



Sacred Heart Primary School

“Aspire Nurture Learn Achieve”



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10th November 2023

Dear Parent/Carer,

Winner, Winner, Chicken Dinner!!!!



Congratulations to this group of P7 brainboxes who were the overall winners at the St David's High School inter-school maths morning. The children had a lot of challenging mathematical problems to solve. This involved the ability to recall mathematical concepts and work as a team to unpick problems and find solutions.

The children were rewarded with Casio calculators – which will be super handy when they go to high school. Well done to all of the children who took part. All of our teams did very well.

Again thank you to all of the children for their impeccable manners whilst representing Sacred Heart. You were a credit to the school!

Parent Consultations - 16 November

Parent consultations are on **Thursday 16th November between 3.30pm and 8.30pm**. Please follow the link to request your preferred time block. Parents are welcome to arrive a little earlier to look through their children's jotters and to participate in some school development activities as well as looking at the Book Fair.

<https://forms.gle/9fSLfsYZdQyghZEz9>

Appointment times are being allocated and will be issued at the start of the week based on your requests where possible.

If you are not able to attend on this date, please let the school know as soon as possible so an alternative day and time can be arranged.

Sacred Heart Stars

This week the following children have been acknowledged as 'stars' within our school community:

- ★ Victoria (P1) – effective contributor
- ★ Adam (P2) – responsible citizen
- ★ Mateusz (P3/4) – successful learner
- ★ Gabriel (P4/5) – confident individual
- ★ Kacper (P5/6) – successful learner
- ★ Max M (P7) – confident individual

Well done to all of our Sacred Heart Stars – you have shone brightly this week.

Our RERC Learning

Our RERC learning this month will be focusing on remembrance and praying for our loved ones in Heaven. All classes are learning the Eternal Rest prayer and will be saying this on a daily basis.

*Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord,
and let perpetual light shine upon them.
May they rest in peace.
Amen.*

Primary 7 have been learning that Christians believe that, while our earthly life comes to an end at death, eternal life is in Heaven, our destination. They located and read Isaiah 25:6-9 and discussed how Heaven is compared to a banquet of rich food. In groups they then thought of their own metaphors to describe their idea of Heaven.

Primary 5/6 have been reflecting on the life of St. Columba and what influences he can have on our lives today. They located Iona on a map and explored other places of pilgrimage in Scotland. Then they completed their own mission cards, stating how they themselves can spread the Good News.



Primary 4/5 have been learning that, through Jesus, we too are offered the promise of eternal life and can regularly pray for this. We discussed how we should pray for those who have died, and especially for those who have died and are awaiting eternal life. The children have created a book of remembrance which we can add to over the course of November.

Primary 3/4 have been discussing how Jesus rose from the dead on Easter Sunday and that, at his Ascension, He promised to be with us always (Matthew 28: 16-20). They also learned the hymn "Go tell it on the mountain" and explored how we can proclaim the Good News.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=72LE487YZ-U>

Primary 2 have been learning that, although people die, they can live forever with God in Heaven. We discussed our own ideas of Heaven. What is it like? Where is it? Who lives there? The children were also invited to write names of loved ones on hearts to add to our wall of remembrance.

Primary 1 have been learning the Christmas story as they begin their preparations for this year's Nativity performance. In class they have continued to practice the Hail Mary as part of their morning prayers.

There is a **Family Mass** at Sacred Heart Church this Sunday, 12th November – everyone will be made very welcome.

The Parent Partnership

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We have been in to school this week to look at the space we have for the Christmas Fayre. There are going to be lots of stalls and fun activities for the children to do so please put Saturday 2nd December in your diary.

Now we are getting nearer to the event we have a clear picture of what help we need. If you are able to support in any of these roles, please let me or your class rep know. Many hands make light work!

- 1) General Fayre set-up on Friday 1st December from 1pm.
- 2) Café: 2 volunteers needed
- 3) Home baking: 2 volunteers needed
- 4) Tombola: 2 volunteers needed
- 5) Craft gifting room/area: 3 volunteers needed
- 6) Games: 4 volunteers needed
- 7) Santa Grotto: 3 volunteers needed
- 8) Glitter tattoos: 1 volunteer needed
- 9) Floating help (general help/cover so other parent helpers can shop a bit): 2 volunteers needed
- 10) General help required for clearing up on Saturday 2nd December till 1pm.

To help us keep everyone informed, we would love all families to join up to our WhatsApp groups – the links are below. This is the most effective way for us to keep everyone in the loop regarding events.

Jemima

Please click the appropriate link below to add yourself to your class WhatsApp group. When you join, please introduce your name and your child's name so your class rep knows who has joined.

Alternatively, you can also send a text message to your class rep and request them to join you in the group. Please contact Jemima on 07438369168 for your class rep's name and contact number.

ELC (Nursery): <https://chat.whatsapp.com/LX0zGNIJMQC40piWCOGnXh>

P1: <https://chat.whatsapp.com/H9gf5JvswmHH6WmFGpfpP3>

P2: <https://chat.whatsapp.com/JM5QzNrI5DI3TN3tARna3X>

P3/4: <https://chat.whatsapp.com/KG4j8ghD8PvFF1bwtHd8IO>

P4/5: <https://chat.whatsapp.com/HEKnp8kJk82oq68OCcwPy>

P5/6: <https://chat.whatsapp.com/JiH4od1GML6FkIqmjL5UJw>

P7: <https://chat.whatsapp.com/BcqbRSsruLFmEj72HBfn8>





Book Fair

The Book Fair will be arriving in school from **Tuesday 14th November until Friday 17th November**. The classes will all have an opportunity to browse the books on sale. There is of course absolutely no obligation to purchase a book.

The Fair will also be open on the night of the Parent Consultations. **We are only able to accept cash when purchasing** so, if you wish to reward your youngster for an excellent report, then please remember to bring cash on the night. For all purchases, the school receives a percentage to spend on books for the school.

Hockey Taster Session

P3 – P7's hockey taster sessions are continuing on a Tuesday over the next 3 weeks. The children loved their first session and I know are looking forward to learning more from their coach over the coming weeks.

Depending upon the weather, these sessions could be held outdoors so joggers/leggings and a sweatshirt should be brought in to school on a Tuesday. The children **are not permitted to wear their PE**

clothes to school as, if working outdoors, they could become wet/dirty and then the children would have nothing to change into to keep them dry and comfortable for the rest of the day.



Primary 2 Visit to Scottish Owl Centre

On **Wednesday 15th November**, Primary 2 will be visiting the Scottish Owl Centre as part of their topic learning. The children are very excited to be getting the opportunity to see real owls.

The children should come to school in full school uniform. The children should also be wearing a warm coat and waterproof school shoes as they will be outdoors for much of the day. They will require a packed lunch and snack. If you would prefer the school kitchen to prepare a packed lunch then please advise the office so that this can be done in advance of the children leaving at 9.00am.



Flu Vaccination Programme

The programme will take place in school on **Thursday 16th November** for all pupils in school who have returned a permission form. If you have still to return your child's flu form, please do so as a matter of urgency.

Head lice

We have again had an outbreak of head lice. Could we ask all parents to be extra vigilant by checking your youngster's hair on a weekly basis. If you see signs of head lice such as scratching, eggs or lice themselves - we would ask that you act promptly to treat the problem before the lice spread.

Regular combing through of your child's hair using conditioner and a head lice comb will catch lice in their early stages. Once head lice are more established, you may need to use an over the counter medication. This can be obtained free from the pharmacy. Please ensure that you follow the instructions fully to ensure the most effective results. Let's all work together to keep Sacred Heart head lice-free!





Children in Need - Be SPOTactular! - Friday 17th November

Be SPOTactular! and show us your spots! Come dressed in spotty or bright clothing (no costumes please).

This will be a non-school uniform day for all pupils at Sacred Heart. If you are able to, please send a coin donation on the day and we will send all money raised onto Children In Need.

ELC (Nursery) Pupils

Could parents of all Nursery pupils please ensure that the children wear a warm jacket and a hat to nursery. The children spend a large portion of their day learning in the outside areas and it is vital that they are warm when doing this. We do not want the drop in temperature to deter them from using these spaces.



Registration for P1 for August 2024

Registration week will take place from 20th -24th November. You should have received a letter from Midlothian Council providing details of your two catchment schools. This year we are offering a *Preschool Stay and Play session* where families are invited to come along to see and play in our P1 setting. We will also be holding open school tours in school on the following dates/times:

Open School Tours

Tuesday 14 th November (afternoon)	2.00-3.00pm
Tuesday 14 th November (evening)	6.00-7.00pm
Wednesday 15 th November (morning)	10.00-11.00am

Preschool Stay and Play

Saturday 18 November (morning)	10.00-11.00am
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If you know any families locally who are looking for a placement for their Preschool child and who may want to look at Sacred Heart as an alternative, please invite them to contact the school and pop along for a tour or to play on Saturday 18th November. We are an inclusive school and do not limit our registration to denominational only. Please help us to spread the word about our wonderful school.

Registration for P7 to S1 High School for August 2024

Registration week is from 20th -24th November. You should have received a letter from Midlothian Council advising St David's High School in Dalkeith is the catchment school for your child. If you intend for your child to attend an alternative school, you are required to complete a placing request for the school you wish them to attend. Please note this does not guarantee them a place and decision will be confirmed in late Spring 2024.

RSHP (Relationships, Sexual Health and Parenthood) Consultation

In August 2023, draft statutory guidance was published around the delivery of relationships, sexual health and parenthood education in Scottish schools. The draft guidance is an update to [guidance originally published in 2014](#) and a public consultation has now been opened to ensure that all views are considered before the guidance is finalised.

As the primary educators of their children, it is important for parents and carers to offer their views on the content of this guidance, particularly within the context of upholding Catholic beliefs. In particular, views are sought on whether:

1. the content of the revised guidance is clear in its aims
2. the guidance provides the necessary and relevant information to guide teachers on their delivery of RSHP education
3. the specific guidance contained is accurate and relevant in providing factual and meaningful learning on the specific topics it covers
4. the resources and signposts are relevant, up-to-date and useful in supporting teachers and school staff to provide meaningful RSHP learning

Please take some time to engage with the new guidance and share your views within this consultation by following the link below:

https://consult.gov.scot/learning-directorate/teaching-guidance-for-relationships-sexual-health/?fbclid=IwAR00NJ8Ct6t6HTY10XHc-trxbz5AsFcatL_VSv5hcnUdviYmy9OWFortyl4

Parent Partnership - Easy Fundraising

Parent Partnership have now registered Sacred Heart Primary School on easyfundraising.org

If you don't already use easyfundraising.org, it is a way to support local causes simply by doing your normal online shopping. You can get an extension for your web browser on your computer or on your mobile device that will prompt to approve a donation from your normal shopping purposes. Over 7,500 brands including eBay, John Lewis & Partners, Argos and M&S will donate to Sacred Heart Primary School - Parent Partnership, Penicuik for FREE when you use [easyfundraising](http://easyfundraising.org) to shop with them.

We would be very grateful for any new supporters. Please remember to use [easyfundraising](http://easyfundraising.org) when you do your Christmas online shopping this year. This means you can raise donations for us when you buy anything from decorations and festive food shopping to gifts like toys, jewellery, tech, experiences and more! These donations really help us and all you have to do is use [easyfundraising](http://easyfundraising.org) when you're ordering the things you'll be buying anyway. [MakeItCount](https://www.facebook.com/MakeItCount)

For a short period of time, we are also able to access an extra bonus donation from [easyfundraising](http://easyfundraising.org). Please see the flyer sent last for further information and an easy access QR code.

Please click on the link to learn more about how to show your support:

<http://efraising.org/UyvUbB8c95>

Registering For Free School Meals



An important source of income for the school is through funding from Midlothian based upon the number of children who have applied for 'free school meals' (FSM). Unfortunately, as all pupils from P1 – P5 are now entitled to a school lunch, the numbers of families who apply for FSM status has dropped dramatically and so, therefore, has the **vital funding** to the school.

It would be fantastic if all families, who believe that they would be entitled to FSM (P1 – P7), would **apply through the link below**, so we can increase the numbers who are registered and increase the funding to school which can be used to support our children in so many ways. There are so many additional benefits to you, and your child, if you do apply for FSM such as:



- Free milk
- Access to clothing grants
- Access to financial support for trips / events

You may not be aware that you are eligible for FSM so please check see if any of the following criteria applies to your family. Do you receive:

- Universal Credit (where your monthly earned income is not more than £726)
- Income Support
- Income-based Job Seeker's Allowance
- Income-based Employment and Support Allowance
- Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999

Your child is also entitled to free school lunches if you get:

- Child Tax Credit, but not Working Tax Credit, and your income is less than £18,725
- Both Child Tax Credit and Working Tax Credit and have an income of up to £8,717

https://www.midlothian.gov.uk/info/855/school_meals/117/free_school_meals_and_clothing_grants

The school will be more than happy to support you in completing the necessary paperwork so please do not let that put you off applying. Remember, the more families who register, the more funding the school gets and ultimately this benefits the children.

PE Days

- P1 – Monday and Wednesday
- P2 – Tuesday and Thursday
- P3/4 – Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday
- P4/5 – Tuesday and Thursday
- P5/6 – Tuesday and Thursday
- P7 – Tuesday and Thursday

PE kit should include a fresh T-shirt, shorts / leggings and trainers.

If your child's PE session is to be outside, they can wear joggers/leggings and a sweatshirt.

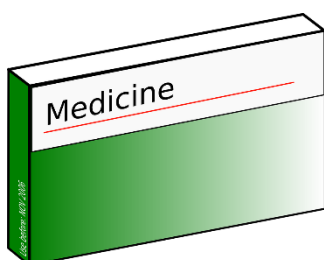
The children should, for hygiene reasons, have clothes to change into.



Coffee & Chat

Coffee and Chat

Our next planned Coffee and Chat session will be virtual and will start at 9.30am to allow time to get home after drop-off times. We would love to meet as many parents as possible online. This is an opportunity to connect with other parents and to give your suggestions regarding how to make Sacred Heart even better. Please put **Friday 24th November** in your diary.



Medication

If your child is taking any form of medication in school - whether it be prescribed or over the counter - **we will require a medical form to be completed by an adult on site. No child should have any medication in their bags or be self-medicating.** It is vital that all medicines are held centrally and carefully monitored to ensure that the children are kept safe. We would appreciate your support with this matter.

Reporting Absences

Please ensure that you call or email in to school to report your child absent. You do not need to wait until the morning to do this, as you can leave a message in the dedicated telephone mailbox as soon as you are aware that your child will not be attending school. You can also email this information to sacredheart_ps@midlothian.gov.uk

Please ensure that all messages clearly state your child's name, class and the reason (advising symptoms where appropriate) for his/her absence. Your support with this matter is appreciated.



48-hour rule

We would remind parents that if your child has been sick they cannot return to school for 48 hours. This guidance also applies to those who experience an upset tummy. This is to give them time to recover and to ensure that any virus is not spread around our community. We appreciate your co-operation to help us keep everyone safe.



Dates For Your Diary

- Mon 13th – 17th November- Scottish Book Week – book fair will be in school
- Mon 13th – 17th November – Anti-bullying Week – Respect Me
- Tues 14th November – Open School Tour for new P1 starting August 2024 2.00-3.00pm
- Tues 14th November – Open School Tour for new P1 starting August 2024 6.00-7.00pm
- Wed 15th November – P2 School Trip to Scottish Owl Centre
- Wed 15th November – Open School Tour for new P1 starting August 2024 10.00-11.00am
- Thurs 16th November – Flu Vaccination Programme in school
- Thurs 16th November - Parent Consultations 3.30-8.30pm
- Fri 17th November – Children In Need Day – spotty or bright clothing
- Sat 18th November – Stay and Play Event for future P1 pupils
- Sun 19th November – Rite of Enrolment for all sacramental children 11am Mass at SH Church
- Wed 22nd November to 13th March – P3/4 & P4/5 Swimming (every Wed except holidays)
- Sat 2nd December – Christmas Fayre 10am–12pm
- Wed 6th December – Panto trip – returning to school at approximately 5.15pm
- Thurs 7th December – Drumming performance to parents of pupils in P4/5 and P5/6
- Wed 13th December – Carols by Candlelight 6.00pm in Sacred Heart Church
- Thursday 14th December – Nativity Performance @ 2.00pm
- Thursday 14th December – Nativity Performance @ 6.00pm
- Wed 20th December – Christmas Lunch + Christmas Jumpers
- Fri 22nd December – Christmas Parties
- Fri 22nd December – School closes 12.25pm for Christmas holidays

2024

- Tues 9th January – New term starts for pupils- 8.50am (8.00am Breakfast Club)
- Tues 16th January - Catechesis for Reconciliation Parents 7.15pm in St Margaret's Church Hall
- Sun 21st January - Rite of Illumination for Reconciliation children 11.00am Mass in SH Church

- Fri 9th February – School closes 12.25pm for February break
- Mon 19th February – School reopens 8.50am (8.00am Breakfast Club)
- Wed 22nd February - Ash Wed - Parish Mass 11.00am in Sacred Heart Church
- Sun 25th February - Rite of Signing of the Cross for Reconciliation children 11.00am Mass in SH Church
- Wed 28th February - Catechesis for FHC Parents 7.15pm in St Margaret's Church Hall
- Wed 13th March - Catechesis for Confirmation Parents 7.15pm in St Margaret's Church Hall
- Tues 19th – Thurs 21st March – P6 Bikeability
- Wed 20th March - Reconciliation Practice 10.45am in Sacred Heart Church
- Thurs 21st March - SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION 6.00pm in Sacred Heart Church
- Thurs 28th March – School closes 3.15pm for Easter Holiday
- Tues 16th April – School reopens 8.50am (8.00am Breakfast Club)
- Sun 21st April - Rite of the Presentation of the Gospels for Confirmation children 11.00am Mass at Sacred Heart Church
- Sun 28th April- Rite of the Presentation of the Our Father for FHC children 11.00am Mass in Sacred Heart Church
- Mon 6th May – May Day - School closed
- Sun 12th May - Rite of the Presentation of the Creed for Confirmation children 11.00am Mass in Sacred Heart Church
- Mon 20th May – School closed to pupils
- Wed 29th May - FHC Practice 10.45am in Sacred Heart Church
- Sat 1st June - SACRAMENT OF FIRST HOLY COMMUNION 1.00pm in Sacred Heart Church
- Wed 12th June – Eucharistic Adoration P4 FHC 11.00am in Sacred Heart Church
- Fri 14th June - SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION 7.00pm (Place TBC)
- Wed 26th June - P7 Leavers' Mass 11.00am in school
- Fri 28th June – Term ends 12.25pm

Term Time Days of Obligation – whole school mass

- Wed 1st Nov – All Saints 11.00am Mass in Sacred Heart Church
- Thurs 9th May – Ascension Thursday 11.00am Mass in Sacred Heart Church
- Fri 7th June – Feast of the Sacred Heart Parish Mass at 9.30am in Sacred Heart Church

Class Updates:

ELC (Nursery)

The children in the Nursery have had such an active week. They have been exploring dark and light and a dark den has been added in to the story corner to allow them the opportunity to explore shadows using their torches.

It is almost Diwali, the festival of light, and so the children have been manipulating clay to create tea light holders – which they will finish decorating next week once the clay has fully dried. As part of this celebration, the learners have made rangoli patterns using sand and glitter.

As we approach Remembrance Day the children watched a child-friendly video about remembrance. This led to lots of discussion around what the children remember and how our memories can make us happy or sad. The children enjoyed recalling significant events such as holidays and parties.

Lots of the children have been really interested in the ice outside so next week we shall be exploring at changes of state from liquid to solid and back again.

P1

It has been another busy week in Primary 1! We have been hard at work developing our drawing and reading skills with Miss Maxwell and Ms Learmonth this week. We have been focusing on drawing the features on our faces and reading our red words which have been posted on Seesaw for your information. We have also learned three new sounds, 'v', 'w' and 'y'. These have been particularly tricky for us to write so we have been doing lots of handwriting practise to build our confidence and letter formation skills. We have also taken a slightly different approach to Drawing Club this week and have focused on animation rather than a book. We watched a short clip from Wacky Races and have based our picture stories on that. We created our own mascots, designed race cars, built a petrol station for refuelling, decided on prizes for the first and last place drivers in our races and made up a new bad guy! It is fantastic to observe the children using their imaginations every day and coming up with some truly amazing story ideas.

In numeracy we have been playing lots of games to support us with numeral recognition and got very excited playing a round of fastest finger on Tuesday! Some of us have been learning about odd and even numbers too. In maths we have continued our learning on pattern and looked at copying patterns and continuing patterns.

We have been hard at work rehearsing our Nativity songs and the children were very excited to learn what part they would be playing this week. Any support with practising lines at home would be hugely appreciated and it would be great if the children could have them with them in their school bag most days.

Next week we will be learning the sound 'z', as well as two special friends 'th' and 'ch'. We will also be creating our own patterns in maths, learning about electricity for our topic work, and beginning to rehearse our Nativity.

Have a lovely weekend!

P2

This week we have started to think about removing items in numeracy. We started with a group of counters, removed some and asked each other how many will be left. Most of us used a counting back strategy to find our answer and we are going to continue with this next week and start to write out our calculation. You can practise this at home using all sorts of objects.

In literacy we are continuing with our novel and have read that dark is fun. We were able to link this to having fun at night watching fireworks and we realised they would not be so much fun during the day. We thought about other things that are fun in the dark e.g. playing hide and seek and looking at the stars. We wrote about another character in the book, Plop's Daddy Mr Barn Owl. He is not afraid of the dark. Finally we learned some new vocabulary and were able to label the parts of an owl.

In PE we had fun recording ourselves dancing the Canadian Barn Dance and hope you enjoy it on seesaw. We are going on to learn the circle jig now and enjoying dancing together. We have been practising our nativity songs which sound great and we have identified parts for everyone. Some

people have asked to have speaking parts and these will be coming home to practise. Please take some time to help you child go over their lines so they know when to come in and can feel confident as we rehearse with the P1s.

Next week we have our outing to the Scottish Owl Centre on Wednesday. We are very excited, although one P2 did tell me we should be going in the night to see the owls in action! I hope they are not disappointed.... Have a lovely weekend.

P3/4

Another successful week in P3/4. In Writing this week our class have been learning how to describe a character in a story. We have used the 'description bubbles' to structure our descriptive sentences, for example colour, texture and size sentences. Our class innovated their own characters and came up with brilliant descriptions using adjectives. P3/4 are beginning to plan their own narrative story and will write this next week. In Reading this week P3/4 have chosen their books from the school library and we will continue to develop understanding through comprehension activities.

In Numeracy P3/4 have been learning to add to a decade number e.g. $46 + \underline{\quad} = 50$ and subtract to a decade number e.g. $53 - \underline{\quad} = 50$. We have used a variety of materials such as counters and ten frames to support us with our strategies. Next week we will continue to look at word problems and missing number calculations.

In PE this week our class have been developing their skills and techniques in gymnastics. We have been learning to hold a balance in various shapes with and without equipment and describe what helps us to maintain balance.

Have a great weekend everyone!

P4/5

It has been another busy but fun week in P4/5. In literacy we have been learning how to report speech accurately and have also applied what we have learned to our writing. On Thursday, we started to plan out our own warning story. Next week, we are planning to type up our stories on our Chromebooks and we might even be entering them into the Rotary Club's Young Writers competition. As well as writing the story, we will be working on reading comprehension in our reading groups.

In numeracy, we continued working on time, working on half past, o'clock, quarter to and quarter past. We were also able to work on telling the time in five minute intervals. Next week we will practice this more as well as calculating time durations. For multiplication, we looked at using the bar model to visualise multiplication problems then using either blank number lines or a multiplication grid to help us work out the answers.

On Tuesday, we were lucky enough to have a hockey coach in for the first in a block of hockey taster sessions which the children thoroughly enjoyed. We then went into the gym hall to do some gymnastics after that, where we were working on different kinds of jumps. On Thursday, we continued with our block of drumming, working towards a performance in December some time. We also spent some time investigating a religious ceremony which we are going to give a presentation about before the end of term. Next week we will continue with hockey, drumming and RME as well as starting to think about our needs and wants in Health and Wellbeing.

Have a lovely weekend everyone.

P5/6

Hello everyone! What a busy week we've had in our classroom.

In Literacy, we have been doing more activities based on our Talk4Writing unit, as we prepare to write a warning story. We self-assessed, peer-assessed, or had our cold task assessed 1:1 with Miss Dunleavy. We identified what the author had done well, checking this against our co-constructed success criteria. We discussed the importance of giving effective, specific feedback that an author can build on in their next draft. We decided as a class that we needed to focus more on creating an effective setting through our language. We analysed two video clips together, that have the same setting portrayed in very different ways: the openings to both movies based on Charlie and the Chocolate Factory. We then practised our writing stamina, aiming to describe either setting. We had to describe our setting really well, as Miss Dunleavy chose some writing at random, and we had to figure out which video clip setting the author was describing! This really got us thinking about how we can use our language to show our audience what we our imagining in our head - using similes, metaphors, and sensory language. Next week, we will apply what we have learned as we begin to plan, and write, our final warning story. We also continued our Literature Circles. As a group, we created a mind map highlight the important details of the plot that we know so far. This will be a working document that we will add to and amend as we continue reading our books.

In Numeracy, we are almost finished with fractions, decimals and percentages. We discussed the relationship between fractions and decimals, using our existing place value knowledge to help us. We were then able to convert between unit fractions and decimals. Some groups went further and converted between non-unit fractions and numbers to 2 decimal places, with some extending their learning to ensure that their final answer was in its simplest form. Next week, we will wrap up with this topic by finding a fraction of a given amount.

In our topic this week, we revisited how volcanoes were formed, building upon our tectonic plate knowledge from last week. We were able to label a cross section of a volcano appropriately, and explain each of these terms to a partner. We then looked at a case study of a real eruption - the eruption of Mount Vesuvius at Pompeii. We learned why this occurred, and how the residents of Pompeii were taken by surprise. We created a timeline of the order events at the time, discussing why a timeline is an effective way of showing important events in history. Next week, we will look in more detail at the different types of volcanoes and eruptions, having the opportunity to watch a demo of lava flow. This is all in preparation for making our own model volcanoes very soon!

Finally, in HWB, we began our block of Hockey tasters this week. The coach was very helpful in introducing us to the sport, demonstrating the proper way to hold the hockey stick. We learned how to move around the pitch and manoeuvre the ball. We are really looking forward to continuing with this next week! We also had an assembly on the importance of Speaking Out, Staying Safe. We identified how our trusted adults make us feel, and who we can go to if we feel worried or in danger. We made a poster on Canva to promote this. Next week, we will be looking at our decision making skills as we begin to recognise how our decisions can impact those around us.

Have a lovely week, and we will see you all next week!

P7

Primary 7 have enjoyed being out and about this week. On Tuesday, they went to St.David's to take part in their Numeracy morning. This involved lots of cooperation in their teams to solve difficult maths challenges. Well done to all who took part and a special mention to Team 1 who came in first place. We were all really pleased and proud of you! On Wednesday, they were off to Dalkeith Palace where they learned more about the life of a soldier during WWII and how we

remember those who have died or been injured at war. This has tied in perfectly with our assembly this week.

Next week, the children will be looking at diary writing examples and will begin to plan their own diary entry. This will be linked to our novel study as they take on the role of an evacuee called Bill. They will be learning to spell words with a silent 'w' and words ending in -our. The children will be continuing with their daily reading using our new Accelerated Reading resources. They will also be working on their comprehension skills with Ms Wilson.

In Numeracy the children have continued to work on their multiplication strategies this week. Next week, they will begin to look at division strategies and solve problems involving remainders. The children will also be dividing by 10, 100 and 1000.

As part of our topic, P7 will be learning about the Blitz and how people stayed safe during this time. In Health and wellbeing they will be considering what influences how they feel about themselves. Next week, the children will begin a 3 week block of hockey lessons delivered by a member of the community. This will be on a Tuesday but please note their basketball session will be on **Wednesday** next week instead of Thursday.

X-----X

I hope you have a great weekend and that the weather dries up so the children can get outside to play.

Lilly Learmonth
Acting Deputy Headteacher