



Miss Stewart, Ms Power and P5 – Term 2 Newsletter

We're set for a busy term in the lead up to Christmas! Thank you for your support in Term 1; we look forward to continuing this as the year goes on. As ever, our doors are always open for any queries.

Health and Wellbeing

In class-based Health and Wellbeing, P5 will be continuing to develop our understanding of the different ways we can keep both our bodies and minds healthy, such as a balanced diet, varied exercise and the importance of sleep. We will continue to work as a class in the gym hall each Friday, with focus on dance and choreography.

Both classes will continue to have time with Mr Fullarton on Tuesdays. This term the focus will be on health related fitness. The children will work to build their fitness, stamina and flexibility levels. These levels will be assessed and recorded at the beginning of term and towards the end of term also, to allow children to see the progress they have made. The children will also be working on their Scottish dancing skills in preparation for our Christmas party.

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. If children would rather come to school in their uniform, they will be asked to change prior to the PE class beginning.

Learning Across the Curriculum

Our topical focus this term will be War and Remembrance, focusing on the First World War. We will anchor the majority of our learning around a man called Walter Tull who fought in the war. The children will learn about life during the years of the war and will consider how this compares to modern-day life. We will also learn about the importance of women and animals in the war. A main focus of this topic will be learning about the history and importance of Remembrance Day. We look forward to sharing our learning at the annual Poppy Tea.

P5 will have their RME focus on Christmas around the world, looking at some of the traditions from around the world, and comparing them to our own.

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 spend the term considering a variety of multiplication and division methods and will apply these to solving calculations. 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

P5 are continuing to work together for 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 create more factual written pieces, using research and note-taking from secondary sources. This will primarily be based on the First World War and our class novel, War Horse. 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 6th December

The children are asked to write/type a diary entry. They are to imagine they are a front line soldier who took part in The Christmas Truce. The children should remember to write in the first person and to include realistic details from the 1910s.

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>