



## Primary 1, 2 & 3

Term 1 2014/15

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The purpose of this overview is to give parents and carers an indication ('Snapshots') of some of the activities pupils have participated in to develop a knowledge and understanding of the world around them and to develop necessary skills and qualities.

You will appreciate that pupils participate in many more activities than those listed, for example, very few, if any, of the literacy and numeracy activities undertaken are mentioned.

However, development of literacy and numeracy skills remain at the heart of our school curriculum.

### HEALTH & WELLBEING



#### My Feelings

P1/2 and 3 all worked on the cross-curricular theme of Emotional Wellbeing by discussing, drawing and writing about personal experiences that have made them happy, sad, cross and laugh. Attending the outside ALEC Classroom further developed their understanding. This took place in a mobile caravan sponsored by the Rotary Club.



Their staff taught the children about the importance of understanding their own thoughts and emotions. They discussed how these affect how we feel and behave.

'Harold the giraffe' helped them learn ways of managing their feelings appropriately. The class also learned about the human body parts and their functions using 'Annie 'the interactive dummy.



#### Physical Education

In Term 1 the pupils have been part of a "Better Movers, Better Thinkers" activity which develops fundamental skills in PE.

This encourages the children to develop movement skills while thinking



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cognitively about their actions. For example playing clapping games with a partner which worked on cross lateral skills and number work.

Also this term they learned basic ball skills such as kicking towards a target, throwing and catching.



### LOOKING AFTER A PET

This topic is on the P1/2/3 set Health Plans and fitted in perfectly by following the children's personal interest in Stuart getting an 8 week old puppy called Lexy.

Stuart shared his experiences of how they went to the breeder to choose her, settling her into a new home, teaching her to be house trained, visits to the vet for inoculations and the responsibilities of her owner! Mrs Ingram read the class a novel called "My First Puppy" by Tessa Krailing telling the story of a boy called William who longed for a puppy to be his best friend, which fitted in perfectly to the experiences of getting Lexy!



This topic continued with the children's enthusiasm to learn more about caring for dogs with a visit to the local rehoming centre at Drumoak. Everyone was able to see what happens when an owner does not take their responsibilities of looking after a pet seriously. We saw

more than 20 dogs looking for a new home but cats, rabbits, snakes, ferrets, budgies and many more animals!



The learning opportunities continued with letter writing to thank the SPCA as well as writing their own productions for a class puppet show with doggie characters they had made.

Science work developed when a letter written by Diggy the dog, a toy they had met through free play in our activity room, was found buried in the school garden asking for help. Diggy has a problem!!! Can P1/2/3 help?

"I have a new kennel with a back window to let the light in but at night the street light shines in and I can't get to sleep!"

The children set to work in groups to find materials which were transparent (useless to cut out light), translucent (let some light through) and opaque (kept out the light - good for keeping the kennel dark). Great science work went on using torches as well working collaboratively!



Finally the class researched the work of the “Guide Dogs for the Blind” because someone brought in a newspaper cutting highlighting that they were raising awareness of their great work. The children, as well as the adults, were shocked to discover the cost of training a guide dog puppy (in excess of £60,000) and decided to complete an enterprise challenge to try to contribute a small sum of money to buy a puppy training kit.

“Let’s make and sell puppy paw cakes @ £1 each”

Trying to keep their costs down was the challenge! So with contributions from Macphie’s of free cake mix and icing the sum of £80 was raised. We hope to present the money to a real guide dog next term.



### DRAMA SHOW – “The Railway Children”

The whole school enjoyed the above show. This report is by a P7 pupil:

M&M Productions presented us a play called: ‘The Railway Children’ on 3<sup>rd</sup> September. It was excellent! They all had lovely singing voices. The three children were called Phyllis, Bobby and Peter. There were only four actors and they played several parts very well. They changed scenes cleanly and also used excellent props. They stuck some humour in too which made it funny. It was a brilliant play. I would watch it again; it has inspired me to read the book.

Review by Caitlin (P7)



### USING iPADS EFFECTIVELY IN THE CLASSROOM

Our school now has an ipad for each pupil in a class so Mr Bell has been leading them with weekly IT lessons. They have learned the overview of the pad and simple gestures of how to control it.

Using an application called “ScratchJr” they were introduced to the concept of simple computer programming.

Scratch Jr uses developmentally appropriate programming language for children ages five through to seven. Using this children are able to create their own interactive collages. As well as programming the children learned the cross curricular skills of positional movement - right, left, up, down, clockwise, anti clockwise as well as terms

bigger, smaller ,visible and invisible. They should now be able to give specific instructions to Scratch the cat and sequence these to achieve simple objectives. This work will continue this session to make an interactive story using the character of Scratch and his many friends.

### PLAYGROUND ACTIVITIES

All pupils in the school have been enjoying developing our ScIP (Scrapyard Imaginative Play) project. Pupils are using the materials we have already been donated to participate in a range of child-lead imaginative play. We would love to have even more materials to play with, so please hand in any items you would like to donate from the lists previously issued.



### WAYS YOU CAN SUPPORT YOUR CHILD

- Please continue to support your child at home by encouraging them to tell the time on both analogue and digital clocks
  - P1 – o'clock and :00
  - P2 –  $\frac{1}{2}$  past and :30
  - P3 –  $\frac{1}{4}$  past and :15
  - Also discuss duration of time e.g. how long to wait and how long has past.
- We will continue our spelling progression but there is a need to improve the spelling of high frequency words of the week (written on white paper). Please help your child to learn these as this will help improve their written work.
- Learn songs for the Christmas Show
- Continue to support your child to have homework completed on time and signed by a parent. Make sure all equipment, books, jotters etc. are in their school bag when needed. This is important so that group work may continue during class time!