



St Matthew's RC Primary



32 Carnethie Street
Rosewell
Midlothian
EH24 9AT

Tel: 0131 271 4695
Email: stmatthews_ps@midlothian.gov.uk
Website: <http://stmatthews.mgfl.net>
Head Teacher: Miss A Chidgey
Twitter: @stmatthewsps1

1st October 2021

Dear Parent/Carer

This week has seen lots of new learning across the classes – it has been Maths Week Scotland and we have started our first week of a literacy programme called Talk for Writing. Updates of all the exciting things will be shared below and on Seesaw.

As October has officially started, we have some information regarding Halloween to share with you. Unfortunately, as a school we are still unable to organise a whole school Halloween Party, but there are plans for a party being organised by some parents on behalf of the children and families of St Matthew's. Information regarding times, dates, prices and party plans will be shared over the coming weeks, and the children will have opportunities to join in with Halloween activities in their classes to support the preparation of the party.

School Updates

MacMillan Coffee Morning

Thank you to P6/7 who created a wonderful recipe book to contribute to the Coffee Morning fundraising. Through your purchases we have raised £119 for MacMillan Cancer Support.

Appropriate Clothing

Please ensure your child comes to school every day with appropriate clothing for the delightful Scottish weather. All children need to wear a jacket to school every day, as class teachers may take classes out in to the local community as well as the children being outside for break time and lunch time. As always we try to have the children outside for fresh air as much as possible, so warm clothing is greatly appreciated.

Please note, P4/5s current interdisciplinary learning topic this term is centred around Our Local Woodland Community. Mrs Hewitt plans to take the children out to the Whitehill Woods every Wednesday afternoon. Your child **does not need to come to school dressed for Forest Schools**, but a warm jacket, jumper and appropriate shoes for the woods would be very helpful on a Wednesday. If the class needs more clothing than this, Mrs Hewitt will be sure to let you know with plenty of notice.

Wider Achievements

Whilst we are currently unable to have whole school assembly celebrations each week, we would still like the children to have opportunities within their classrooms to share their achievements from outside of school. If your child has something they would like to share (sporting awards, club badges, martial arts belts, or other things they are proud of), please send a small description of the achievement – with pictures attached if possible – to the school email address. These will then be sent to the appropriate class teacher who will then support your child in sharing this with your child's class.

PE

At this time PE changing rooms remain closed and children will not be encouraged to change for PE. **We advise that on the days children have PE, they come to school dressed in sportswear.**

Please note the following change:

Primary 1-3 and Primary 4/5 will have PE on Tuesday.

P7 will have PE on Thursday.

Nut-Free Snacks

Due to severe nut allergies at our school, please do not send your child to school with snacks or lunch items containing nuts. This includes, but is not limited to, Kinder Buenos, Nutella, Daim bars and peanut butter. Please note that any snacks with nuts in them will be sent home with your child.

Breakfast Club

Breakfast club is available to all learners from Primary 1 to Primary 7, at the cost of 50p per child per morning. Breakfast club will open from 8.30am and children should enter via the top door in the playground. Toast and cereal will be available. Please note that in order to comply with current restrictions, pupils will be required to sit in their classrooms.

Class Updates

P1-3

This week.

We have been so busy in P1-3 this week! On Monday, we read a story called The Quackling and on Tuesday, we received a special surprise letter from the Quackling! He had hidden some clues in our garden for us to find and left us some photos of what he had been up to in our classroom while we were at home. We also enjoyed using the instruments to make sound effects and music to go with the story. In numeracy, we have been sequencing numbers, playing addition games, and learning about the numbers before and after.

Next week..

Next week we will be working on addition strategies and counting in 2s and 5s. We will continue to learn about our Quackling story with art and drama.

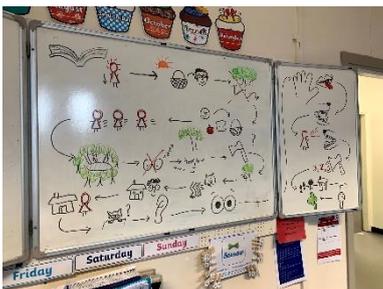
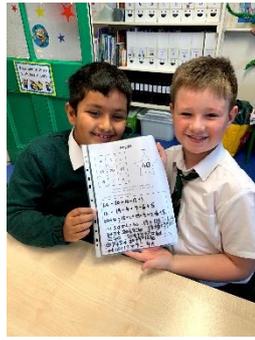


P4-5

This week we have been celebrating Maths Week Scotland by looking at and exploring different aspects of numeracy and maths each day. We have been learning about measure, Tessellation, Venn diagrams, Carroll diagrams as well as going on a Maths scavenger hunt around the school! We have also been testing our mental maths skills through learning some new warm-up games for our numeracy lessons. In literacy this week we have started our 'Talk for Writing' topic and have

been learning how to tell the story of 'Little Red Riding Hood' like real storytellers. We have been learning how to use a story map and actions to help us remember the entire story. We even performed the story for P1/3 to share all of our hard work. We also looked at 'boxing –up' the story into different sections, opening, build-up, problem and resolution. In our topic this week we were learning some new and interesting facts about Scottish woodland animals and loved going to the woods to hunt for the hidden clues.

Next week we will be continuing 'Talk for writing' topic by focussing on writing our own version of the 'Little Red Riding Hood' story. We will also be continuing our focus on using speech marks, using descriptive language and up-levelling our sentence structure. In numeracy we will be continuing to focus on our mental maths skills, multiplication fluency and number ordering and sequencing. We will also be continuing to learn about aspects of time focusing on reading and using a timetable.



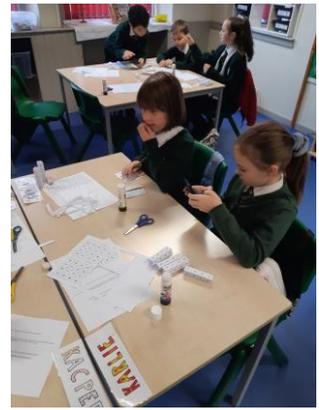
P6/7

In Literacy we have been learning a story called The Canal. We have created story maps and come up with actions to help us to remember the story. We have looked at story structure, inference, dramatic vocabulary and fronted adverbials. Next week we will be creating our own versions of the story, with the aim of being able to tell the story to a group of peers. We also wrote poems about ourselves for a poetry competition, entitled This Is Me. The class managed to create a great variety of very different poems.

In Numeracy we have been focussing on addition. The class have done some excellent work on addition strategies, and also learned a maths magic trick!

The Primary 6s started their woodland skills block this week. Despite the weather, they had a great first session. A reminder that woodland skills takes place on Mondays and all children in Primary 6 should be dressed for all weather conditions.

Thank you to everyone who donated money to the Macmillan Coffee Morning. The class had a great time making the recipe books and they are delighted that so many families ordered a copy. If you decide to make any of the delicious treats from the book, please take a picture and send it in to the school.



Kind regards,

Anna Chidgey

Anna Chidgey
Headteacher