

Literacy Reading

Following our whole class modelling block, the children have begun reading their first group novels, and are being encouraged to use our reading strategies to interrogate their texts with increasing independence. This term, they will be required to draw conclusions about main events, characters and themes and to support their answers with multiple pieces of evidence. Please support your child to complete their set reading at home and talk to your child regularly about what they are reading.

Writing

Our Harry Potter topic continues to provide the stimulus for Taught Writing sessions at the beginning of term. We are exploring the features of instructional/procedural writing linked to our 'Potions class' and chemical reactions experiments! We will also explore persuasive writing techniques and vocabulary linked to Internet Safety and advertising our Christmas performance.

Spelling

We will continue to reinforce our spelling strategies and to develop our knowledge and use of vocabulary. In Primary 7, the focus is on applying what we are learning to all written work across the curriculum and editing and self-correcting any mistakes. **Please ask your child about their personal spelling challenge and see overleaf for a copy of our spelling strategies!**



Primary 7 Curriculum Overview

October—December 2018

Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone

Health and Wellbeing

PE/Swimming—In PE, the children will be developing their Athletic Skills through Sports Hall Athletics. They will develop their skills in judging and recording results. The children will also take to the skies on their broomsticks to compete against other houses in Quidditch games! Swimming will continue each week at Kelso Swimming Pool at a cost of £1.10.

Building Resilience—All Edensiders are exploring resilience this year. We are beginning our journey by thinking about "ups" and "downs" that we face in the river of life and how we can cope with challenges that are thrown our way. P7B will be working in groups to make animations to document our understanding which can be shared with other pupils and parents.

Please see overleaf for information on how you can help your child at home.

Numeracy - Addition, Subtraction, Multiplication and Division

We will begin this term by continuing to apply both mental strategies and the standard written methods to addition and subtraction problems. We will then revise multiplication facts of known tables, focussing on accuracy and speed of recall. Multiplication facts are crucial to work on multiplication and division—see websites noted overleaf which may help your child to learn their times tables. We will further develop mental and written strategies for multiplication and division and use these to solve a range of multi-step problems.

Number Talks

In all areas of numeracy, we are being encouraged to think through and verbalise our approaches to solving problems through planned "Number Talks" sessions. This term, we will continue to develop confidence when justifying our approaches and solutions.

Maths - Measurement and Money

We began the term with a short block on measurement. We worked on converting different units of length within the metric system, estimating, comparing and measuring lengths. We then went to go on to explore methods to calculate the perimeter and area of a shape.

The remainder of the term will suit budding entrepreneurs as we investigate using money, budgeting and forecasting profit and loss. We will work in groups to create a product to sell at our Christmas show—please await further info!

How you can help at home

Please ensure that your child is organised for the week ahead.

As you know, Primary 7 is a very busy year, where the children are involved in various activities both in and out of school. It is vital that the children refer to their diaries frequently, so that they are aware of what is required for the week ahead. It is also worth subscribing to the Edenside website, for important information and updates.

<http://edenside.scotborders.sch.uk/>

Bah Humbug—Tuesday 11th December

P6 and P7 are already working hard preparing what is sure to be a sell-out production of Bah Humbug, a version of Dickens' "A Christmas Carol." Information on how to get your hands on tickets will follow. In the meantime, please support your child to learn lines, songs and to get hunting for any suitable props and costumes.

Enterprise

P7 business groups will be selling Christmas gifts at the performances. Tempting adverts will appear on the website and Facebook page closer to the time.

Thinking Strategies for Spelling

1) Knowledge and use of Phonics using Elkonin boxes and the diacritical spelling code. **Ask your child to show you how to do this!**

2) Syllabification - breaking words into syllables. Each syllable will contain a vowel

e.g. Re mem ber

3) Words within words

e.g. List en "Listen to my list"

4) Compound words

e.g. Home work

5) Mnemonic—make your own memory aid

e.g. Rebecca has 1 butterfly and 2 caterpillars

big elephants can't always use small exits = because

6) Spelling Rules

e.g. 'i' before 'e' except after 'c'

7) Comparison to familiar / rhyming words

e.g. "I know **light** so I know **bright**"

Internet Safety Top Tips!

www.thinkuknow.co.uk/

This term, PC Logan will be talking to your child about how to stay safe online. These are the rules that we will be discussing in school.

- * Never give out personal information.
- * Only use a computer when an adult is nearby.
- * Tell an adult if something upsets you or makes you uncomfortable
- * Never send a picture of yourself to someone you don't know or haven't met
- * Never arrange to meet anyone through the internet—even if you think you know them.
- * Never give out your password to anyone other than your parents

Numeracy — Useful websites :

<https://www.topmarks.co.uk/maths-games/hit-the-button>

<https://www.topmarks.co.uk/number-facts/number-fact-families>

<http://www.teachingtables.co.uk/>

<https://www.timestables.co.uk/speed-test/>

<https://www.sumdog.com/>