P4/5 Newsletter August 2020

Dear Parents/Carers,

I hope you all had a good summer, kept well and found time to relax and enjoy the sunshine. It was super to see the happy faces returning to school as we all get used to the ‘new normal’. I have been enjoying hearing some holiday news from the class as we all settle back into the school routine.



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We will be spending some time settling back and getting to know each other again and the focus in **Health and** **Wellbeing** will be – **cooperating, discussing feelings,** **recognising ways to stay mentally and physically healthy, people who can help and where to go/who to talk to when things aren’t going as well as they could.**

The focus this term in **Listening and Talking** for the **P4s** will be extending their ability to **listen to others, take turns to share ideas respectfully and explain their ideas clearly.** The **P5** focus will be on learning more about developing **confidence to communicate freely**, **ask questions** to find out more and **organise information for specific purposes.**

The class will be exploring a wide range of different texts in **Reading** connected to the topic work as well as regular reading tasks to complete at home. **P4** are working on reading with **fluency** and exploring the **role and impact of punctuation** to aid understanding, whilst **P5** will be continuing to develop the **use of the context** to understand unfamiliar texts, focusing on phrases rather than each individual word. **Both P4 and P5** will be extending their ability to **answer questions** on unfamiliar written, visual, and audio texts.

Learning experiences in reading will be followed up within the **Writing** context. The focus will be on **organisation, punctuation, spelling** and **proofreading**. **Spelling** will be taught on **Tuesday** and the spelling pattern will be practised in different contexts throughout the week including spelling games and sentence work. Keep practising the spelling pattern regularly at home too – repeating little and often is the most effective!

In **Maths,** the focus will be on **addition** this term. P4s will be working to develop and explore different **strategies for addition** with numbers to 100 and explore and extend their knowledge of **place value** to 1000. P5 will be extending their use of **addition strategies** with numbers to 10,000 and **place value** to 10,000. The class will also be working with **money** linking to the addition skills being learnt. **P4 will be counting to £10** calculating the appropriate notes and coins to use and **P5** will be extending to give **appropriate change for goods up to £10.** Please continue to encourage your child to use their maths skills when you are out and about eg. how much money do you think this will cost, how long to you need the string to be, total time spent on an activity etc.

Many areas of the curriculum will be included on the history based **Social Studies** topic this term; **The Vikings**. The class will use the context of Vikings to develop skills in **studying and drawing conclusions from evidence** and the **difference between fact and opinion**, making **comparisons** between our lives and the life of Vikings, **the role Vikings played in Scottish history**, **develop and use research skills** to find out more and reading and tracing journeys on **maps**.



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If you have any suggestions of activities, experiments etc that could enhance the learning in class please pass these on by discussing with your child and writing in the homework diary.

Daily P4/5 will be learning **phrases in French** to enable them to greet one another and have a **simple conversation about themselves**. They will also have the opportunity to listen to simple French stories, learn colours and numbers an P5 will begin writing simple phrases.

After a class conversation, P4/5 have devised a **class contract**. This is a set of rules that have been agreed to support learning in the class and help everyone to ‘**Be the best they can be’.**

**P4/5 Class Contract**

* Listen to each other without interrupting
* Always tell the truth
* Always sit on your chair safely
* Help people more
* No calling people names
* Try very hard to keep the Golden Rules
* Walk sensibly in class
* Treat others the way you want to be treated
* Ask before you borrow or take something
* Be responsible for your actions.
* Be responsible for your own and other people’s belongings.
* Always try your hardest.
* Take pride in your work.
* Respect and use equipment correctly.

These have been designed by the children to use alongside the **Golden Rules**.

* We are gentle
* We are kind and helpful
* We listen
* We are honest
* We work hard
* We look after property

There is a section at the front of the homework diary for you and your child to **discuss and sign the Golden Rules. Please complete this section together.**

**Learning Celebration Books** are an important part of how the children can record their achievements which they are proud of. The children may choose to take them home at any time to share with you. Please take a minute to write a comment in their book and add any achievement out of school too.



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There will also be a **behaviour, attitude and effort report** coming home week beginning 8th October in your child’s homework diary. Please add a comment in the space given.

**Reminders**

All children require a PE kit (Mon and Wed) for PE outdoors, a homework diary and green folder every day, a pencil/rubber every day and a water bottle if they would like. Children can also bring in a book for silent reading. This will be kept in their own tray.

**Homework**

**Reading** will be taught either on Monday/Thursday or Tuesday/Friday. There could also be a book detective task to accompany the reading**.**

**Maths or other homework** will be issued on Tuesday to be returned the following Tuesday. Talk homework will be issued regularly and will have links to learning in class. If you feel that your child could be doing more homework, there will be links, spelling activity ideas, maths ideas and Social Studies related activities on the class Glow page which will be regularly updated to include some photographs or other information about your child’s learning.

**Weekly timetable**

Monday – PE  (stamina and fitness)

               Assembly (virtual)

Tuesday – French (Miss Ruxton) – colours, numbers, greetings

Wednesday – PE (Mrs Sayer) – throwing, catching and bat and ball team games.

Friday – Golden Time

If you have any queries or concerns, please don’t hesitate to contact me. You can leave a note in your child’s homework diary, phone school and I will return your call.

 Mrs Fiona McRae