

Class news for Term 3 from Primary 5/6AC



I hope you all had a wonderful holiday and are ready to start the new term.

This term our topic will be Scotland Through the Ages. We will be working our way from the dark ages through to the present day learning about how past events and the actions of individuals or groups have shaped Scottish history. Through this topic the pupils will be using primary and secondary sources to research events from the past. They will also be comparing and contrasting their lives with the lives of people in Scottish history. We will specifically study why certain people and events from a particular time in the past were important and we will be placing them on a Class timeline to develop a better understanding of historical sequence. For homework, pupils will have ownership over their learning and can choose any important individual from Scottish history to research and they will present this information to the rest of the class in a Hot Air Balloon Debate, where they will argue why their chosen individual is in the most important person in Scottish history. More detail will be given in weekly homework sheets.

Each week, we will have a science lesson and this term we have started our science by looking at the ocean as the pupils have a keen interest after Blue Planet 2. We will be learning about a range of different topics from animal adaptation to the forces around us. To develop the pupils' scientific thinking we will start each lesson with a key question we want to answer and will think about how we could answer this, through either research or through an experiment. Pupils will develop their understanding of planning a fair test and making predictions which can be tested, based on observations and information. Primary 6 will also be attending Science Champion training this term at Satrosphere and will be planning science lessons to each to Primary 1.

In RME, we will be learning about the practices and traditions of different world religions, focusing on Sikhism and Islam. I hope to find individuals from both faiths to visit the class to talk to us about their religions so if you would be able to do this or know anyone who would visit our class then please let me know through Dojo. In Health and

Wellbeing, our focus will be healthy living and we will consider how advertising and the media influence our food choices.

In **Numeracy** we will be focusing on decimals, fractions, percentages, money at the start of the term and will then move on to length, weight and volume. Manga High is available and will be part of the children's weekly homework. If you would like to do more practice for any numeracy topic www.topmarks.com has a lot of good games for pupils to work on. Below I have included a link to a very good fractions game which gives pupils the opportunity to work on their understanding of fractions (using the fractions wall), equivalent fractions and simplifying fractions, it does require flash player so may not work on iPads.
<http://www.topmarks.co.uk/Flash.aspx?f=Fractionsv7>

In **Literacy** our focus will be on taking notes, informative and discursive writing. To help us improve our writing we will be assessing our own work, working with a partner to assess their work and we will be using the feedback we receive to try to improve our work. We will also be working in class to improve our writing by using a wide range of connectives and sentence openers. Pupils will continue to be encouraged to read to extend their vocabulary and provide ideas for writing.

In **reading** we will be looking at fiction and non fiction texts and discussing information from the text. Through our topic work, we will be using a range of different texts and will be using primary and secondary sources. This term, we will be starting **Literature Circles** every Thursday. In literature circles, small groups of pupils gather together to discuss a piece of literature in depth. During each literature circle, the pupils will be given a role such as the clarifier (who writes down tricky words and looks up their meaning) or the summariser or the questioner. Reading homework will be the pages that each literature circles agrees to read for the next week and I may also assign an activity to complete alongside the pages to be read. Pupils must read their assigned pages at home so that they are able to fully benefit from literature circle discussions and they must ensure they are clear in their group which pages they need to read.

In **I.C.T** we will be focusing this term on coding and using **Scratch** to create animations. Pupils will be developing their knowledge and

understanding of coding language. Scratch is a free website and can be used by the pupils at home as there are many tutorials on the website if they wish to consolidate their learning.

Each week, your child will have:

- P.E. on a Wednesday and Thursday– please remember PE kit
- Library on a Tuesday – please remember your book



Homework – this term we will send home tasks for the week on a Friday to be returned the following Thursday (unless notified otherwise). Homework can be accessed on Class Dojo. This term pupils will be given a set of words to practice spelling and learn; Manga High activities; reading

agreed with their literature circle and there may be other activities relating to their topic.