

St Cyrus School – Term 3 (2023-2024)

Primary 6/7 Newsletter

This newsletter will outline the learning that will be covered this term. If you have any questions or something you would like to discuss, then please contact us by email at gw17abdouamy@glow.sch.uk or gw14boydmaria@glow.sch.uk

Literacy & Language (including French)

Part of our learning in writing this term will be focussing on report writing where we will explore the purpose and features of newspaper reports as well as non-chronological reports. We will use our new topic on the Scottish Wars of Independence as a context for writing. We will continue to work on improving vocabulary, connectives, openers and punctuation, developing an understanding of how these can be used within this type of writing. Each week, “talk homework” will be given every Wednesday, which will also be made available on Teams. This will allow pupils time to think about and discuss ideas for writing at home.

In talking and listening, we will be learning and presenting our Scottish Poems for the St Cyrus Scots Poem Competition. We will also become poets ourselves! Primary 6/7 will be looking at different types of poetry. Pupils will learn that poetry is a form of writing which helps us understand the world around us. It also helps us to express our emotions about particular places, people and anything important to us. We will focus on two types of poetry, limericks and a sonnet. Pupils will learn how to write their own limericks and will put humour into their writing while connecting words with rhyme. Further into the term we will, in contrast, learn how to write a heartfelt sonnet. We will be using our topic as a context to imagine that we are a soldier on the front line, missing a loved one.

In reading, we will be working in reading groups on two novels. Some pupils will be reading ‘Harry Potter and the Philosopher’s Stone’ and others will read ‘How I became a Dog called Midnight’. While reading these novels, pupils will be given the opportunity to deepen their understanding of the text through a variety of focussed activities. In class we will use V.I.P.E.R.S which is an acronym for the reading comprehension skills we will use.

VIPERS stand for:

Vocabulary

Inference

Prediction

Explanation

Retrieval

Sequence or **S**ummarise

Primary 6/7 will also continue to be provided with daily opportunities to read for enjoyment, selecting texts for personal reading.

In spelling, we will explore a variety of spelling rules, phonemes and common words.

Primary 6/7 will be learning some basic Spanish this term. We will learn greetings, how to talk about ourselves, numbers, weather, days of the week and months of the year.

In French, we will be focussing on our conversational skills, so that we can hold a dialogue with another person. We will also be learning how to say different parts of the body, while singing “Head, shoulders, knees and toes” in French.

How you can support your child at home:

- Engage in “talk homework” with your child to support writing. Discuss ideas for writing and interesting words and phrases they could include to enhance writing.
- Encourage your child to read for enjoyment daily at home.
- Spelling word lists will be posted weekly on the class teams page and can be practised at home.
- Support your child with learning their Scots Poems.

Numeracy & Maths

This term in numeracy we will begin by focusing on multiplication and division. We will explore a variety of different mental and written strategies and practise fluency with multiplication and division facts. Throughout the term, there will be an ongoing focus on the four operations (addition, subtraction, multiplication and division) and some learners will move on to the order of operations (BODMAS). We will be working with whole numbers to 1,000,000 and numbers up to 2 decimal places.

Later in the term, we will move on to a topic about time. We will read and convert between 12- and 24-hours notation and use this knowledge to plan activities using more than one timetable. We will learn to calculate durations of events bridging across several hours in 12- and 24-hour notations. We will also investigate what it means by miles per hour and kilometres per hour and solve simple problems linked to this.

How to support your child at home:

- Practise times tables and the related division facts.
- Log in to the SumDog website and play games related to our maths topics.
- Engage your child in real life contexts with time. This could be planning a journey by checking bus and/or train timetables and working out durations.

Health & Wellbeing (including PE)

For Health and Wellbeing, we will continue to split into year groups every Tuesday. During these sessions Primary 7 will work on topics linked to social wellbeing and have lessons on rights and respect, and keeping safe. Primary 6 will be learning more about the wellbeing indicators that we already use in school. These are Safe,

Healthy, Achieving, Nurtured, Active, Respectful, Responsible and Included, known as SHANARRI.

Primary 6/7 will have PE every Tuesday and Friday. On Tuesdays, we will be focussing on two areas of fitness, speed and endurance. We will be doing different running activities to enhance our short distant sprinting and exercises to develop long distant running. On Fridays we will be learning all about fitness. We will explore ways to enhance our fitness, practise a variety of exercises to develop and help sustain our fitness and stamina and will track and measure our progress over time.

Topic

For topic this term, Primary 7 will be learning about the Scottish Wars of Independence. We will be learning about when the Scottish Wars of Independence took place, what actually happened, what it was like to be a soldier, who the key figures were at the time of the wars and the role they played. Through this context, we will be learning about how to use primary and secondary sources selectively to research events in the past. We will learn to interpret historical evidence to create an understanding of Scotland's history and how the events of the past have shaped Scottish society today. In technology, we will plan, write, video record and edit our own news reports on events from the Wars of Independence. We will learn how to use the green screen and iMovie apps effectively to produce a short news report with added effects.

How to support your child at home:

- Have a look at BBC Bitesize for more information of the events that took place. <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/z8q86sg>
- Visit the library or use the internet at home to research information about the Scottish Wars of Independence.

General Information

- Mrs Boyd will teach Primary 6/7 on Mondays, Tuesdays and alternate Wednesdays.
- Mrs Abdou will teach Primary 6/7 on Thursdays, Fridays and alternate Wednesdays.
- PE will be on a Tuesday and Friday. This may be indoors or outdoors. Your child may come to school on these days dressed in PE kit. Please ensure clothing is suitable for outdoors (joggers, jumper, outdoor footwear).
- Scots Poetry Competition entries will be heard on 31st January with the final taking place at assembly on 2nd February.
- World Book Day 7th March. Further information to follow.
- Primary 6s will take part in play leader training this term in preparation for their responsibilities next year as Primary 7s.
- Children who are cycling to school should have permission from parents/carer and should remember to get off their bike and walk once in school grounds. We also encourage those cycling to wear a helmet.
- Each week, Primary 6/7s will have the opportunity to earn a hot chocolate treat on Fridays for working hard and following our school and class rules.