



P7A NEWSLETTER – TERM 2 – NOVEMBER 2021



Hello everybody!

Can't quite believe we're already half-way through this term – I'm not sure where the time has gone?! This newsletter will just update you with what we have been up to so far in Term 2 and what is still to come before Christmas. Miss Barclay (from Aberdeen University) joined us just before the holidays and will be with us until the end of term. As the term progresses, Miss Barclay will be taking the class more frequently with myself still on-hand, providing support, when needed.

Numeracy and Maths

This term we are focusing on written methods to calculate the 4 operations (addition, subtraction, multiplication and division). Division will be a main focus as this is the concept the class seem least confident in, often unsure what to do or where to start. For those children who are more confident in their understanding, we will be transferring these skills to solving word problems & algebraic thinking. If your child does not feel secure in their times table knowledge and recall, it would be really beneficial if, at home, they could be practicing these to become more familiar with the patterns and relationships between 'number families' in order to remove some of the challenge when tackling division questions.

Dates for the Diary

Greek Toga Party: Wed 15th Dec

Xmas Lunch: Thurs 16th Dec

Xmas Jumper Day: Thurs 16th Dec

End of term: Fri 17th Dec

Weekly Timetable:

Tues: P.E. & Spanish w/Madam Coles

Wed: Science w/Mrs Bruce

Thurs: French/Music w/ Mrs Edwards

Fri: P.E.

Literacy

Reading - This term, the children have been introduced to a new method of answering comprehension questions – S.Q.A. (statement – quote – analysis). We have begun to complete S.Q.A. questions 2-3 times per week, with the intention being that this will help them build a routine of how to extend their answers, specifically providing reasons **why** they have come to that conclusion.

Writing - These past weeks, we have been focusing on descriptive writing; using a thesaurus to uplevel our word choice; and using figurative language, eg. similes, metaphors, personification. We now plan to transfer these skills into imaginative writing as we gradually build our own Greek myths.

Topic – Ancient Greece

After looking at our country comparison between Scotland and Greece last term, the children had voiced interest in learning about Ancient Greece. Our focus throughout this term will be to develop our understanding of the influence the Ancient Greeks have on modern society and the impact...

- Greek gods and goddesses
- Greek myths – monsters and heroes
- Greek Alphabet – word roots and meanings
- Greek Culture – Arts – pottery/vases
- Greek philosophers – Archimedes

GREEK TOGA PARTY!

On Wednesday 15th December, P7 will be having an Ancient Greek Toga Party to 'see-out' our topic, with fancy dress and a Greek banquet.

More information will be sent out at a later date.

HWB Topics

Anti-bullying, empathy, 'choices and consequences'

Homework in P7:

- Homework will not be issued on the same day of the week in P7. Children have been given a Homework Diary to help them learn to organise and time manage completion of tasks. This Homework Diary is to live in your child's bag so that it is always available in school to note important events or future tasks.
- In the future, our aim each week would be to have:
 - 1 piece of literacy homework
 - 1 piece of numeracy homework
 - 1 'other' piece of homework - this may be linked to our class topic or to a particular global news event
- However, before we commit to this, we would like to gather some feedback from you at home as to what sort of format works for your family with regards to homework. Obviously, it will be impossible to find a 'one size fits all' format but we will try our best! Keep a look out for a Microsoft Forms questionnaire on Teams/Seesaw with which we will gather your views and provide an opportunity to hear any suggestions you may have.

Supporting your child's learning:

- Encourage the use of dictionaries/thesaurus (online or in hard copy) to find the definitions of unknown vocabulary.
- Please support your child to consolidate mathematical life skills such as telling the time and learning time equivalents (weeks per year, days per year etc.) if not secure yet. (and times tables too, as mentioned above)
- Please let us know if you have any concerns regarding homework or class work.