

KINTORE PRIMARY SCHOOL

P7P

Dear Parents / Carers / Class,

Happy New Year and welcome back. We hope you have had a great festive season and have come back to school raring to go. As ever, we have a busy term ahead of us, and we already have lots of exciting learning opportunities planned. Please look out for Tweets and posts on Seesaw and login to share our learning journey with us.

During the first week back, we had a chance to identify targets and think about what we want to achieve / improve in the forthcoming term. Many of the targets were well considered and I intend working on a few of the children's suggestions for establishing healthier routines myself. Our class target has to be to listen more attentively. This is important, both in order to show respect to each other (one of our new school values) and also so that we know what to do. I would welcome your support in discussing the importance of this at home with your child.

Dates for your Diaries:

Friday 24th January - Burns Assembly / Transition Event at Kemnay Academy

Monday 27th January - Snow White

Friday 31st January - PTA Burns Assembly

Thursday 13th - Monday 17th February - Mid-Term Break

Tuesday 18th - Wednesday 19th February - INSET Days

Friday 21st February - Red Disco

Tuesday 25th February - Book Fair Arrives

Friday 28th February - P7P Class Assembly

Tuesday 3rd March - P7 Rotary Quiz - Rotary Quiz

Thursday 5th March - World Book Day

Tuesday 17th & Thursday 19th March - Parent Interviews

Friday 3rd April - Break Up for the Easter Holidays



P.E.

For P.E. the children will need a change of T-shirt, shorts or jogging bottoms, a sweatshirt or tracksuit top, and trainers or gym shoes. Our new P.E. days are Wednesdays (hockey) and Fridays (basketball). Thank you!

Standardised Assessments

Over the course of this term, all children in P7 will complete the on-line SNSA (Scottish Standardised National Assessments). These assessments are delivered in schools throughout Scotland in Reading, Writing and Maths. The data we gather is very useful in supporting our own in-house pupil tracking systems.

Curriculum



Our context for learning this term is '**Conflict, with a focus on World War II.**' The children will be introduced to this theme through our media study, 'Goodnight Mister Tom' by Michelle Magorian. As we find out more about the challenges young Willie Beech faces after leaving his home in London, we will cover themes such as rationing, evacuation, Anderson shelters and life in war-time Britain (Social Subjects), as well as the themes of friendships, relationships and belonging (Health and Wellbeing). As this is a media unit, I am hoping to use both the film and the novel to teach the story, giving the children the opportunity to compare and contrast the two different mediums of presentation. We will continue to use Book Detective and Reflective Reading tasks to develop comprehension skills.

As we study the events, timelines and significant individuals of World War II, we will have a focus on functional writing, producing biographies, leaflets, posters etc. Conflict, by its very nature, causes debate, and throughout the term, we will be asking children to give their opinions on themes such as conscription, child soldiers and army advertising. Be prepared for some interesting discussions around the tea-table.

In Maths, we will continue to look at multiplication and division. As we become more confident, we will apply our knowledge to solving problems involving fractions, decimals and percentages, ideas of chance and uncertainty, scale, money, measures and time. If your child has 'sticky' times tables, please encourage them to work on these at home as these really are the key to unlocking so much of the Maths curriculum. Likewise, any opportunities the children can have telling basic times using 12 and 24-hour notation on both analogue and digital clock faces is always time well invested.

As well as familiarising ourselves with the new school values and thinking what they mean for us as individuals and as a class, we will be undertaking a mini-project on the theme of Internet Safety and Cyber Bullying. In fact, this will be the theme of our Class Assembly later in the term. The children are excited about performing to you and we hope to use the Expressive Arts (Music, Drama, Dance, Film) and Computer Technologies as vehicles for presenting our ideas. If you're really lucky, there may even be a little quiz included at the end to check you've been paying attention! With this in mind, look out for your child starting to bring words home to learn. Please encourage them and go over them with them if necessary.





Last term, we heard some fantastic Dragon's Den presentations presenting ideas for Wearable Technologies that would positively impact society, and I was actually quite blown away by the creativity and sensitivity of the ideas. I know Miss Kennelly (DHT), Mrs. Reid (Academy DHT) and Mrs. Gunnerton-Florence (engineer from SubSea 7) were impressed by the children who presented their pitches in the final. A huge congratulation to Laura and Emma (winners), and Thea (runner-up) whose entries have been submitted to the STEM competition.

As we start to think about transition to the Academy, this term we will be asking the children to choose an element of the war that has interested them. For homework, they will be asked to research this and then choose a manner in which they would like to present their findings to the class (more information to follow). This will give the children the opportunity to begin to learn to manage their own time and workload...two skills that will really benefit them in the years to come.



As ever, if there are any concerns / queries, please get in touch!

Many thanks,

Karen Downie

