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## Primary 6/7

Aug-Dec 2016/17

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.

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### Second World War

As part of our Social Studies lessons, we have been learning about World War Two , both on the Home front and abroad. Although a serious subject matter, the pupils really seemed to enjoy discovering more about why the war started in the first place and which countries became involved. Topics studied have included:

- Evacuation
- The Blitz
- Air Raid Shelters
- Blackout
- Rationing
- The Holocaust/ Anne Frank



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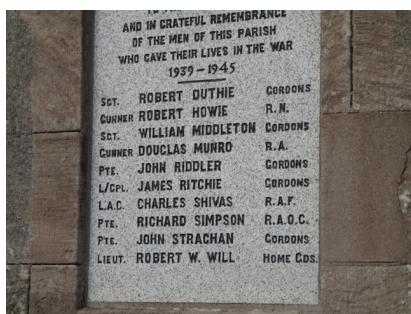
Classwork has been varied and cross-curricular. There have been many opportunities for:

- Map-work ( labelling countries invaded by Germany)
- Group and individual research using both primary and secondary sources.
- Art and design (paintings of the 'Blitz', models of Anderson shelters, as well as a life-size one in the corridor)
- War-time posters containing famous slogans (e.g. 'Make do and Mend')
- Poetry-writing (pupils wrote 'opposite' poems entitled 'War' and 'Peace')
- Language work (evacuee letters and Diary extracts)
- Music (singing old war-time favourites, such as 'We'll Meet Again')



Film study: 'Goodnight Mister Tom' (pupils watched this film which promoted lots of meaningful discussion)

Remembrance: Visit to Glenbervie Church to look at the War memorial, making poppies and leading an Assembly on 11th November.



### Visitors

We have been lucky to have several visitors into school to help with our Project. First of all, many thanks to Carol Ince (Lewis Mowatt's Grandma) who came in to help us with some research; with her help, we managed to find out more information about some of the local soldiers whose names were on the World War Two Memorial stone at Glenbervie Church. The children found it fascinating to look through old documents, such as school log books, to find out which school their 'Unknown Soldier' might have attended.



Thanks also to Mrs Alex Purvis, who came in to tell us all about Edward's Grandad who was in the RAF during WW2. Mrs Purvis brought in a variety of interesting artefacts and memorabilia to show the class. Finally, thanks to Mr Gronneberg, who is an expert on World War Two and came in to share his vast knowledge with the pupils.

Thanks to everybody else who sent in objects such as gas masks, letters, magazines etc. We had a fantastic array of items, which allowed us to create a class 'museum' corner; this certainly helped enhance the children's understanding of how different life was 70 years ago.



### Mr Paterson (Aberdeen Urban Studies Centre)

On Wednesday 21st September, Alan Paterson came into school for the morning to deliver a fascinating WW2 Workshop. Pupils were divided into small groups and rotated around each work station, finding out information from photographs, documents, audio recordings etc. related to life during war-time. Mr Paterson also presented a Power Point presentation showing pictures of buildings damaged in Aberdeen during the war. It was interesting for the pupils to realise that the bombs did not just fall in London, but were actually much closer to home.



This workshop was followed up by a visit to Aberdeen on 28th September. Mr Paterson led us through some streets to show the children some remaining evidence of life during the war (such as missing railings, tram 'roses' on buildings etc.). This culminated in visiting an actual concrete air-raid shelter which is still standing in a back garden. Some children also got the chance to use an old fashioned fireman's hose to put out a 'pretend' fire.



## Gordon Highlander's Museum

The pupils thoroughly enjoyed their visit; it was a busy morning involving three different activities. There was plenty of opportunity to dress up in uniforms belonging to the regiment, as well as carrying out research to find out the identity of a 'mystery' soldier who had been a Private in the Gordon Highlander's during World War Two.



## Samba Drumming

The pupils have been thoroughly enjoying their Samba Drumming with Dan. Dan started to work with Glenbervie pupils in term 1 and he has been back on a few occasions, in terms 1 & 2.



He lays out four different types of instruments and the children move from instrument to instrument, so that every pupil gets to try each type of instrument on each session. The warm-up is usually done with Dan on the piano and involves claps, slaps, clicks and "sh" noises, all in time to the music. This is very challenging, especially when it is speeded up!

The drumming that the children do is progressive and so what they are doing now at the end of term 2 is definitely more challenging than what they started to learn at the very start of the first term.



It is fantastic to see the pupils enjoying themselves so much as they make music. There are so many smiling faces when they do Samba drumming. They will continue to work with Dan in term 3, too.

## Health & Wellbeing

### ***Aberdeenshire Life Educational Centre (ALEC) Bus***

At the very start of the session, we had a visit from Aberdeenshire Life Education Centre (ALEC) which the children thoroughly enjoyed. P6/7 have been visited by ALEC over the years and were not too old to say hello to Harold the Giraffe when in the ALEC bus. Our workshop was on smoking, friendship and being assertive, which we then followed up in class. The children had to do drama activities within their time in the ALEC bus, imagining they were saying no to a friend.



### **De-fib Training**

At the beginning of September, P6/7 were visited by the Scottish Ambulance team who brought along some dummies so that the pupils could practise how to carry out the use of a Defibulator in an emergency situation

## Art & Design

In term 1, P6/7 did some lovely pictures where they mixed paint and printed pictures of flowers, which matched the fantastic weather we were so lucky to have in September and October. They did some more printing at the end of November when they made beautiful Christmas trees.

The children had lots of fun doing other Christmas-inspired Art & Design: maths and art were combined when they made stunning stars to suspend from a washing line in the classroom, and they also made Christmas tree decorations from felt and tartan material. In the very last week of term, they made gorgeous snowy pictures of snow-covered trees (wishful thinking for a White Christmas!)

