

St Cyrus School – Term 3, 2023/24

Primary 4/5 Newsletter

A warm welcome back to all our pupils and parents/carers. This termly newsletter will give you an idea of what will be happening in our class this term. We hope you find it useful.

Literacy & Language

The class will continue to work in their reading groups twice a week. Activities will include reading out loud within their group and independent reading as well as working on summary and analysis activities for their book. The class are strongly encouraged to take their book home to practise reading. However, the book must be taken into school every day for use in class.

Their other reading session this term will be paired reading instead of independent reading. The class have already been put in pairs and chosen a book to start reading. This will give them a chance to practise reading with expression to their partner as well as practise their pace and tone whilst reading. It also gives some a chance to learn strategies for decoding unfamiliar words and an opportunity to discuss the text with someone else outside of their reading group.

For spelling this term the class will continue to work in their groups looking at different phonemes. For one group it will be ch (chorus), se (cheese), c (city), ea (break), ou (would) & ey (money) as well as weekly common words. For the other group it will be phonemes oo, f and ow and all the different ways to make it as well as common words. The class will have the opportunity to practise the words in class but are encouraged to take their spelling book home with them to practise.

The class will continue learning about different writing genres this term. After the fiction genres, attention will turn to others such as poetry (including Kenning and Cinquain poems), persuasive and explanation texts. The class will find out what they are writing about on a Tuesday afternoon during 'Talk Homework' time. It is up to them if they want to have a think about their writing or make any notes at home before they write on a Wednesday.

They have received their Scots Poems for the upcoming competition. Everyone will read their poem out loud in class – some may choose to do this with no help from the sheet, whilst others may have a friend standing next them or choose to use the sheet in case they forget something. The class will have the opportunity to practise reading it clearly, with good pace and some expression.

French

The class will begin focusing on classroom instructions as well as colours in French. They will then begin to apply that to using colours to describe objects.

Numeracy & Maths

The class will begin working on multiplication and division once they have finished addition and subtraction. With Miss McMillan, they have already made a start on times table practise, which will stand them in good stead for this unit. Some of the strategies they will learn include the commutative law (5×6 is the same as 6×5), building arrays, repeated addition and continuing to learn table facts.

After finishing their unit on Shape, the class will start learning about Time. For some this will include recording the time in am and pm, identifying 24-hour notation, changing dates between different formats, interpreting a variety of calendars and using a timetable to plan events. For others this will also include planning journeys using simple timetables and using calendars to calculate days between events.

To support them with addition & subtraction and time, why not have a look at these activities,

<https://www.topmarks.co.uk/maths-games/hit-the-button>

&

<https://mathsframe.co.uk/en/resources/resource/116/telling-the-time>

Health & Wellbeing (including PE)

The class will continue their Health and Wellbeing topic looking at food and health. Some will learn about the main food groups, how to create a balanced meal, and preparing dishes for different occasions. Others will learn about proportions in each food group, identifying composite dishes in the food groups, current healthy eating messages and creating a healthy eating plan.

For P.E the class will do some fitness and netball. In fitness, they will spend a few weeks building their fitness and stamina, recording scores from activities, and trying to improve week by week. They will also learn and develop their skills and abilities in netball by learning different passing and shooting techniques as well as the positions and rules of the game. Netball is a fantastic team sport given you cannot move with the ball, so it is also an opportunity for the class to further develop their teamwork skills.

Our Topic – Scotland's Landscape (Social Studies)

Following on from their topic about Scotland's culture, the class will begin to look at Scotland's landscape. This will include looking at the landscape locally as well as in other parts of Scotland. For some, the learning will be focused on looking at what the land is used for and how the natural environment influences living things. For others, they will learn about natural disasters and the impact they have as well as being able to explain how physical features of the landscape were formed.

To support your child at home, why not visit this website to get more information about how Scotland's landscape was formed <https://www.nature.scot/landforms-and-geology/scotlands-rocks-landforms-and-soils/landforms#:~:text=During%20the%20Ice%20Age%2C%20glaciers,level%20having%20the%20biggest%20impact.> .

Visiting Specialists

- Miss Massie/Mrs Miller (Drama)
- Miss Gatherum (Art)

General Information

- P.E is every Tuesday, please come dressed in P.E clothes that are suitable for the outdoors.
- The class will host their coffee morning on Wednesday 21st February.
- Golden Ticket returns on January 26th.