P6 Newsletter – Term 3 *(abby.fraser@aberdeenshire.gov.uk)*

The children worked extremely hard during Term 2 working through various elements of the curriculum. They earned a substantial amount of money both in our coffee morning and enterprise. Enterprise money use will be discussed as a class, I will provide more details once this is confirmed.

During Term 2 the children had visiting specialists to deliver rugby, this term we will have PE both on a Monday and Wednesday. On a Monday PE will be a Play Leaders session delivered by Active Schools. On a Wednesday during January, we will pair up with Primary 1 and Mrs Phipps will deliver Scottish dancing in preparation for Robert Burns.

Weather dependent our Outdoor Learning will begin again on a Friday morning – please make sure that your child is equipped to brave the Scottish weather!

Some of the homework this term may include building and creating structures – please let me know if you require any additional resources for this at the time. These can often be nice activities to collaborate with your child.

 **Key Dates**

* 24th January – Assigned Burns Poem Learnt to Recite in Class
* 9-14th February – February Break
* 28th February – Family Open Evening/ Bingo
* 15th March – Primary 6 Assembly
* 29th March – Easter Break Begins

**Topic**

The topic for Term 3 will be Natural Disasters with a specific interest in the Sea. This will allow for various literacy, art and science opportunities within the class.

We will begin by discussing and looking at different Natural Disasters and creating in class definitions for each of these to develop our initial understanding.

The topic will look at Scottish experiences of natural disasters including flooding, the defences in place for this, an investigation into how weather plays a part in natural disasters as well as the impact this can have on societies and environments. We will develop our map skills to locate natural disasters around the world and identify ‘high risk’ areas as well as looking at maps and aerial photographs of land before and after disasters and how this can change so drastically.

The children’s curiosity and questioning will steer the remainder of the topic, allowing us to focus on specific natural disasters of interest for example: Volcanos, Earthquakes, Bushfires. We will use our local surroundings to go on class walks which will allow us to investigate the surrounding coastline and sea life which will support our in-class art lessons.

**Maths**

As before, we will continue to revise previous covered topics specifically four operations.

There will a prominent focus on daily mental math challenges, times tables and worded problems to improve fast recall and understanding.

This term we will work through various Math topics. Beginning with Fractions. The children will learn to compare and convert from Mixed Number, Proper and Improper Fractions as well as finding Equivalent Fractions. We will then move on to add, subtract and multiply fractions using our prior knowledge of the four operations.

After this, we will move on to decimals and percentages, children’s prior knowledge on fractions will help them to convert among the three.

**Literacy**

As a class we are coming to the end of our novel Street Child. We will finish off with verbal comprehension and literacy tasks on our understanding of the key themes within the novel.

The children will spend the first few weeks finishing off their group novels which allows for individual reading opportunities this will allow active literacy stations to continue. These will focus on the various types of punctuation which will then be implemented into our writing lessons to increase drama, suspense as well as opportunities for adding additional information.

All children will collectively begin reading Saving Finnegan by Sally Grindley, this book provides appropriate challenge and extensive questioning opportunities for the class. Comprehension and questioning tasks will surround which aims to deepen and solidify their understanding of the text.

Writing lessons will link in with our topic giving opportunity for Narrative, Recount and Instructional writing. The planning and evaluation of writing will be done collectively, giving individual opportunity to reflect on work as well as teacher and peer feedback. Various writing lessons will focus on note taking when watching Natural Disaster documentaries linked with our class topic.

New spelling words will continue to be introduced each Monday and revised daily within the classroom using a variety of engaging lessons. Revised words will be sent home on the Friday to be consolidated at home for further support.

Identified children will continue to work with individual interventions through additional spelling and reading activities daily with myself and Mrs Barrie.