

Year 5 Term 1 2018

I hope you have had a lovely holiday and thank you for returning the children to school so refreshed and ready to learn! We have been busy getting to know each other and the year 5 routines and expectations over the last week and we are now raring to get going with our exciting curriculum!

Our topic this term is 'What Makes Scotland Scottish?' and has been inspired by the ongoing issue of Scottish Independence and the recent 'Brexit' vote which have both raised profound questions about national identity and what it means to live in a democracy. We will use this as a vehicle for exploring Scotland's individuality, history and culture.

The table below highlights the skills, knowledge and understanding which we are developing for each subject over the next few weeks. Please come and see me if you have any questions regarding your child's learning this term.

English	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• read and write free verse• debate topical issues (Scottish Independence), being able to make clear arguments for both sides of the argument• write a discussion, giving balanced and reasoned views• explore a Shakespearian tragedy (Macbeth)• secure the use of all punctuation learned so far and continue to explore the use of complex sentences• read texts with an understanding of the devices writers use (eg vocabulary, punctuation, sentence structure) to persuade / create tension / present arguments• choose strategies for learning spellings and use them in our writing
Maths	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• read, write, order, round and compare numbers up to 1,000,000• count in multiples of ten to 1,000,000• convert between units (e.g. millilitres to litres)• understand sequences of numbers, including negative numbers• work out the perimeter and area of quadrilaterals (four sided shapes)• use our maths knowledge to solve problems• learn our times tables facts (very important!)
RE	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• compare the two creation stories in Genesis and what they teach us about God's relationship with humans• explore what St Paul says about becoming a 'people of God'• look at the importance of peace in the Islamic faith
Science	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• compare and group together everyday materials on the basis of their properties, including their hardness, solubility, transparency, conductivity (electrical and thermal) and response to magnets• know that some materials will dissolve in a liquid to form a solution and describe how to recover a substance from a solution• use knowledge of solids, liquids and gases to decide how mixtures might be separated, including through filtering, sieving and evaporating• demonstrate that dissolving, mixing and changes of state are reversible changes
PHSE / Citizenship	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• understand the importance of rules• understand the basics of democracy, the right to vote and the role of parliament• appreciate the range of identities that are encompassed by the United Kingdom• understand the role individuals have in keeping the Earth a safe place for everyone (linking with Harvest)
Computing	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• e-safety - secure passwords• programming skills (using 'Scratch' – it's free and available for home use!)

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • understand how the internet and the world wide web works
Art and Design	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • pencil drawing skills • explore and compare the work of Michelangelo and Charles Rennie Mackintosh • explore the importance of tartan and design our own
Geography	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • locate and name some of the world's continents and countries • locate and name counties and cities in the UK • understand the geographical features of Scotland (rivers, lakes, mountains, cities)
History	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • understand some of the history of Scotland and how it came to be a nation • understand how particular people have shaped the nation (e.g. Robert the Bruce) • ask questions about the past • use a range of evidence to find out about the past
PE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ball and team skills developed through tag rugby activities (please have outdoor PE kit in school every day) • swimming (from Friday 15th September)
Music	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Scottish, folk and Celtic music
Spanish	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • count to 20 and beyond and play with numbers in Spanish • basic conversational skills in Spanish (name, age, likes and dislikes, in the café, in the shops) • Spanish culture and customs

Homework

Homework is a valued and valuable addition to the learning that the children do during the day at school and extends and consolidates their knowledge, skills and understanding. Children will be expected to complete homework set. Homework will be given to the children on a Friday and needs to be completed and returned to school on the following **Friday**, glued or sellotaped tidily into the children's homework books. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any concerns or questions regarding homework.

Year 5 Homework:

- Daily reading (aloud to an adult or silent depending on the needs of your child – all children must be sent to bed with a book!)
- Weekly spellings (spelling test day on a Friday)
- Times tables and basic maths skills learning if necessary
- A numeracy task linked either to learning we have been doing in class or as revision of a topic covered previously
- A comprehension or writing task
- A more extended project to be worked on over the course of a number of weeks (usually one each term)