

# Newsletter

Dear Parents,

We trust you and the children all had a happy mid-term break. We are really proud of Primary 7 so far this year. We have been working very hard and children are coming to school each day prepared to learn and succeed.

## Numeracy:

In Numeracy we will focus on the following topics this half term.

- Understand and use spreadsheets to collate findings/results.
- Appreciate concept of scale to represent lengths and distances
- Use scale in maps and diagrams to investigate the Titanic's journey.
- Explore the concept of earning and develop an awareness of everyday expenses and the need for budgeting.
- Consolidate "value for money" in relation to earning and planning events.
- Use the IZAK9 cube to investigate patterns and solve problems collaboratively in groups.

Your child has been provided with their login details ALTA Maths. This programme motivates and engages your children and encourages them to become active participants in their mathematical learning.

## Literacy:

We will consolidate features of non-fiction texts, developing skimming and scanning skills for quick retrieval of information. The pupils will continue to work on comprehension strategies such as inference and close reading. They will use the glossary to show understanding of technical language and provide accurate information about their reading using a framework. The class will also continue to work on spelling strategies on a weekly basis. Pupils will use the "Explain Everything" app on the iPads to complete reading activities. Pupils will continue the accelerated reading programme where they read books at home and complete quizzes in school. With most pupils' response to Accelerated Reading programme and hope that their enthusiasm continues. Many have received certificates acknowledging their efforts in reaching targets. Again we would encourage the children to read for 30 minutes daily. We are confident that this sustained practice will foster a love of reading and help your child fulfil their potential in Language and Literacy.

## ICT

ICT is a cross-curricular subject which is used to deliver all areas of the curriculum.

- Use of database to sort and search The Titanic passenger list.
- Construct a website on The Titanic using Spider.
- Use of the app Explain Everything on iPads to complete reading activities.
- Explore the pupils' use social media through involvement in The WYRED Project (netWorked Youth Research for Empowerment in the Digital society) funded by the European Commission Horizon programme. Its objectives are to give the young an opportunity to explore and communicate their perspectives and concerns with the digital society in which we live.

### **World Around Us:**

This half term, our context for learning is still "The Titanic Disaster." Pupils will research the building, launch and sinking of the Titanic. They will create posters advertising the Titanic's inaugural journey and search a passenger database to find details of specific passengers.

### **Irish:**

Irish classes continue on Thursdays under the excellent tutelage of Mr. O'Farrell. This is a wonderful opportunity for your child to experience a second language before moving to a second language before moving to a second level education.

### **Music:**

Mrs. Kelly is taking the choir on a Tuesday afternoon during school time. All pupils will continue their Tin Whistle session with talented Miss McBride on Wednesdays. Again please ensure your child comes prepared and practises regularly. The children will continue their preparation for the year 7 show: "Mary Poppins" with Aisling and Mrs Kelly.

### **P.E.**

Mrs Quinn's class have now begun their swimming lessons in the Leisure Centre.. Children in Year 7 will also continue to avail of Gaelic Coaching with McCartan McKenna on a Wednesday.

### **Religion:**

As you know the Confirmation date has been set for Sunday the 22<sup>nd</sup> of April, the children have already begun the preparation for this. We would encourage you to play an active role in your child's preparation. We will focus on 'The Gifts and Fruits of the Holy Spirit' and how we can display these in our daily lives. Please help children learn their prayers and ensure they participate in the liturgy at weekends also.

*Mr McGlinchey and Mrs Quinn*

