



12/10/2023

Dear Parents and Carers

We have had a very productive term and we have had some lovely experiences we would like to share with you in a new format. Each term we will evaluate the breadth of experiences our children are having, and we will use the 'Four Context for Learning' as a template. Each class has considered some of the highlights and have shared them as part of this termly newsletter along with other news.

## Staffing

We have recently done a recruitment process for a support teacher in P1-3 and we are delighted to say we have Colin MacKenzie on our staff team until Christmas.

We welcome our new music teacher, Matthew Mellor, who started in August replacing Elaine Bain.

We are also delighted to say Sarah Rendall is our Lead Practitioner in the nursery whilst Kayleigh Marcus is on maternity leave.



Laura Flett, who has been our Early Years Practitioner for many years is leaving. We wish her good luck and success in her new venture (and will hopefully continue to see her doing some supply in Firth).

Katrina Gray has left her support role and we have been recruiting for support assistants this term, so that should be filled soon.

Jenny Rosie will return to do the PT Management cover for Miss Allnutt after the holidays, returning from her maternity leave.

### School Development



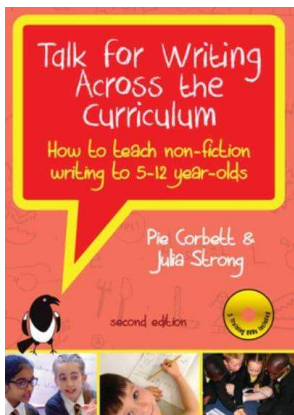
At the end of last term our parents fed back that we could focus on improving communication this year:

- We are very glad to say we have Seesaw renewed and up and running once more. The cost of Seesaw has quadrupled this year, so we hope to use it successfully and improve our communication as a result.
- Admin will continue to use emails for all core information and texts for emergency closures.
- We have dates for the diary for the year ahead on the school website, and we update these regularly.
- We will create a termly newsletter showing the breadth of learning and the highlights to give everyone a taster of what the school is doing across all the classes.
- We will have 2 progress meetings in the year with parents and carers. We have one consultation meeting in November and the second is in March.

- We will add evaluated pieces of work to the Progress and Attainment folder in Seesaw, which will give you the level your child is working at and what their next steps are. This will have a few pieces each term for continuous reporting.
- There will be an end of year progress report with the levels of attainment. The art, music and PE teachers will give comments which are personal to your child as part of that report.
- We will have assemblies for our whole school community and for our parents and carers.
- We will meet regularly with the Parent Council as a body of parents who represent the whole parent forum. At these meetings we share our progress as a school and ask for parent's opinions when we are making decision about the school. Please come along and hear about what is going on and contribute to our school development.



If you have any thoughts or opinions, please let us know if we are being successful or if we can add something to our plan.



### In-Service

Our school staff are on courses during the in-service days learning about Talk for Writing and Inclusive Practice. These are opportunities for professional learning which will directly impact on the children's experiences and improve our learning and teaching provision.



# LEARNING ACROSS THE FOUR CONTEXTS AT FIRTH PRIMARY SCHOOL

TERM 1 2023/24 – P1/2/3 – Miss Allnutt, Mrs Leitch, Miss Moodie

## Opportunities for personal achievement

We award a weekly Star of the Week focusing on personal achievements during the week.

P1/2/3 have regular opportunities for Show and Tell and diary writing, sharing their achievements outside school with the rest of the class e.g. involvement in sports, dancing, horse riding

Pupils have opportunities to share their writing with the class and have their IDL art and craft activities displayed in the classroom.

All P1s received certificates for a positive start to P1 and had their photo taken for the paper.

## Interdisciplinary Learning

This term we have been learning about Ourselves, focusing on families, homes, the human body and senses.

We have connected to the world of work through our Doctors role play area.

As part of our exploration of fairy tales we have taken part in a variety of craft experiences.

We have used data handling skills to gather and share information about ourselves, for example eye colour and favourite fruit or colour.

### The Curriculum

'the totality of all that is planned for children and young people throughout their education'

All P1/2/3s have joined Pupil Groups providing the opportunity to contribute to school developments.

We have attended school assemblies focusing on the Aims of the school - Ready, Respectful, Safe. Creating images to show how we can be ready, respectful speech bubbles and Hi Vis Vest to show how we can be safe.

We created a display for the school of Bee Ready, Bee, Respectful and Bee Safe.

P1 are settling into the life and routines of the school and P2/3 pupils have helped with inclusion through partner work and by setting a good example.

This term our writing focus is fairy tales, retelling the story, creating our own versions and developing characters.

We are developing Reading for Pleasure with a designated reading area in the classroom and regular access to the school library.

We are developing our spelling using Sounds Write.

We have been learning about Number, Place Value, Data Handling and Measure in Maths

## Ethos and life of the school as a community

## Curriculum areas and subjects

## Opportunities for personal achievement

Secret pupil –weekly in the classroom with a changing behaviour focus and a certificate is awarded to the secret pupil if they have successfully demonstrated the highlighted behaviour that week.

Outside of school: Badges and certificate awarded for completing anchor boys, medal from Cyclocross and football achievements.

## Interdisciplinary Learning

Human body:

- creating lung models to demonstrate the process of respiration.
- Finger joint models as part of joints and muscles topic
- Creative posters showcasing skeleton facts
- Science investigations about the digestive system

**The Curriculum**  
'the totality of all that is planned for children and young people throughout their education'

Pupil groups started. All pupils had to complete an application with their top 3 group choices and then go through an interview process for selection into pupil groups.

Peter Henderson was our guest speaker who discussed his leg amputation and his prosthetic leg and showed us all how it worked. We learned about how capable to body is able to adapt to change.

## Ethos and life of the school as a community

Developing our mental maths strategies as well a learning about place value, rounding, estimating, length and measuring.

Developing our note taking skills, subheadings, using a dictionary, speech marks and question marks.

HWB – synonyms for emotion words and linking these emotions to behaviours.

## Curriculum areas and subjects



# LEARNING ACROSS THE FOUR CONTEXTS AT FIRTH PRIMARY SCHOOL

TERM 1 2023/24 - P6/7 - Miss Clements

## Opportunities for personal achievement

We award a weekly Star Writer and display our work on the clipboards in the classroom.

The P6s participated in 3 days of Outdoor Education, with many challenging themselves and developing teamwork skills.

Certificates were given out for Bikeability 1 from last term to the P6s.

There has also been success out of school in Horse Riding, Rugby and Football that we have celebrated as a class.

### The Curriculum

'the totality of all that is planned for children and young people throughout their education'

## Interdisciplinary Learning

STEAM Challenges that we have taken part in this term - Save Fred, Balloon powered bottle rockets, longest piece of paper made from one A4 page, lava lamps (P7s).

We visited the Sun at the Cathedral and took part in workshops as part of the Science Festival.

We have been creating 'Wonders' based on our writing from our

Leadership - P7 chose to be either JRSOs and Librarians and have been working on action plans for the year.

P1 Buddies have helped the P1s to settle into school life.

P6/7 led the Respectful Assembly, explaining to the rest of the school about one of our three school aims.

We had a visit from VAO to discuss the 'Cost of Living' and its impact on young people

Writing a discussion text, a setting description and creating a 'Wonder' linked to our Class Novel, 'The Nowhere Emporium'.

Developing Reading for Pleasure with the range of books in our classroom and holding reading conferences.

Looking at number, place value, rounding, prime numbers, factors and multiples in Maths

## Ethos and life of the school as a community

## Curriculum areas and subjects

## Dates for the Diary

Have a look at the website, all the dates are being kept up to date for the year ahead:

2023	2024
<p><b>AUGUST</b> 21st August – In-Service Day 22nd August – Children Back at School</p> <p><b>SEPTEMBER</b> 14th, 15th and 18th of September – P6 Outdoor Education Days 26th – 28th September – UNISON Strike Days 28th September – Parent Council Meeting <b>AGM</b> 7pm</p> <p><b>OCTOBER</b> 9th October – Scottish Parliament Outreach Visitor for P6/7 10th October – Holidays Begin for Children 12th and 13th October – In-Service Days</p> <p><b>NOVEMBER</b> 3rd November – Parent Council Halloween Disco P1-7 at 6:30pm 14th and 15th November – Parent Consultations 17th November – Children in Need Day 20th November – Parent Council Meeting 7pm</p> <p><b>DECEMBER</b> 1st December – Advent Calendar Activities Begin 1st December – School Lights Switched On! 1st December – Community Christmas Tree Lighting Parade December – Christmas Dinner <b>tbc</b> 20th December – Christmas Carol Service 22nd December – Christmas Parties and Last Day</p>	<p><b>JANUARY</b> 8th January – Back to School 18th January – Parent Council Meeting 25th January – Burns Supper (school dinner)</p> <p><b>FEBRUARY</b> 15th February – School Disco <b>tbc</b> 19th &amp; 20th February – In-Service Days</p> <p><b>MARCH</b> 7th March – World Book Day 18th March – Parent Council Meeting 26th &amp; 27th March – Progress Meetings with Parents and Carers</p> <p><b>APRIL</b> 1st April – Easter Monday 26th April – P4/5 Bikeability</p> <p><b>MAY</b> 23rd May – Parent Council Meeting</p> <p><b>JUNE</b> 3rd June – In-Service Day 10th June – End of Year Progress Reports 20th June – Sports Day 25th &amp; 26th June – Transition Day <b>tbc</b></p> <p><b>JULY</b> 3rd July – Leavers Service at 10am</p>

Kind Regards

Emma Jane Rendall