Happy New Year! The children have come back from their Winter break well-rested and ready to learn. We are excited to see what 2020 has to offer us.

**Topics**

We have begun 2020 by looking at the work of Robert Burns. We will be researching his life, what happens at a typical Burns supper and looking at a selection of his most famous poems. After this we will have a go at writing our own Scots poems and will showcase our work to parents at our P6 Burns supper. Letters have gone out regarding this.

Following on from this, we will be looking closely at the area of Dalkeith and the wider area of Edinburgh. We will be looking at the physical environment and looking at landscape features of Edinburgh such as Arthur’s Seat.

**Numeracy and Maths**

The children will continue to follow M.U.M.P (Midlothian Understanding Mathematics Programme). They will extend their knowledge of basic facts and develop skills in using a range of strategies for calculations. This term we will also be working on Fractions and Time.

**Times Tables**

A lot of the work being covered this term will be building on knowledge of multiplication and division. It is important that the children are confident with this. Recommended games on the website Topmarks (www.topmarks.co.uk) include ‘Hit the Button’ and ‘Coconut Multiples’.

**Literacy and English**

We will be using a Literacy Team format across P6 whereby learners are set by ability. These groupings are flexible and will change throughout the year.

Writing will take place in our own classes. We will begin our term focussing on Robert Burns and other Scots poets. Following this the children will be working on how to create characterisation within a story. We will be focusing on the poem of The Highwayman and the short story of Voices in the Park and using this as part of our Talk for Writing approach.

**Storyteller**

P6N will have Tim the storyteller in our class on Tuesdays. The children will experience the art of storytelling and be told some elusive riddles.

**Specialist Teachers**

This term Primary 6S will have the following specialist teachers:

- Spanish with Mrs De La Rosa on a Tuesday
- P.E. with Mrs Power on a Wednesday
- Music with Mrs Callaghan on a Thursday

**P.E.**

Children will have P.E. on Mondays and Wednesdays. Please ensure children have appropriate clothing and footwear, which is clearly labelled.

**Homework**

Our new homework grids have been handed out and children should complete one task per week in their homework jotter. Reading tasks will be set by Reading teams teachers. Children have been given a homework diary to write down any extra activities to be completed.

**Queries or concerns**

Please catch Mr Naismith at the end of the day for a quick chat, send in a note, or make an appointment at the school office.

**Upcoming Dates / Events:**

- 24th January – P6 Burns Supper
- 28th and 29th January – Parent Consultations
- 7th February – break for February break
- 17th February – return from February break
- 28th February – Shared Learning
- 3rd April – break for Easter

To share in your child’s learning journey please keep in touch by following us on Twitter. @woodburnps