



ST MARK'S PS
PRIMARY 7/6 - TERM 2
PARENT INFORMATION LETTER



WELCOME TO TERM 2!

Welcome back to our second term of the session at St. Mark's Primary School! We are looking forward to another memorable term with a variety of exciting and engaging learning experiences planned for the coming weeks. Of course, the highlight for many of our class will be our visit to Arran in December however we have lots of special events and occasions to look forward to for **all** of our learners over the term.

CLASS INFORMATION

P7/6's gym days continue to be Monday morning and Friday afternoon. As always, please ensure suitable, comfortable clothing and footwear is worn on these days. Filled water bottles should continue to be brought to school each day. We will also have opportunities for personal reading on Wednesday and Friday so pupils are invited to bring in a magazine, book or comic of their choice on those days. Our whole school homework focus will be reading this year. As discussed at Parents Evening, please keep an eye out for a reading diary and reading menu full of suggestions and activities arriving in your child's school bag soon. P7/6 are also fortunate to have a student teacher, Miss Murphy, joining us from UWS in the near future. I am sure our class will make her feel welcome.

LITERACY

Our class have thoroughly enjoyed exploring the novel "Holes" by Louis Sachar in the first term and we will continue to read and study this book as we move into our second term. We will further develop our comprehension of the novel through answering a variety of challenging questions. We will aim to enhance our understanding of different author techniques such characterisation and setting. We will also work on our understanding of effective questions through learning about higher order questioning strategies.

Our topic this term will provide us with the perfect opportunity to explore a number of non-fiction texts. We will look at the variety of features of these texts provide and how we can use them effectively to develop our reading skills and enhance our wider learning in other curricular areas. During our writing lessons, we will focus on descriptive writing and will aim to use a range of strategies and techniques to up-level our written work. We shall also look to link our written work to other areas of the curriculum through information writing, science reports and composing fact-files. In listening and talking, we will continue to work on basic communication skills. This will include discussing topical subjects in small groups, allowing turn-taking, using an appropriate tone and volume of voice and demonstrating correct body language when listening. Our pupils will also have the opportunity to produce a solo talk through the work they complete with Mrs McKie in ICT.

NUMERACY

As we enter our second term, our focus turns to the topic of subtraction. Pupils will be expected to work both mentally and with standard written method to solve a range of subtraction problems. Pupils will be expected to solve problems, use ICT, participate in games and work collaboratively in order to develop their numeracy skills. We will also develop our multiplication and division skills this term. Again, this will involve the use of both mental and written strategies. We will also take time to develop our knowledge of patterns and relationships. In maths we will have a particular focus on position and movement, looking at compass points, co-ordinates and Cartesian diagrams.

ACROSS THE CURRICULUM

Our topic this term is entitled "Icy Worlds". This theme will provide us with opportunity to explore the environments of the Arctic and Antarctic. We will learn about a variety of species that live in these areas, discover the challenges these landscapes face with regard to climate change and examine the impact these areas have on our own lives. Through our exploration of these themes, we will make links to the Sustainable Development Goals, which we introduced in the first term. This topic will also allow us to focus on "Icy Worlds" beyond our own planet, looking at some features of our own Solar System and the wider Universe. We will link our topic to other areas of the curriculum such as art, science and technology. In PE, we will begin the term by developing our hockey skills. We will also we also participate in social dance later in the term. Mrs McKie will deliver ICT to the class, where we shall learn more about Glow, PowerPoint, Garage Band and designing apps. Every month, we will take time to learn about the rights that we, as young people, have. We shall also learn about the lives of some important saints in RE.

Thank you once again for your support. As always, I am always happy to answer any questions or queries you may have about your child's learning. I am sure we are going to have a very successful, memorable and fun second term.

Many thanks,

J McQuillan

