

Curriculum Newsflash

Welcome to the final curriculum newsflash of the year! The last few weeks of term will be busy with lots going on in and out of school. At this time, we reflect on what we have achieved this year and begin to consider developments and priorities for next session. If you require any further information on any aspects mentioned in this newsletter then do not hesitate to contact us here at the school. Charlotte Officer (DHT)

Improvement Planning

During our recent INSET day we discussed our improvement plan priorities and considered how well we had achieved these plans. As you know our priorities for this year were to:

- **Improve attainment in writing especially in P 5 - 7**
- **Improve attainment in numeracy specifically with targeted pupils**
- **Further engage parents by developing curricular knowledge of literacy and numeracy to enable them to support their children**

Staff had an INSET day on 7th May where time was spent evaluating our improvement plan and discussing where we should focus next session. It was agreed that there were a number of aspects relating to Health and Wellbeing that would merit reviewing and developing and that this should be a main focus next session. These include a focus on nurture and the development of a nurture room, Making Rights Real and updating our behaviour position statement. Some teaching staff had attended courses on 'Talk for Writing' and those that had tried the approach shared their experience of how engaged the children had been. It was agreed that this should also be a focus for development next session. The 'Number Talks' approach to developing numerical understanding, mental maths and skill development would begin to be implemented in all classes in August and some teachers are already using this approach. The new format of school reports were sent home before the Spring break and we are grateful for the feedback from both pupils, parents and carers. An online survey was available on our website which allowed us to get a flavour of the impact of our Parental Engagement calendar. At the start of May, the class blogs were made available on our website and we had a Parents' evening last Wednesday. We always welcome ideas on how we can vary the ways and means that we can work together with you as parents and carers. Your suggestions and input would be most appreciated.

Looking for more information?

This year a parent and pupil friendly version of the Improvement Plan Targets were available on our website. We are aiming to continue this process next session by working with members of our Parent Council and some P6 pupils.

Mrs Reilly's Science Spot

Early Level

P1 will have experience playing with a wide variety of toys and can say 'what makes it go' and what they do when they work. They will learn to recognise simple types of forces through play and describe the affects on a toy using the vocabulary 'pushing' and 'pulling'.

First Level

P2 – 4 will be studying forces on toys and other objects and describe this using vocabulary such as pushing, pulling, stretching, squashing and twisting. Through investigations, they will demonstrate an understanding of how a force can make an object change speed, shape and direction. They will also explore the forces exerted by magnets on other magnets and magnetic materials.

Second level

P5 – 7 will be investigating how friction, including air resistance affects motion of an object. They will have the opportunity to collaborate in investigations to compare magnetic, electrostatic and gravitational forces.

Numeracy and Maths

Please remember to encourage your child to use Sumdog at home to support their Maths and Numeracy even on a rainy day in the Summer.



Thank you



A big thank you to our class reporters who took time to gather and write the information for their curricular update. Thanks also to the older class reporters who helped our younger children.

In Maths we have been doing fractions some groups are doing mixed and heavy fractions. In other groups we have been practising our dividing and equivalent fractions. In Literacy we have been doing literature circles. Literature circles are when we get into groups and we all read a novel the following week we do activities like summarising, predicting, visualising and connecting about the pages we have just read and at the end we give each other comments and then the teacher will mark them. Grace and Emily, P6, R13 and R14

In Maths we have been trying out Number Talks for adding and taking away. In Literacy we have been doing sounds like 'oa' and different words. We have been writing about pirates and trying to remember our finger spaces and full stops. Our topic has been on pirates and we have found out about the parts on their big boats, that they have swords and parrots. We enjoyed playing games like tig in PE. P1, R3 Millie

In Maths we have been looking at money, counting to 1000/10000, doing measure, division and fractions. In our Topic we have been learning about Scotland's story and found out about William the conqueror. In Literacy we have been doing SRA and Miss Cullen was reading us 'Wonder'. In Writing we have been learning about letters and persuasive writing. Lucy P4 R9
We have been doing the 8 x table and division. We have been playing games like dominoes and linking it to our maths. We have been practising our capital letters, full stops and proper nouns in literacy. We wrote about something we have done and tried to up-level our writing. Our topic is about Scotland's landscapes and we have learned how to use the keys on maps. Evie P4 R10

In Numeracy, we are learning how to use Number Talks signals. We are learning new mental strategies to make maths easier.
In Literacy, we have been learning how to take notes. We are learning to predict and compare when reading our class novel.
In our Topic we are learning about weather and what types of weather we have in Scotland. Zac, P3, R6

Our topic is weather and we have found out how rain is made and that ice is made from water when it freezes. We have been learning about multiplication and time and using the number rack on the C-touch in our maths as part of Number Talks. Sophia R5 P2

In P1, R4 we have been learning tricky 'double sounds like 'ai' and 'oa'. We have been writing stories about pirates. We have been doing paired reading with the P2s and working on our expression so that we don't sound like a robot. In Maths we can add and take away coins and give change. I liked to play in the shop and buy things with money. In our Topic we have learned that a map is a bird's eye view. I liked dressing up as a pirate and making Miss Cassidy walk the plank. Edith P1 R4 We read lots of non-fiction books. We are talking about sums and using number lines in our Number Talks. In P2, R4 We have been learning to write riddles and using wow words. We have started our times tables and putting cubes into groups to help us. In our Topic we have made rain catchers and found out how rain is made. Jamie P2 R4

In Maths we have been learning to multiply 10, 100 and 1000. We have been learning to divide up to 100 by numbers 1 – 9. R12 have been in literacy circles practising skills such as visualising, predicting, summarising and connecting. R11 In literacy we have been writing persuasive texts. We focused on the topic of littering. We have been dribbling in football and playing games to practise skills in athletics. Our topic is Thistle Mountain and we have done a village competition and have different jobs and acts to do. We have designed Thistle Mountain signs as part of our Thistle Mountain topic. Olivia and Emily P5 R11 and 12

In P7 we have been working on everything 'fractions'. We have also been working on decimals and percentages, and we found our times tables are important when doing this. We have been practising and improving our close reading skills. We have been doing different types of writing and our teachers give us ideas by reading us a bit of a book each day. Our new topic is, 'The Future is Ours' and it is about history. We are really looking forward to our last few months and you should be excited by what's to come! Fraser and Mia R15 & R16

We have been learning 'Around the World' recently. We have been learning about the different countries, their food, sport, wildlife and clothing. In PE we have been starting athletics. Athletics is different sport like hurling, javelin, long jump and speed bounce. In Literacy we have been doing a book study and we have been reading Flat Stanley. In Maths we have been doing Venn diagrams and Carroll diagrams. Benjamin and Emily R8 and R7 P3

In Numeracy, we have been doing lots of taking away and putting coins in order during money work. We have been learning new sounds in literacy and doing lots of writing about pirates. Our topic is about pirates and we have been learning about their ships and what they look like. We have also drawn our own pirates. P1 R2 Jack and Findlay