

COMMERCIAL PRIMARY SCHOOL
 January 2024
Class Newsletter for Room 8




Literacy

Reading

This term we are reading Moon Dog by Jane Elson, as chosen by the class. We will expand our individual reading experiences through our library visits and will keep track of the books we read, noting predictions, comments on writers' style and reasons for our reading preferences in terms of genre and author.

Writing

We will start the term by writing about our personal experiences. We will describe thoughts and feelings about events and try to engage the reader through effective word choice. We will start to work on introductions and conclusions and structuring our writing into paragraphs.

We will also be writing some science reports based on experiments linked to our topic. We will look at how to organise and present information in a logical way.

Listening and Talking

The pupils have been given a Scots poem to learn at home. They have been given a paper copy of either A Red, Red Rose or To a Louse by Robert Burns, or Beasties by Helen Cruickshank.

The Children do not have to learn the whole poem off by heart but should make an attempt at learning at least some of the poem. Everyone will be asked to perform part of the poem. This can be in front of the class or just to the teacher.

IDL

This term our topic is Natural Disasters. We will explore different types of natural disasters, why they happen and the aftermath of the event.

Expressive Arts

We will continue to work with Mrs Mair for music, practising the songs for **the Big Sing on Tuesday 5th March 2024** at the Rothes Halls. Unfortunately, parents are unable to attend this event but we would like to invite you into school to see the classes perform the songs on **Tuesday 19th of March 2024**.

For art we will make 3D models. We will use clay to make a model of a native Scottish animal, and explore its habitat. Linked to Natural Disasters, we will make a model of a volcano in a group. We will also look at The Great Wave off Kanagawa by Hokusai and try to paint a version of our own.

Numeracy and Maths

This term we will continue to consolidate and develop the pupils understanding of addition and subtraction, often using decimal numbers. We will explore a variety of different strategies which can be used to effectively solve mathematical calculations

We will then move on to multiplication and division, with lots of times tables practice.

Maths topics will be taught by Miss Ross on a Wednesday.

ICT and Technologies

This term we will practise making a simple animation. We will also explore Scratch to learn the basics of coding including what a variable is and what different types of loops do.

Health & Well-being

We will discuss the dangers that are present online and how we can keep ourselves safe.

We will also start to look at the Building Resilience Toolkit. We will start off by looking at what resilience means, how life has ups and downs, how to be more resilient and how resilient people cope better with difficulties.

For PE this term we will be learning to play badminton.

French

French will be taught by Miss Ross on a Wednesday.

RME

This term in RME we will learn about the important Christian festival Easter and how and why this is celebrated. We will also learn about famous religious people and the impact that they had on the world.

Other news:

- On Tuesday 20th of February, we have our literacy open afternoon at 2.25pm.
 - On Tuesday 5th of March, the class will be attending the Big Sing at the Rothes Halls.
 - On Tuesday 19th of March, children will perform the Big Sings songs in school for parents.
- On Thursday 21st of March, Rooms 8 and 9 will have their class assembly at 9.30am.
- PE is on Tuesday and Thursday. Please ensure that your child has adequate outdoor gym clothes.
 - Outdoor Learning is on Monday afternoons. We hope to get outside in all weathers so please provide a change of shoes, waterproof jacket etc.
 - Homework will be posted on Seesaw on a Wednesday.
 - Please ensure that all school uniform is clearly labelled with your child's name.

Useful links for supporting learning at home:

Spelling

<https://www.doorwayonline.org.uk/activities/speller/>

Ideas for Writing

<https://www.literacyshed.com/>

Scots Words

<https://digital.nls.uk/oor-wullie/activities/>

Typing Skills

<https://www.doorwayonline.org.uk/typing/>

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zf2f9j6/articles/z3c6tfr>

ICT

<https://scratch.mit.edu/>

Times Tables

<https://www.topmarks.co.uk/maths-games/7-11-years/times-tables>

<https://mathsframe.co.uk/en/resources/resource/477/Multiplication-Tables-Check>

Fractions

<https://www.topmarks.co.uk/maths-games/7-11-years/addition-and-subtraction>