

**Friday, 10<sup>th</sup> May 2019**

We hope everyone enjoyed the holiday weekend. It was an in-service training day for staff on Monday. We undertake a review of our behaviour policy and procedures and a comprehensive evaluation exercise to help us with our Standards and Quality Report for this year and our Improvement Plan for next year.

Our new PE teacher Mr Robertson is busy working on our sports day. For P1-P7 these will be held on Wednesday, 22<sup>nd</sup> May. P1-P3 are starting at 9.30 am and P4-P7 are starting at 1.30 pm. Mrs Chapman sent out a letter about this. We're asking children to come in blue, red, green or yellow. **However, we have our own stocks of these coloured tee-shirts and will provide them for children if you don't have the right colour at home. Please do not go out and buy something new.**

My grateful thanks to the teachers for sharing news around the classes this week. P1 have been trying lots of different fruits this week and have made delicious fruit pizzas with Mrs Bannerman. This week in P2B the children have become Rainforest explorers. We are investigating the different animals that live in the jungle. We have written reports, created maps and made tally charts about our favourite animal. Our favourite task is to draw jungle animals. P3A have been using their excellent knowledge of castle life and engineering to start building castles this week. In Literacy P3B are working on writing imaginative stories with a focus on using more ambitious vocabulary. We are learning about fractions of shapes in Maths and counting in 20s in Numeracy. In Science we're learning about growing and caring about plants and food from plants. We'll begin planting outside when the rain stops. In Technology Mr Knott has been teaching us how to program robots (mice) and what input and output is when programming. In Art with Dr Stahl, P4A have been using mixed media (paint, crayon and ink) to create colourful, patterned snakes from the Amazon. P4B have been looking at electricity and had great fun making up their own simple electrical circuits. This week in Primary 5A we worked together to make a mindmap about our new topic, the Rainforest. We are learning about the properties of 2D shapes and for mental maths we are looking at counting in halves, the 8 times table, doubling 3 digit numbers and subtracting 3 digit numbers. Primary 5B have been learning about 3D shape in maths this week. We began by revising the names of 3D shapes and we will be moving on to look in more detail at the properties of 3D shapes later in the week. We also enjoyed our first session with BATs rugby where we learnt about how to throw and catch the ball effectively. We are looking forward to our next session. In P6A this week we have been learning about the Five Pillars of Islam and how Ramadan links into this. The children have also been taking notes about the Wars of Independence including learning the fate of Alexander III and his granddaughter Margaret, Maid of Norway (who had a very short life) and the implications this has had on Scottish history. P6B have been undertaking and recording experiments during our Science lessons. This term we are looking at Space and the Solar System. We looked in detail at the craters on the moon and discussed how they had been formed by meteorites crashing into the moon at speed. To try this for ourselves we conducted an experiment. We used various weights and sizes of 'meteors' and recorded how these impacted upon the formation of our craters. Using our recorded information and observations we discovered that the heavier the weight and the higher the height that the 'meteor' was dropped from, the faster the speed. This led us to the conclusion that weight and height affects the size and impact of a crater. With the start of Ramadan

this week, Primary 7 have been learning about the traditions of Ramadan. One of our pupils shared their own experiences of fasting during Ramadan and the rest of the class were really interested about many Muslim traditions.

Moving forward in our log books from May, the school reopened for the new term in August 1959 with 20 classes. The Primary 7 classes sat a Verbal Reasoning Test which was a replacement for the old Intelligence Test. The hall was used to seat the three classes and the experiment proved quite successful. Traffic police gave a lecture and demonstration on Safety First in the playground to the youngest classes. A sale of work was held in the school in October 1959 in aid of school funds and a profit of £195 was made. Mr Crawford the Headmaster called in sick at the start of October. Mr McKay, the Deputy Headmaster took over and a retired HM Inspector took over the Deputy Head's class. Sadly, the log book of 27<sup>th</sup> October 1959 notes, "it is with the deepest regret that I record the death of the Headmaster. He died last night in the Royal Infirmary. The staff and pupils were informed this morning." The new Head Teacher Mr John P Mitchell visited the school in December before taking up his post in January 1960.

*Stewart Crabb, Head Teacher*