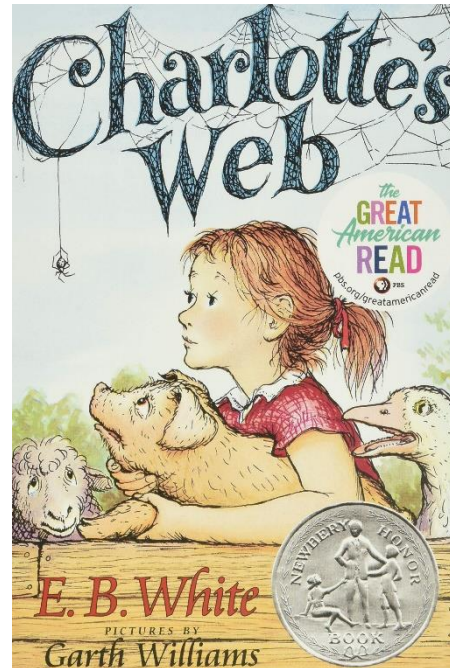


Primary 5 August 2025 Newsletter

Hello and welcome to the first newsletter for Holmston's P5 class! We've been busy setting up our classroom, reacquainting ourselves with our friends and getting into our new P5 routines. The children have taken the P4 to P5 transition in their stride and are getting on very well in their work, I have been very impressed so far!

Literacy

In literacy, we have started our class novel "Charlotte's Web" and have started to pick out the themes and literary techniques within it. We will be exploring the chapters and using it as inspiration for some of our own writing this term. It's a great book to start with as it has lots of fantastic character development and dialogue with which to uplevel our own creative writing. We have started up our explorations into spelling and handwriting, continuing on from our hard work so far at Holmston. We will be working on these weekly in a range of different ways. Home learning tasks will start up soon, we are first establishing how we will use online resources to streamline this process and allow the children more flexibility in how they approach these.



We are continuing with the Accelerated Reader programme and will be engaging in some self-led development of our reading skills, as well as class inputs as a group.

Numeracy



In numeracy we have already completed a small assessment to gauge understanding and see where would be best to start with our learning in P5 as many of the children are now working at second level. We will be looking at bigger and more complicated numbers, learning more about place value and decimals and how to approach word problems. We will continue to develop our numerical strategies using regular maths challenges like the ones found on <https://nrich.maths.org/>. In mathematics, this term we will be learning more about 3D objects, including how to classify them and looking into why certain 3D objects are used for different tasks. This will be very helpful in our science topic/project that will be outlined below.

In P4, the children focused on multiplication skills up to and including 10, this term we will first look to revise these skills before practicing and mastering the 11 and 12 times table and how to apply these skills to multiplying other numbers together. We will learn more about division and applying

our knowledge and skills in addressing different types of questions, allowing the learners to solve the problems in a way that suits them.

Topic

This term, Mrs Malcolm and I have arranged for our P5 class to take part in a collaborative science topic with a school from Indonesia. As part of this topic the children and I have decided to do some research into Indonesia, finding out about their culture and country, with a view of sharing our knowledge and experiences of Scotland. The children will be challenged to work together with another class to solve problems and come up with a solution to a design brief. We will be learning about renewable energy through this topic and developing our understanding of Global Citizenship. Keep an eye on this topic, I am very excited to see where it goes!



HWB

This term with all of the different challenges we are going to be undertaking, I thought it might be good to learn more about growth mindsets and the power of YET! As in, “I can’t do it” vs “*I can’t do it yet.*” We will be spending some time working together to build our resilience and team working skills, in order to build up our tolerance for challenges and work towards a stronger, healthier mindset.

Other important information

PE days are Thursday mornings and Friday afternoons.

Please ensure your child’s PE kit is marked with their name. It is usually kept in the school for the term, in a bag on their hook. PE kit should ideally include a pair of indoor shoes, a change of top and shorts/trousers/leggings etc. Please note, drop (‘dangly’) earrings should not be worn on PE days as they can cause injury.

Please ensure all personal items like lunchboxes, pencil cases, water bottles and all items of clothing have a name on them in some fashion to allow missing items to be reunited with their owners. I have been encouraging children to keep all personal items in their bag or on the lunch trolley so they are not misplaced.

If you have any updates to allergy information to report, please do so as soon as possible.

I can’t wait to see where this year’s learning will take us, and I am so excited to work with all our wonderful P5s! They are a credit to you all. 😊

See you soon,

Mr Gaffney