



Hello everyone. Welcome to our half-termly beach newsletter. I know that Mr Routledge has kept you up to date on the school newsletter but here is a more detailed overview of what we have been learning at the beach! All year groups have visited the beach this term and are still excited about what they see and find. They have enjoyed a lot of new experiences and skills which support their learning in the classroom. We have visited a good variety of beaches including **Blyth**, **Holy Island**, **Cresswell**, **St Mary's Island** and **Low Hauxley** as well as the **RNLI** station in Blyth. We are looking forward to next term and the challenge of the cold weather so remember to come prepared with plenty of layers to keep warm! Thanks, Mrs Wharton.



Nursery

Where we went . . . Blyth beach

The children learned how to stay safe in a new environment. They sorted stones, shells and seaweed into groups. They built sandcastles and explored the beach. Some of the children had their first trip on the beach bus which they found exciting.

What we found . . . Lots of seaweed shells and stones.

What we said . . . "I was putting the seaweed in the circle." "We were on the beach picking rocks."

Year 1

Where we went . . . Blyth Beach

The children used their sense of smell, sight, touch, taste and hearing to explore the beach environment. They felt and smelled the salty, slimy seaweed and used impressive describing words. They also touched and tasted (just a

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tiny dot on the tip of their tongues!) the salty sea water which was linked to our Science topic. Mr Routledge came along on one of our visits, it was a cold, wet day but we had hot chocolate to warm us up and it tasted delicious!

What we found . . . Lots of interesting things like sea glass and different shaped rocks.

What we said . . . "At the beach I tasted the seawater - it was nice." "We had delicious hot chocolate and a biscuit." "We all went in a tent to do our senses, it was fun!"

Year 2

Where we went . . . RNLI Blyth

What we learned . . . We learned what the RNLI do, we saw what equipment they wear and why they have to wear it. We played a game to identify dangers on the beach and water and who to call in an emergency. We even had a seat in the lifeboat though, thankfully, it wasn't required to head out to sea!

What we said . . . "We watched some videos about saving people." "We looked at the lifeboats." "We did some writing about safety." "The girl on the boat didn't have a life vest on."

Year 3

Where we went . . . Cresswell and St Mary's Island

What we found . . . The children learned how to stay safe on the rocks. The children were very excited when they found the creatures in the pools. They found **crabs**, **periwinkles**, **scorpion fish**, **shrimps** and a **starfish!** They also learned about the habitats these creatures live in. We also looked for seals on the rocks at St Mary's but made sure to be very quiet so we wouldn't frighten them.

What we said . . . "I found a sea anemone in the rock pool." "I found a baby crab." "I saw a starfish and it was hiding in a corner."

Year 4

Where we went . . . **Holy Island**

What we found . . . Roman artefacts and St Aidan's church.

The children in Year 4 who were able to go to Holy Island (a new date for those that didn't has been set!) visited the church, beach, monastery and school. The children enjoyed exploring the beaches that vikings landed on around 1000 years ago. They were particularly keen to chase the poor monk (Mrs Wharton!) up the beach. We also wrote postcards home to our families about our experience on HolyIsland.

What we said . . . "I learned lots about the Vikings and how they sailed across the sea." "The St Aidan statue was interesting."

Year 5

Where we went . . . **Low Hauxley**

What we found . . . The children had their first experience of Geocaching . They learned how to use a GPS to locate the caches that were hidden. They found this very exciting when we found them. On the beach we found an ancient forest on the beach which dates back to the Mesolithic period.

What we said . . . "We love the beach." "I liked using the GPS to find the treasure." "I liked the sand and the rocks."



Year 6

Where we went . . . **Low Hauxley**

What we found . . . The children looked at the coastal features of the beach and identified the signs of erosion. They used their knowledge from what they had learned in school to identify these features. They saw how the beach had sea defences to stop the erosion, and how important these defences are to the coastal area.

What we said. . . "We learned about the fossils in the rocks." "We saw gabions, caves and all sorts of things."