January 2018

Dear parents/carers,

Happy New Year to you all. I hope you enjoyed some time with friends and family over the festive period.

**Literacy**

This term P4/5 will be using debating to further develop listening and talking skills. Sharing opinions, using strong, relevant arguments and responding to other opinions in a respectful and thoughtful manner will be the focus. In reading, P4/5 will be using different sources to collate information including the internet, books, newspaper articles and film. Exploration of fact and opinion will be central and will connect with the class debates and debating skills. There will be a focus on self-checking, editing and redrafting in writing with each child also having individual writing targets.

The class will also be starting to learn some basic sign language alongside daily French words and phrases.

**Numeracy**

The main focus in Numeracy this term will be multiplication and division. P4 pupils will be extending their knowledge and understanding of the times tables by developing the use of the 3 and 4 times tables with associated division, and fractions. They will also be investigating and developing skills in estimating and measuring time in relation to daily activities.

P5 pupils will be developing knowledge and skills to use multiplication in problem solving, extending to use the 7, 8, and 9 times tables and multiplying up to 100. P5 will also spend time connecting their multiplication knowledge with division, fractions and number patterns.

**Social Studies**

P4/5 are continuing the ‘World Food Tour’ and, after spending time in Scotland, we took off in a virtual plane, landed in Morocco, completed some research, made and then ate a feast (I hope you have seen the photos on the class Glow page) and are now ready for the next destination – the Middle East and on around the world!

In the second part of the term P4/5 (after changing the aeroplane to a time machine) will be investigating the role of the Jacobites and Bonny Prince Charlie in Scottish history. This topic will incorporate many of the literacy skills the class are developing as well as skills from other areas of the curriculum.

**Homework**

Reading homework, accompanied with a Book Detective task, will be issued on either Monday/Thursday or Tuesday/Friday to be completed for the following reading day. Talk homework will be issued regularly on a Monday. Please take time to talk about the subject as your discussions will be followed up later in the week in different activities. Numeracy or Social Studies related homework will be issued on Monday to be handed in the following Monday. This homework is to provide an opportunity for your child to share what they have been learning in class. If you feel your child requires more homework here are some suggestions?

* Practice times tables – play tables bingo, beat the clock, find the mistake.
* Set a budget, plan, shop for and cook a meal
* Log onto Sumdog and earn some points
* Go on a spelling sound hunt
* Find a word in a dictionary – how many words can you make from those letters?
* Follow a link on the class Glow page
* Go for a walk – how many describing words can you use to talk about what you see, hear, touch and smell?
* Choose a subject related to the class topic and complete some research that could be presented to the class.

Please keep checking the class Glow page for photographs and other information about what the class have been doing.

**Days to remember:**

Monday – assembly

Tuesday – PE – developing ball skills with a focus on volleyball

Wednesday – Golden Time – children are encouraged to bring a toy or activity to share with others (no screens or electronics please)

Thursday – PE – developing gymnastic skills

Science – learning about and investigating changing materials

Friday – French – developing confidence with simple French conversational skills

**Dates for your diary**

Thu 8th, Fri 9th & Mon 12th February- Mid Term Holiday-School closed to pupils and staff.

Tues 13th & Wed 14th February-Staff In-Service Days-School closed to pupils

Fri 23rd February- School Photographer- Sibling or individual photographs

**26th February 2:45– Class assembly – P4/5 look forward to seeing as many as you as possible so we can share our learning with you.**

Fri 23rd March– Sports Relief Day ‘Dress as you Please’ & Foodbank Collection

If you have any questions, queries or concerns, please don’t hesitate to contact me through the homework diary, telephone or see me at the door.

Mrs F McRae