



Primary 7 Newsletter

September 2020



Welcome back to school and to your child's final year at Castlehill Primary. Miss McKendrick has enjoyed meeting the class and getting to know everyone individually. Miss McIver will be in class on a Wednesday afternoon and Thursday, with Miss McKendrick in the rest of the week. We have found P7 to be an enthusiastic and hard working class and we expect that their learning will develop well over the course of their final year. We are both very excited to be working with the class and have high expectations for their achievements!

Maths

We will begin this term by revising place value, the four basic mathematical operations and using Number Talks to discuss mental strategies. We will also be working on estimation, rounding and measurement. We will concentrate on presentation and layout in order to support the accuracy of written work. As always, our expectations will be of the highest standards.



Literacy

We have started our rights-based novel 'The Boy in the Striped Pyjamas' by John Boyne. We will be creating our class charter after discussions around the rights we feel are important to us. Studying the Rise of Hitler and the persecution of Jewish people alongside the novel will allow the class a deeper understanding of the facts of the Holocaust that influenced the novel. I would like to stress caution and supervision if your child is using internet search at home to research the Holocaust. Some of the content may be distressing for our learners.

HWB

Health and wellbeing is a priority during these unprecedented times. Daily wellbeing check-ins are being conducted and P7 have a comment box where they can also share any worries or concerns with the teacher. So far, we have taken part in lessons on respect and bullying.



Homework

General guidelines - We will be working on ways to share homework digitally over the coming weeks. In the meantime, there will be times when we will send paper or books home from school. We acknowledge that this is creating a bridge between our class bubbles and individual homes. The advice we are working to at the moment is that non-porous materials, such as paper or cardboard, should be left for 24 hours before being touched. If you are unable to do this, then please adhere to strict hand hygiene procedures such as hand sanitising or hand washing before and after touching the materials and avoid touching your face. These are the protocols we are following with letters/work etc sent into school.

Stationery - We would be grateful if pencil cases can be left at school rather than go back and forth between home and class. A gentle reminder that school bags and lunch boxes should be disinfected, or washed, daily.

Homework - will be issued on a Wednesday, to be returned on a Monday.

Reading - To allow for reading books to be able to be left for 24 hours, pupils will be given several days to complete any reading homework.

Red folders & diaries - these need to come to school every day. Although much of the homework can be done independently, we encourage discussions between you and your child around homework, especially time management, and would like you to check that it has been completed satisfactorily. **Please sign/initial the diary each week to show that you have had a discussion with your child.**



Outdoor Learning

We will use any opportunity we can for outdoor learning, however opportunities will vary depending on which playground zone the class is allocated. As such, please send your child with a jacket each day.

P.E.

Our P.E. days this year are Monday and Thursday.

Children should come to school in appropriate gym/PE clothes, for all weather types as all PE will be outside. The children will be wearing their gym/PE clothes all day. Children should have their hair tied back & jewellery removed. No football colours/strips are allowed. **Bikeability will replace PE on Mondays, starting 14th September for 4 weeks.**