

## Primary 6

### Sessions 2017-18

This year promises to be a busy one, as always. This letter should outline broadly what will be covered in all curricular areas throughout the year. However if there is anything you would like to ask then please do not hesitate to contact me. I am usually available at the end of the day for an informal chat or if you prefer I can be contacted by phone on a Monday between 11am and 12.30pm.

Email: Kathryn.brearley@south-ayrshire.gov.uk

#### Literacy and English



**Writing** There is always a narrative element to writing each term in the North Lanarkshire Literacy programme. Other genres are also usually covered by linking them to the IDL work carried out in class so for example during our science topics we will focus on report writing. The history topic may give the opportunity to cover recount, persuasion etc. On occasion, one of the homework tasks might be to add detail to writing planning for use in class later in the week. Support at home with this is greatly appreciated and of huge benefit to your children.

**Reading**- North Lanarkshire Literacy programme also encompasses reading. Building on their prior learning in Primary 5 pupils will continue to consolidate their skills using and applying the reading strategies (prior knowledge, meta-linguistics, inference, visualisation, main theme, paraphrasing and summary) in different contexts. The children will have the opportunity to experience fiction, non-fiction, poetry and drama genres.



#### Health and Wellbeing

In class and as part of the Assembly programme children explore different aspects of social and emotional health through Creating Confident Kids. There is also a constant focus in class on team working, relationships and respect. Our PE day is Tuesday although this may change throughout the year. Please ensure that your child has appropriate kit, especially indoor shoes for use in the gym hall. Primary 6 have the opportunity to take part in Bikeability in both Term 1 and Term 4. In addition Primary 6 are taking part in the Discovery Level John Muir Environmental Awards. This is a fantastic opportunity for the children to experience outdoor learning! We will be exploring our local environment at the beach and completing a pollution survey; discovering our local wild areas on the Smuggler's Trail; planting trees and learning about our own environment and how we fit into the 'bigger' picture at Dynamic Earth in Edinburgh and hopefully, weather permitting, at the Dark Skies Observatory. The children will have the opportunity to share all their experiences with the rest of the school and the John Muir Trust.



**Mathematics** - In Primary 6 children build on their prior knowledge of maths concepts throughout the year, using a variety of fun active strategies. In addition Active Start will focus on different maths concepts over the year allowing children the opportunity to choose tasks in areas in which they feel they need more practise. Primary 6 will continue to work with Big Maths and Number Talks on a daily basis to improve mental agility. Homework may sometimes be based around these programmes.

## Expressive Arts



Throughout the year Art, Drama, Music and Dance will all be covered as part of different IDL topics. In addition, Primary 6 will still join forces with P5 to Sing for Hansel at Christmas.

## IDL/RME

Primary 6 will start the year looking at SHANARRI - Responsible and Nurturing and then move onto Europe and Healthy lifestyles. In Term 2 pupils will explore the Solar system and the science of space and run their own business for Christmas. Early in January we will embrace our own Scottish culture and that of another country through 1 +2 and then investigate the Victorians. In term 4 we will end the year discovering a whole new world through the microscope when we research micro- organisms and if we are lucky we may have a visit from an American friend again this year. School trips and visiting specialists are usually arranged to coincide with these IDL topics. If you have any particular skills, or know of anyone that would like to share with our class we would be delighted for you to come along to talk, sing, act or show us experiments! Please get in touch.

## High Expectations

As always we are setting the bar high. As a result, in Primary 6, children will be expected to demonstrate a high level of independence and responsibility and focus on taking great pride in their own work and achievements.. Jotters and Profiles will be sent home for you to see what your children have been doing and how they are progressing.

## Home Learning

Generally Literacy and Numeracy homework will be given on a Monday for Friday. On Wednesday children may be given an IDL task based around their topic for the following Wednesday. The final homework once a term will be an extended piece, given and reviewed each Thursday. This may last for a number of weeks and will vary across the assessment criteria of write, say, make and do.

## Curriculum Support

To help you follow your child progress and have a better understanding of what they are learning broad guidelines of the expectations for pupils at each stage in Numeracy and Writing are both in the children's Profiles and on the website. This, in conjunction with formal parents' evenings, regular homework, extensive use of homework diaries for home/ school communication and sending jotters home, will hopefully keep you well informed about their progress.

To ensure that you are updated on your child's progress and on any upcoming events in the school all letters will be available on the school website at the following link:

<http://www.struthers.sayr.sch.uk>

Mrs Brearley