



COMMERCIAL PRIMARY SCHOOL
Term 1 2024-25
Class Newsletter for P6a



General Information

Welcome to P6a with Mr Kenny and Mrs Bell. I am looking forward to a very exciting learning journey! Our focus is developing skills in key curricular areas such as literacy and numeracy whilst establishing connections with wider learning across the curriculum.

Literacy

Reading

Class Novel: Our class novel will complement our interdisciplinary learning about WWII and beyond. As a class we look at which one interests us most. There will be plenty of opportunities to read for pleasure in class.

We will be learning to ask and answer a range of questions based on our understanding of the text. We will also be analysing texts (mainly the class novel or topic-related) and using evidence from it to support answers. Bloom's questioning taxonomy will become learning vocabulary. In addition to our class novel, we will explore a variety of genres, particularly nonfiction.

Reading Groups: Every pupil has received a reading book and reading record. Reading groups will be heard throughout the week. Pupils will have the opportunity to read aloud, share opinions and question texts. Weekly reading pages will be set for homework and should be completed/returned on the following Monday.

Writing

Genres: This term we will focus on personal writing, information texts and functional texts.

Grammar: Using the Workshop for Literacy approach, we will focus on using appropriate vocabulary to suit the purpose and audience in our writing. VCOP (vocabulary, connectives, openers and punctuation) will serve as a tool to support our confidence in editing and self-assessment. This will develop our skills in using writing tools such as commas to show interjections, apostrophes for contractions and various aspects of direct speech. Some pupils will be encouraged to use additional punctuation such as colons and semicolons. Using sophisticated vocabulary is a key focus throughout the year.

Listening and Talking

We will discuss our thoughts on our class novel by listening and respectfully responding to others who have different viewpoints. We have demonstrated this through the creation of our class charter. An oral presentation will be created to support our context for learning.

Interdisciplinary Topic (IDL)

Our context for learning this year was decided through pupil voice. Pupils were presented with skills across the curriculum

Spelling

Pupils have been allocated spelling groups. Ongoing assessment means groups may be subject to change to meet a learner's needs. Spelling words will be issued weekly on SeeSaw and should be completed independently at home in the red homework jotter that has been provided – there is no need to return/evidence assignments on SeeSaw. Pupils will learn new spelling patterns through a variety of activities in class and will be tested weekly.

Numeracy and Maths

Our initial focus will be place value. We will look closely at the importance of a decimal place and the link between decimals and fractions. Across place value we will understand the significance of zero as a placeholder in decimal fractions, develop our understanding of whole number place value and further explore the relationship between successive places. Pupils will work towards, and above skills such as partitioning, modelling, sequencing and rounding.

Moving forward, we will develop addition and subtraction strategies, within a variety of different numeracy contexts (including decimal numbers). Some pupils will be consolidating these skills, whereas others will be looking closely at the relationship between addition and subtraction and speeding up recall.

Mrs Bell will be teaching mental Maths in addition to languages on a Wednesday morning.

Expressive Arts

Much of our learning in the expressive arts will be conveyed through our context for learning. In art, we will demonstrate knowledge about WWII through watercolour silhouettes. Drama will provide pupils with the necessary tools to support aspects of literacy. Hot seating will be a regular feature of our learning.

French and Spanish

Spanish will be taught by Mrs Bell before moving on to French. Children will learn to speak with confidence and enthusiasm.

Religious and Moral Education

and decided WWII would help meet our goals. Through the lens of people, past events and societies, our learning will include...

- primary and secondary sources
- timelines
- features of Scottish history
- investigating individuals and groups of people that have helped shape society

We will study WWII in a cross-curricular manner. We aim to establish connections between our learning and UNICEF's Articles in Action and the UN's Global Goals.

ICT

This term we will focus on the basic functionality of using a Windows-operated device. Beyond functionality, we will use ICT to share information using Glow and identify reliable sources of information whilst using the internet.

Outdoor Learning

P6a will begin working towards achieving their John Muir award (completion in P7). The Natural Connections outdoor learning programme will provide the foundations of our learning. Pupils will learn about John Muir and his contribution to worldwide conservation. Our learning will occur in the classroom, in addition to the school grounds and beyond.

Health and Wellbeing

UNICEF's Articles in Action will play a pivotal role in helping us understand the rights of children. Much of our learning will be delivered through the Building Resilience Toolkit, a whole school approach.

PE will take place both indoors and outdoors. We will work on team games initially before moving on to hockey.

This term we will explore the beliefs and traditions of Judaism through the lens of Hanukkah. We will also visit the Christian season of Advent. There will be opportunities to compare and discuss the values and belief systems of some other global religions.

Key Information

- **Seesaw:** Please ensure both a family account and a pupil account have been activated and linked to SeeSaw. Seesaw will be used as a means of sharing parts of our learning journey. Any important communication should be sent via the school office and not through SeeSaw.

- **Homework:**

Spelling words will be uploaded weekly on a Wednesday. This should be completed independently at home with no obligation to return in person/online.

Reading groups will have pages set throughout the week. The reading should be completed and returned to school every Monday morning unless agreed otherwise.

- **P.E.** will take place on a Monday afternoon. Pupils should come to school in their P.E. kit. Another shorter P.E. lesson will occur during the week. I will advise pupils if a change of kit is required in advance.
- **Outdoor Learning** will occur on a Monday, please dress appropriately e.g. provide a change of shoes/wellies, clothes etc.

If you have any questions regarding this newsletter or any other matters, please do not hesitate to get in touch directly via the school office.

**Thanks,
Mr Kenny**