

Primary 4 & 5

Term 4 2015/16

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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.

### Language

This term we have been learning about fantasy genre. We have been writing our own stories and have learned how to include fantasy characters and fantasy lands in our writing. The children came up with some very inventive ideas. We have been inspired by the Lego Movie, discussed the genre, worked individually and in groups to further develop their own understanding. They then worked individually on their plans and went on to write their own imaginative stories. They really enjoyed this unit and had some excellent discussion. They showed enthusiasm throughout this, including developing some superb Lego settings created for homework.



We have also been continuing to develop our knowledge in reading by working on our book detectives. And by using our new ipad resource called Giglets. This has helped the children develop their knowledge in the books read within their reading groups.



The children have also developed their understanding of classic and narrative poetry and have been performing some of these aloud to the class.

### Maths

We have been working on data handling, measure, time and finishing off the term with revision of mental maths and topics covered. We have been taking part in class and group and individual learning, showing our data handling skills by going to the classes and

collating evidence for our tally charts., as part of our Eco Award. The children have shown their knowledge learned in a variety of ways and have enjoyed doing much of the measure and volume work outdoors.



### Forest School



The class have been spending an afternoon per week down at the Millennium Garden. They were given the opportunity to take part in many Forest School Activities and now that Mrs McConachie is Fully qualified they have been taking part in fire lighting, hand saw and wood tool work, all under close supervision of course.



The children have also been finding out about the fish they discovered in the stream and using their new skills to map and categorise the Millennium garden area.



### Activities

During Friday activities the children have been doing their cycling proficiency with Mrs Glennie. They are becoming more aware to the importance of safety on the road when cycling. This is particularly important as we reach the summer months and children are using their bikes more often.

We ask that parents support us in this and encourage your children to be Road-wise and to wear their helmets at all times.

### Basket ball

As part of the Active Schools Programme, Doreen Seery organised one final session for the children to take part in. They have been joined on Thursday 's by a coach



from one of our local clubs to give them the basics and skills required to participate in basketball.

### Maths

P4/5 have been looking at the measurement. This has involved lots of practical work including measuring the park, baking and making refreshing drinks. They have also been counting mini beast as part of Data Handling. We found plenty of creatures in the woods and not so many in the playground.

### RSPB

We were very fortunate to have a visit from the RSPB. The class spent the afternoon looking at what habitats we have in the playground and in the woods. We discovered lots of places for creatures to live in. The class had some good ideas on what we could do to improve the areas.

### Health and Wellbeing

This term we have looked at teeth and how to keep them healthy. Several experiments were set up with egg shells in coke, water and milk. The results showed the children the importance of keeping teeth healthy. We also left an egg in acid to see what would happen. The shell dissolved and it felt like a bouncy ball, unfortunately it didn't bounce very well.

### ICT

The class has been learning how to create power point presentations using Glow on the iPad. They are now able to download pictures and add text to the slides. We have also been using the iPads to help during reading sessions.

*They have also had training about Read Write Gold. This is a piece of software which has been designed to help children when they are writing. The training was provided by staff from Mackie Academy as pupils are being encouraged to use it at the academy. The class will be able to train others next term.*

### *Points for helping your child at home*

- Continue to practise times tables and try to be quicker each time*
- Quiz each other on spelling words*
- Discuss in detail books that you read together*
- Practise mental maths skills in shops, when buying items and use clocks on a daily basis , especially converting analogue and digital times.*