



Primary 5/6 Class News

October 2026

Literacy News

Writing

This term, our writing has been inspired by Chris Van Allsburg's picture book *The Queen of the Falls*. It tells the story of Annie Edson Taylor, who travelled over Niagara Falls in a wooden barrel in 1901. We have practised creating character descriptions with ambitious vocabulary, writing rhetorical questions and beginning sentences with subordinating clauses. We have also written diary entries, recounts and newspaper reports.

Reading

Our main focus in reading has been comprehension. We have discussed and answered questions about our group texts, completed independent comprehension tasks and used levelled reading cards. These cards also give us opportunities to practise spelling and grammar.

Listening and Talking

While watching Newsround, we pick question masters each day to write down 2 or 3 questions about the news stories. We have to make sure we listen carefully to be able to answer the questions.

Phonics

In phonics, we have been exploring long-vowel spellings and, where appropriate, applying them in words with more than one syllable. Weekly dictations, phonics games and other activities have helped us practise and show what we have learned.

Maths News

Number

This term we have been working hard to improve our recall speed with addition, subtraction and multiplication. We have found that it is vitally important that we become confident in these number facts as it will really help our learning in other areas of maths. We have also explored formal written methods (column sums) for addition and subtraction, using 2,3 or 4 digit numbers.

Time

Time telling and timetables has been another focus area. We strengthened our basic time telling skills using 12 and 24 hour clock. We calculated the durations of events and used problem solving skills to work out their start and finish times.

Fractions

To end the term, we have learned about fractions. First of all we consolidated what a fraction actually is and how we can calculate simple fractions of amounts. We know how to use the denominator (bottom number) to split a group into equal parts and then use the numerator (top number) to calculate the total required. We have used our known multiplication and division facts to do this.

Online Games

A number of online maths games have been utilised to continue our learning in these topic areas and also to improve our number skills.

Wider Curricular News

Music

There has been lots of fun happening in music this term. We have explored a range of different instruments, including bass guitars, keyboard and the full drum kit - poor Mrs MacLeod needs a medal for listening to that noise all afternoon!

Drama

Mrs Tulloch completed a drama session in Week 7 which was enjoyed by all. Groups worked together to complete a short scene which showed what might happen in a toyshop after closing time when the toys came to life.

Topic

In topic, we have focused on Scottish Rebels, Revolutionaries and Risk Takers. This has stemmed from our work in writing when learning about Annie Taylor and her daredevil stunt.

French

In French we have learned and practised the days of the week, numbers to 31 and months of the year. We can now recite the full dates of special events.

RME

We have begun learning about the 6 main world religions within RME. So far we have covered Christianity, Islam and Sikhism. We came up with a list of questions we could answer to help us compare the key facts of each religion. This included finding out about special buildings, important books, special clothing, praying routines, celebrations and much more. We will learn about the remaining 3 religions next term.

Outdoor Education

In week 6, our Primary 6 pupils took part in 3 exciting days of activities with the OIC Outdoor Education team. Zoe and Jason led activities included archery, orienteering, problem solving, bushcraft, canoeing, raft building and climbing. There were lots of happy faces after each activity and the instructors were pleased with their enthusiasm and level of participation. A huge thank you must go to Miss Spence for accompanying the class on these activities.

During these 3 days, Primary 5 pupils remained in class with Miss Kelday. We had a focus on teamwork and STEM activities. We also created pupil led lessons to help teach the P6's when they came back. These included a maths, RME and French lesson, as well as a fun ICT quiz using the website Blooket (a firm favourite in P5/6).

Celebrations

Celebration Assembly Buddies were given to Hunter and Rory for their hard work and motivation this term.

P6 completed their Outdoor Education days.

Molly and Charlie were chosen as the Pupil Council representatives for P5/6.

