

Primary 4 & 5

Term 1 2014/15

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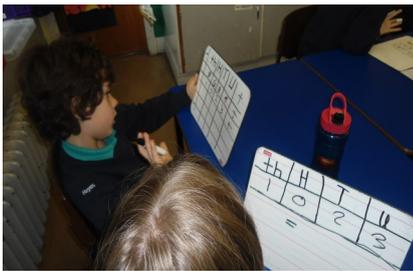
The purpose of this overview is to give parents and carers an indication ('Snapshots') of some of the activities pupils have participated in to develop a knowledge and understanding of the world around them and to develop necessary skills and qualities.

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.

Maths

We have been working hard in developing our skills in Place Value and



whole numbers. We have been taking part in class and group learning, such as human place value games, making our own maths activities, using the knowledge of place value and working individually also. We have been strengthening our mental maths strategies weekly and testing

out each other in our pairs.

We have also been learning about measuring which we have been linking to real life situations. The class enjoyed going out to the field and working out how to measure the height of the trees without climbing them. In addition, we have been learning about weight, this has allowed us to bake a couple of times. The children enjoyed making the Mango Cake and everybody enjoyed eating it.



Topic

The class have put a lot of enthusiasm and effort into their project this term. They have been learning all about different aspects of Victorians and



Victorian life. They worked in groups, researching toys, schools, games, inventions, and fashion. They then learned how to deliver their own lesson to the class on these subjects and have gained some rich knowledge. We also learned about child workers in this time and how life was in general in a different era. We have made booklets to show the information learned.



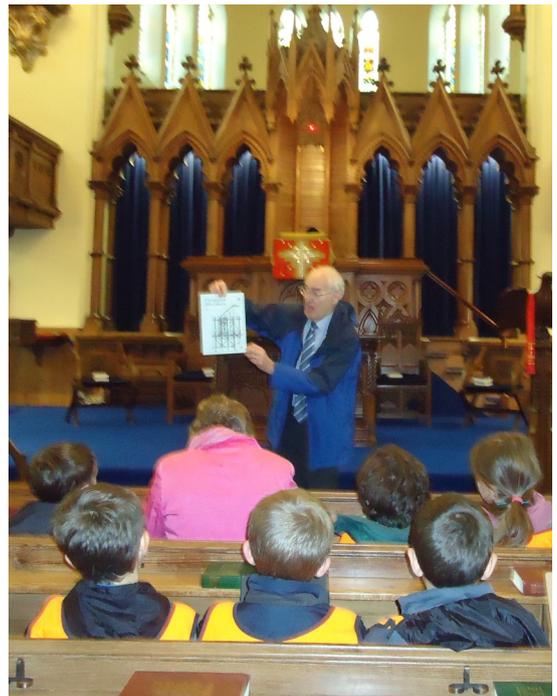
Language

We started the term writing a letter to the school where Anne had worked in Malawi, we are delighted to be keeping a link with their school and will continue this correspondence throughout the year.

We have been learning about what it might be like to be a chimney sweep in Victorian times. We took this knowledge and put it into our diary entries. The children realised it was not quite the life they would like today. We have also been finding adjectives in Victorian poems and discussing how it could or could not relate to life today.

Trips

We were delighted to be able to go on our Victorian trail trip this term. We went to Aberdeen and discovered all about the buildings and streets of Victorian times. The children saw the statue of Queen Victoria and learned about the street names that related. We discovered where streets hadn't changed much and where they had.



We then went to the Art Gallery to have a look at the Victorian paintings. The class listened and discussed about the detail and features of the people and animals in the paintings and went on to have rich discussion of the feelings of these times and how the scene may have impacted in these people's lives at the time. They found it very interesting and informative and we were able to use this back in the class in our booklets.

Health & Wellbeing



This term we were visited by the Alec Classroom again, where we developed our skills in Health and Wellbeing by learning more about the body and our organs. We discussed about how substances can affect our body and how to be aware of this.

The Railway Children

We were joined by M and M productions, who put on a fantastic performance of The Railway Children. The children thoroughly enjoyed this and afterwards were able to have interesting discussion about some of the scenarios throughout.

This review is by a P7 pupil:

M&M Productions presented us a play called: 'The Railway Children' on 3rd 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)



Literacy Skills

This term the class have been working hard on their spelling. They have continued to use the Active Literacy spelling programme. They have looked at two Phonemes, a range of spelling strategies and new spelling rules. The class have enjoyed the tasks given and are becoming expert diacritical markers.

The class have become Book Detectives and completed a selection of task which has given them a better understanding of their reading books. The tasks have included being an Illustrator, Passage Master, Question Master and Word Finder. These tasks have lead to some interesting discussions during reading time.

Novel Study—The Suitcase Kid by Jacqueline Wilson

On a Monday and Tuesday the class have been reading the Suitcase Kid by Jacqueline Wilson. The children have been using their Book Detective skills to understand the book. They have been looking at the relationship between characters. The class have also been using parts of the text in Art. The class used part of the text to draw images from the book. They enjoyed using a range of materials and created their own visions of Mulberry Cottage. The class enjoyed making boats for Radish and then testing them on the stream in the Millennium Garden.

PE

In the first block of PE the boys and girls have been working on their fitness. They set up a simple circuit and spent 4 minutes at each station working out. They now have deepened their knowledge as to why



they should keep fit.

In the second block they have been learning about basketball. They have practised dribbling, passing and played mini tournaments. There a few basketball stars emerging in the class.



Science

The class have been looking at magnets and how they work. They have enjoyed testing the magnets on various different objects.

Ways to help your child at home:

- Practise times tables regularly
- Add costs of shopping together
- Discuss how large or small a number is when adding 10/100/1000