



Prep 7 Class Newsletter **November/December 2015**

Dear Parents,

I hope that the girls have had a very restful half term break and are ready for the extremely busy months ahead. The table below gives a brief overview of the learning that will take place during November and December.

Communication

Our spelling focus will be on:

- ❖ er, re, or, ar, our – Book F Unit 1
- ❖ trans, tele, auto, anti – Book F Unit 2
- ❖ au, augh, ough – Book F Unit 3
- ❖ compound words – Book F Unit 8

Grammar & Punctuation

- We will be revising the rules for possessive apostrophes and apostrophes in contractions.
- We will continually revisit the use of pronouns, conjunctions and the ability to successfully identify nouns, verbs, adjectives and adverbs.

Reading

- Group reading will focus on the novels – ‘Boy’ by Roald Dahl, ‘The White Giraffe’ by Lauren St. John, ‘How to Train a Dragon’ by Cressida Cowell and ‘The Suitcase Kid’ by Jacqueline Wilson
- Use of non-fiction texts and the internet to identify the pros and cons of space travel.

Writing

Recount Diary Entry

- Moon Landing Diary Entry

Adventure:

- Science Fiction Adventure Story Openings

Poetry: Structured Poems

- Space Concrete Poem

Using Mathematics

Our Numeracy work will focus on revision and consolidation of the following topics:

Number

- Develop an understanding of place value up to two decimal places and use this to multiply and divide numbers by 10 and 100 and 1000
- Understand and use vulgar fractions, decimal fractions and

percentages and explore the relationships between them

Patterns, relationships and sequences

- Explore and predict patterns and sequences of whole numbers within 100
- understand that a letter can stand for an unknown number

Measures

- Convert one metric unit to another
- Calculate perimeter and the areas and volumes of simple shapes;
- Understand and use scale
- Exploring calendar patterns

Shape and Space

- Recognise line symmetry and rotational symmetry
- Internal angles of quadrilaterals and triangles.

Position, Movement and Direction

- Know the eight points of the compass and clockwise and anticlockwise
- Recognise properties of acute, obtuse and reflex angles
- Investigate angles in triangles including scalene, right angled, equilateral and isosceles
- Investigate angles in quadrilaterals – square, rectangle, rhombus, kite, parallelogram and trapezium.
- Use co-ordinates to plot and draw shapes in the first quadrant

Handling Data

- Using Venn diagrams, Carroll diagrams, pictograms, block graphs, bar charts, bar line graphs and line graphs with axis starting at 0
- Understand, calculate and use the mean and range.

Introduction to Probability

- Become familiar with and use the language of probability – certain, uncertain, likely, unlikely, impossible and fair
- Place events in order of 'likelihood'; than this.

The World Around Us

- Our World Around Us topic will be continue to based on Space. We will focus on -
- Knowing how and why the seasons occur
- Knowing why the moon appears to change shape and to know the different moon phases
- How push and pull forces can make things stop and start moving
- Investigating the forces of gravity and air resistance.
- We will also be following and creating a set of instructions on how to build a moon buggy linked to our DT project work.
- We will be visiting Armagh Planetarium on Wednesday 2nd December

The Arts

- **Music with Mrs Murray:** In Music we will be creating graphic scores on Winter weather and adding appropriate musical sounds. We will be learning our songs to perform in the Christmas Nativity play.
- **Art with Mrs Herriot:** We will be creating moon landers, origami stars and 3D snowflakes.

French with Mrs Burnett

- Tout le monde level 2-L'ecole Magique To ask someone about their pet and say whether they have one; understand and use simple descriptions of pets
- To perform a song and poem from memory
- To write key words and short phrases using a model
- To identify how sound relates to spelling and understand that some letters are silent.

Spanish with Senorita Gomez

- Using numbers 11-20
- Naming and describing fruit
- Asking and saying what there is and how many there are
- Expressing gratitude and politeness
- Celebrating Christmas in Spain

PE with Mrs Henderson

- Hockey: To develop passing skills in different directions, tackling and shooting. Positional play full sided games.
- Swimming: Recap safety rules, surface dives, diving skills, timed 25 meter swims and stroke technique drills on all four strokes. Endurance swimming and entries.

RE with Mrs Glover

- In RE this half-term we will begin by looking at respecting ourselves and how we care for others. We will move onto thinking about prayers – reading prayers from a variety of sources and composing our own prayers. We will finish the term listening to prophecies from the Old Testament surrounding the birth of Christ and celebrating the Christmas story.

PDMU with Miss Hamilton

- Therefore we will be beginning our exciting pilot project 'Healthy Places, Healthy Children' which will run until March. Within this project we will have the opportunity to introduce place, explore our local environment, analyse our local environment and begin to identify something we would like to change / make better in our environment.
- Alongside these objectives we will also be using interactive situations to help pupils make informed decisions and responsible choices as they work, play and learn together

Using ICT with Mrs Herriot

- Pupils will learn how to use Excel to plan our spending on our class trip to Armagh Planetarium.
- Pupils will use the Apps 'Explain Everything' 'Book Creator' 'Popplet Lite' and 'Tellagami' to complete activities linked to group novels

Christmas Performance – ‘The Midwife Crisis’ - Advance Notice!



Our Christmas performance will take place from Tuesday 15th – Thursday 17th December at 10.30am. Pupils in P4-P7 will support P1-P3 as choir members. Please supply your daughter with a Christmas jumper, black trousers/leggings and a Santa hat/tinsel for this occasion. Items should be brought into school in a named plastic bag by Friday 11th December. The Christmas jumpers can also be reused on Friday 18th December at our Christmas jumper day!

Dates for your diary...

Saturday 7th November – AQE Test 1
Friday 13th November – Children in Need
Saturday 14th November – GL Test
Saturday 21st November – AQE Test 2
Saturday 28th December – AQE Test 3
Wednesday 2nd December – Visit to Armagh Planetarium
Saturday 5th December - GL Supplementary Test
Wednesday 9th December – Stranmillis Pantomime
Tuesday 15th-Thursday 17th December – Prep Christmas Performance at 10.30am
Wednesday 16th December Carol Service at Malone Presbyterian
Friday 18th December – Simon Community Christmas Jumper Day
Friday 18th December - School Closes at **11.45am.**
Monday 21st December-Friday 1st January – Christmas Holidays
Monday 4th January 2016– Spring Term commences

Thank you for your continuing support.

Mrs Herriot

