

Calderwood Communicates: Primary 7 Clans Termly Learning Letter Term 2 23/24



Welcome to Term 2 of P7! After an incredibly busy first term, we are looking forward to having some time to really focus on developing our skills for life, learning & work as well as continuing to improve our literacy, numeracy and health & wellbeing.

Our IDL topic will be used as a tool to explore new learning and develop new skills, which the pupils are excited about. As always, The Bens work in a way that encourages learner agency, by using a task-map which has 'must do' and 'may do' tasks. They are supported by adults to manage their time, prioritise tasks, set themselves goals and to evaluate themselves at the end of the week. They are given lots of responsibility, freedom and flexibility about where they work, who they work with and how they present their work.

As this is going on, teachers take targeted groups for teaching inputs, assessments, learning conversations and to support pupils with learning tasks.

Learning activities will be themed around holiday/seasonal events where possible i.e. Halloween, Bonfire Night, Christmas, Autumn & Winter.

We thank you for your ongoing support and look forward to the new term ahead!

- This is an overview of all learning experiences offered. These experiences may be differentiated to support and challenge each child.

English & Literacy

Listening and Talking

- Presentation Skills – This term P7 children will have the opportunity to share their IDL learning with members of the school community. We will be revising what good presentation skills are by watching public speakers, world leaders and people in the media who are good (and not so good) at public speaking/presenting to evaluate speech, language, pace, tone, body language and content makes a difference to presentations. We will use these presentation skills to share our IDL learning in a way that is educational, entertaining and creative.
- Philosophy 4 Children (P4C) - In term 2, Ben Lomond and Ben Lawers will be continuing to undergo a philosophy project to explore 'big' questions that we have about life. This involves all clan members working together in a 'community of enquiry'. The aim for each child is not to win an argument but to become clearer, more accurate, less self-contradictory and more aware of other arguments and values before reaching a conclusion. The 4 C's of P4C are: collaborative, critical, creative and caring.
- Guided Reading – Within guided reading groups we will focus on group discussion skills like agreeing, disagreeing and giving evidence for answers from texts. We will also work on sharing answers and opinions with clarity and confidence. Guided reading groups also give pupils the opportunity to develop fluency, tempo and expression when reading aloud.

Writing

- Spelling practise will include a range of practical & active experiences tailored to the needs of each child. Spelling groups will have different rules to focus on and this will be done through play-based experiential learning linked heavily to talking, listening and reading skills.
- Narrative Writing – Using Halloween as a stimulus, Primary 7 will be learning how to construct a spooky narrative writing piece to entertain a reader. We will continue to develop our use of the 5 points of characterisation (appearance, personality, voice, actions and reactions) and explore how to create an effective setting for a story. We will be using the five steps of the writing process; drafting, revising, editing and publishing.
- Christmas Poetry- Near the end of term 2 we will focus on different types of poetry such as haikus, limericks and free verse, developing use of rhyme, rhythm and imagery.
- IDL Writing- Within IDL pupils are encouraged to explore our topic of 'Global Conflicts' through writing. This could take the form of a poem, newspaper article, fact file or information report.

Reading

- During stag start and across the day, pupils are encouraged to read fiction/non-fiction texts purely for enjoyment. We have a range of books & audiobooks available that all pupils can access during reading times.

- IDL- Pupils will develop skills such as skimming, scanning, note-taking, clarifying and summarising while using websites and books to conduct topical research. This information will then be used as a basis for a group project of their choice under the theme of 'Global Conflict'.
- Reading Groups – children will be grouped into similar ability groups and take part in guided reading sessions facilitated the teacher. Each week, an appropriate piece of text will be given (rotating fiction and non-fiction) for pupils to discuss and develop their reading skills. Pupils will have tasks to complete before and after guided reading sessions which will focus on a specific skill: prediction, questioning, summarising or clarifying.
- Comprehension- Pupils will continue to develop reading comprehension skills such as inferring, making connections and clarifying, through reading comprehension activities relating to our class topic of 'Global Conflicts'. Comprehension strategies are used to increase children's understanding of the text to help them become active readers by engaging with the text.
- Class novel- During Term 2 we will take part in a class novel study of the book 'D-Day Dog' written by Tom Palmer. Through this we will cover themes of war, family, loyalty, bravery, and friendship.

One Plus Two

- In French, we are going to recap our knowledge of colours, numbers and clothing. This will be done through reading, writing & talking & listening skills.
- New topics we will look at will be: body parts, and using adjectives to describe me.

Numeracy & Maths

Numeracy

- Number talks allows all pupils to build their mental agility by talking through number strategies. Through number talks discussions we aim to build confidence, flexibility, accuracy and efficiency in mathematical thinking.
- Pupils will be enhancing their ability to use strategies for addition, subtraction, multiplication & division. Pupils who can will be extending their numeracy skills by using decimal places, numbers beyond millions, negative numbers and applying these skills to real life contexts and problem solving questions.
- Short, daily SumDog challenges will help to support numeracy strategies and improve speed & accuracy in mental maths skills.

Maths

- Fractions, Decimals & Percentages – Pupils will be learning about the relationship between fractions, decimals and percentages and the use of these in the real world.
- Through practical activities, they will gain understanding of – improper fractions, equivalent fractions, simplifying fractions and the different ways these can be represented using a CPA (Concrete, Pictorial, Abstract) approach.
- Angles & Symmetry – Pupils will explore different types of angles, how to identify, measure and draw them accurately. They will also be exploring the idea of symmetry in patterns, showing an ability to identify lines of symmetry and to draw symmetrical patterns.
- Co-ordinates – to link with our IDL topic, we will be explicitly learning about what co-ordinates are, how they have been used in warfare throughout history and how they are used today. This will include learning how to read coordinates, plot points accurately, create grids with up to 4 quadrants and to correctly identify X and Y axis.

Health and Wellbeing

- We will be exploring the idea of global citizenship through our focus on the Global Goals for Sustainable Development. The 17 Global Goals offer a wide range of child led, teacher supported learning opportunities surrounding topical and important issues such as poverty, pollution, education and gender equality.
- Emotion Works – we will be continuing to embed our Term 1 knowledge of Emotionworks throughout our daily routines and learning activities in P7. In stories, we will explore the emotions, triggers and body sensation of different characters to develop our understanding further.
- P4C – as well as a talking & listening skill, P4C (Philosophy 4 Children) is a great tool for encouraging the 4 Cs: collaboration, caring, critical and creative thinking. Both P7 clans will be exploring big themes during philosophical discussions of their choice. Pupils are responsible for responding to stimuli, sharing thoughts, picking out themes and generating philosophical questions to engage in enquiries. Some potential themes to explore could be: love, equality, discrimination, fairness, family, education, fear, hope or loss.

PE

- **Athletics** – P7 Sportshall Event – Mini-topic. A range of track and field events will be practiced to allow preparation for the P7 Sportshall competition in November. These will include a range of relay races, soft javelin, speed bounce, chest push, long jump and vertical jump.
- **Rugby (Tag/Touch Rugby)** – Through a voting session, pupils chose to explore rugby as a sport to learn about. We will be learning the rules of the game, improving our skills in:

-teamwork & communication

-speed/agility

-ability to score a try

-passing skills

-throwing & catching

- **Outdoor Learning** – The playground, field and MUGA spaces will be used to continue developing our communication, collaboration, creativity and problem solving skills in the outdoors.

Interdisciplinary Learning

Global Conflict

As usual, our P7 pupils spent lots of time exploring topics that interest them and discussing what they would like to learn. From this, we have decided on an overarching theme of 'global conflict' to allow everybody to learn about a sub-topic they are interested in.

Our sub topics are:

- World Leaders
- Human Rights
- Political Systems
- Media – how conflict is communicated
- Freedom

Pupils have picked a sub-topic of their choice to explore further on their own during research time. They have been practicing note-taking skills whilst using a list of websites, videos and books to find and use information. They are encouraged to be creative when sowing their learning in any way they choose.

Along with self-guided research, adults will be conducting mini-lessons throughout the topic which the pupils will use to enhance their understanding of topics that are difficult to understand such as the different kinds of political systems and governments that exist.

The skills we will be focussing on this term will be:

- High quality work – how to display information
- Collaboration
- Presentation Skills
- Time Management
- Prioritising

STEM

We are linking STEM to our IDL topic of Global Conflict. This term, P7 will be continuing to explore the 17 Global Goals for Sustainability. The Goals we will be touching on are:

Number 8 – decent work and economic growth

Number 10 – Reduced Inequalities

Number 1 – No Poverty

Number 5 – Gender Equality

Number 9 – Industry, Innovation & Infrastructure

Our Main Goal for research & planning is:

Number 12 – Responsible consumption & reduction

Discrete Learning

Digital Technology – Use of Teams in and outside of school helps with digital literacy skills. They will learn how to create documents, upload and download correctly and organise their online jotter appropriately.

Expressive Arts – Opportunities to engage in pupils own personal projects will be provided moving forward for when the pupils complete their 'must do' tasks. Once these tasks are complete, pupils will be encouraged to work on skill-building activities of their choice that will be provided by the school. These could be:

- Playing the keyboard
- Playing the guitar
- Jewellery making
- Crocheting/sewing/knitting
- Comic book writing
- Story writing
- Digital skills – movie making/stop motion/coding projects

These will be chosen and influenced by pupils passions and champions will do our best to accommodate any skills pupils feel they want to build in school.

Other information

P.E. Days:

Ben Lomond – Tuesday PE (inside) and Wednesday (outdoors)

Ben Lawers - Tuesday PE (inside) and Wednesday (outdoors)

Non-contact time:

Ben Lomond – Monday PM (Mrs Curtin)

Ben Lawers – Monday AM (Mrs Curtin)