



Miss Stewart, Miss Power and P5 – Term 1 Newsletter

We are both very pleased to welcome the children and their families to P5. Let's get ready for a busy year of learning and fun! Our termly newsletter will include details of what the children will be learning each term as well as general housekeeping matters, but our doors are always open for any queries. We look forward to getting to know you all as the year goes on.

Health and Wellbeing

In class-based Health and Wellbeing, P5 will be developing our understanding of the different ways we can keep both our bodies and minds healthy. We will be keeping our bodies healthy by learning about different forms of exercise, from circuit training to child-friendly high intensity interval training. This will take place in the gym hall each Friday. We will be learning how to keep our minds healthy through individual and group-based growth mindset activities and mindfulness calming strategies.

Both classes will have time with Mr Fullarton on Tuesdays. This term the focus will be on basketball. The children will work to develop their ball skills in a variety of ways such as dribbling, passing and shooting. The children will also be developing their awareness of how to work with other players around them, thinking about both defensive and attacking strategies.

In order to make the most of our time, we kindly ask that all P5s come to school in their PE kits each Tuesday and Friday. They will be given the opportunity to change into their uniforms later in the day.

Learning Across the Curriculum

Given the current news coverage of the fires in the Amazon, our topic this term is Rainforests. This is a fascinating interdisciplinary topic which will allow children the opportunity to develop and enhance their map reading skills as well as personal research skills. We will be learning about the climate, the structure of a rainforest, deforestation and the culture and lifestyle of those who live in the rainforest, and investigating how their lives differ to our own in Scotland.

P5 will have their RME focus on Humanism. We will be learning about the key beliefs and values surrounding Humanism and linking these ideas to our own Uryside School values. We will be using these learning opportunities to develop our understanding and respect for people having differing moral beliefs.

Maths & Numeracy

Maths No Problem allows children to focus on real-life problem solving skills by building the depth of their understanding and mathematical fluency through practical activities without the need for rote learning. P5 will begin by looking at Place Value and how this affects and impacts calculations. We will progress on to applying our skills to addition and subtraction, followed by multiplication and division. Links will be made throughout the learning and teaching process to allow children to work on word-based problems, both individually as well as in groups.

Literacy

This term, P5 are working together to begin group reading. The groups are made up of children from across the yeargroup reading a variety of novels with extracts being used to create comprehension activities. All groups will be asked to complete a set amount of reading at home each week. Depending on the group this will either be issued on Tuesdays for Thursdays or vice versa.

All children are continually encouraged to read for enjoyment. With this in mind, children are welcome to bring in a text from home which they can use as their 'personal reader'. As ever, there are a variety of texts available in school should they wish.

P5 will be learning to enhance their written work through the use of interesting vocabulary, effective connectives and sentence openers, and accurate punctuation. Throughout the year we will apply these skills to a variety of layouts (eg newspaper articles), always considering how presentation can impact a reader's audience.

On Tuesdays M Journe will work with both classes, using longer sentences to introduce themselves and will learn the French alphabet.



Weekly Spelling Homework

The children are asked to complete a weekly spelling activity as homework. These are designed to aid children in recognising and using spelling patterns, not simply learning prescribed words. The children have a selection of activities in the front of their Homework jotters and are asked to complete a different activity, of their choice, each week using the given word list. Words will usually be issued on a Monday with the expectation of returning completed activities each Thursday. These word lists are also worked with in class throughout the week.

Sharing Activity - Home to School

Due: Friday 4th October

The children will be learning about different animals which inhabit the four layers of the rainforest and are asked to be creative and design a brand new multi-layer animal! Their mission is to construct a model of this animal and write a short paragraph including: name and size of the animal, the features of this animal and how these allow movement throughout the rainforest layers, what the animal eats and what (if anything) preys on this animal. The model can be created using a variety of materials found in the home. We ask that the animal can be easily carried to and from school.

Home Learning Helping Hands

At times, all children will need that little bit of extra practice to understand and consolidate concepts introduced at school. Below are suggestions of activities and websites you and your children may wish to work with to aid this development.

Maths: Practice, practice, practice. Times table facts can never be practised too much and link to so many areas of maths and numeracy. Can your child recognise maths problems in everyday life, and use their strategies to solve these problems (eg reduced price stickers at the shops)?

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/ks2/maths/number/>

Place Value: <http://flash.topmarks.co.uk/3438>

<https://www.topmarks.co.uk/Flash.aspx?f=countdowntimerv3>

<https://www.topmarks.co.uk/maths-games/hit-the-button>

<http://www.multiplication.com/games/all-games>

Literacy: It is important for children to be able to access a variety of literature. Please allow your child the opportunity to read a variety of texts independently and with you, and to discuss what they have been reading to deepen understandings and enhance their vocabulary. You can aid them in spelling, by encouraging your child to look for and recognise patterns in words and develop their own "spelling rules" for tricky words.

<https://www.topmarks.co.uk/Search.aspx?q=spelling>

<https://www.spellingcity.com/spelling-games-vocabulary-games.html>

Typing practice: <https://www.bbc.com/bitesize/articles/z3c6tfr>