



Class news for Term 2 from P7EH & P7JS

Welcome to P7's term 2 newsletter.

In **READING**, P7EH's class novel "The Nowhere Emporium" continues to be at the centre of reflective and guided reading activities.

P7JS will continue reading their home reader and library book as part of their homework tasks and Reflective Reading tasks in class.

Both P7 classes will also be involved in shared reading activities with primary 1, where the P7s will develop reading activities based around the Bookbug Picture Book Award shortlisted titles with their buddies. This example of cross-stage learning has proved to be a valuable experience in the past, especially in allowing the senior pupils to develop their expression, pacing and fluency in oral reading as well as in giving the P1s time to explore their Bookbug books in greater depth. Shared Reading sessions will take place during Book Week Scotland towards the end of November, and all P1s and P7s will be encouraged to vote for their favourite title.

Both classes are concentrating on **Imaginative Writing** at the moment. While P7EH has been considering all elements of VCOP through a series of Big Writing lessons, the main focus so far has been in improving sentence openers. Work is also ongoing in developing note-taking skills. Meanwhile P7JS is focusing on improving sentence openers whilst still considering other aspects of VCOP. Note-taking skills are also being developed.

Spelling in P7 is not so much about "learning spellings" but more about investigating words and developing vocabulary. Our theme for spelling this term is prefixes and suffixes.

In **NUMERACY** we have started the term with a focus on shape, with the two classes learning about the properties of 2D shapes. Taking a sideways step we are also revising types of angles and how to use a protractor in order to describe shapes accurately. In keeping with the shape theme P7JS and P7EH will investigate triangles before focusing on multiples & factors and co-ordinates towards Christmas.

The beginning of term saw P7EH finishing their "**Living Things**" topic by finding out about how plants and animals adapt to their surroundings in order to survive. Meanwhile P7JS learned more about the pros and cons of using fertilisers. The two classes will share their learning on these topics by presenting their work to each other. Both classes are currently learning about the Great War in the run-up to Remembrance Day and recognising the significance of the 1918-2018 centenary.

Our next context for learning this term will be "**Africa**," a wide topic which encompasses many of our Experiences and Outcomes, particularly in comparing lifestyle, culture and climate and in developing mapping and geography skills.

After a series of successful application and interviews, **P7 responsibilities** were allocated before the October break and the children are enthusiastic about carrying out their new roles. Library monitors and Assembly helpers have already been given training in using the library computer system and the AV system in the hall, and are keen to demonstrate their new skills.

Homework will continue to be given out on a Friday and be collected in on a Thursday. We are building in time for working on JASS tasks through homework. It's important that the children keep their JASS folders up-to-date throughout this session and provide evidence of the activities they have participated in. The four sections are: Get Active, Stay Active; Me and my World; Adventure and My Interests. The residential trip to Loch Insh provides more than enough activity to complete the Adventure section, although children are of course free to include other adventure-type activities they

have enjoyed. Children who have chosen not to aim for silver accreditation in the JASS scheme are still required to write up their achievements in their homework jotters. This helps them towards fulfilling many health and wellbeing experiences and outcomes. The JASS website can be found at <https://www.jasschools.org.uk/> should you need to find out more.

We shall be inviting parents and carers in to school for an afternoon's "social" with the P7s at 2.00pm on Thursday 13th December. This will be an opportunity for the P7s to provide some Christmas-themed entertainment and to share aspects of their learning with their families. We look forward to welcoming as many of you as possible.