometimes change so please bring PE kits on a Monday and take home on a Friday. We would also ask that your child's P.E. kit is clearly named, as we cannot return unnamed items.

Reading Books

Your child will be given a new reading plastic wallet to keep their reading book and reading record book in. We will be changing our reading books once a week on a Monday. We would encourage you to read with your child on a daily basis and record this in the reading record book along with any comments or questions you may have about your child's reading.

Homework and Spellings

Each week, your child will be set a homework task. This may be a written piece, some research or an online task. They will also have spellings to learn at home. The spellings for Year 1 and Year 2 will be available on the school website on our class page and they will also be on Google classroom. On Google classroom you can also download resources that may be useful

to help your child to learn and practice their spellings. We will have a spelling check at the end of each week. Usually this will take place on a Friday, however in the autumn term due to beach school days there are some weeks where we will carry out our spelling check on a Thursday instead.

Water Bottles

Please ensure your child has a water bottle to use in school.

Ways to help your child:

- Read stories to your child, to develop the love of reading.
- Visit the library to look for books to support our topic.
- Use the Internet to research our topic.
- Play English and math games on our virtual learning environment at www.school360.co.uk.

School Closures

Here are some suggestions for activities in the event of a school closure:

- School 360 (activities and tasks set on Google classroom).
- <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize>
- <https://whiterosemaths.com/homelearning/>
- <https://www.topmarks.co.uk/maths-games/5-7-years/counting>
- Keep an illustrated diary of your day at home.

We look forward to seeing you all again to begin our exciting learning journey!

Kind regards

Miss Richardson & Mrs Hutchinson