

We will be travelling back in time this half term as we find out 'Who is the child in the photograph?' The children will be all set to become time detectives and find out what it was like to be a child at Pitt Street Infant school in 1876. We will be asking questions and finding lots of different ways to answer them as we explore life at home, school and even Christmas time for a pupil at Pitt Street School in 1876. We will be using photographs, objects, books and detective skills around the school building as we find out more about life in the past and how it has changed for children at school.

English Fiction

Our story this half term is 'The Story Machine' by the talented author Tom McLaughlin. Elliott is a curious boy who likes to explore his grandma's attic. One day he discovers 'a story machine' and the possibilities are endless as he realises he is a talented story writer himself. We will also be exploring our own talents as we write stories based on lots of different pictures and inventions. In November, Gail Jones who is local author, will be coming to school to share her 'Sammy the Robot' book with the children. More information to follow.

Non-Fiction

Our popular 'Information Station' will continue to be an area where children can independently research for themselves. The children will be developing their skills of reading for information when they try to answer many of their questions about the life of a Victorian child. They will be developing their skills of writing to inform when they write an explanation for Elliott and on how the story machine works and other inventions.

Maths

The focus for the first two weeks will be on addition and subtraction problem solving. We are introducing the 'bar method' approach to help children visualise the problems. There are still a small number of children who would benefit from becoming more fluent with their mental recall of addition and subtraction facts to 20. Next we will be moving onto measuring length and recording information onto graphs.

Finally, we will be moving onto multiplication and division. We will be using a lot of practical activities and apparatus to help them develop instant recall of the x2, x5 and x10 times tables. This will lay a solid foundation for our further work on fractions and money problems. Each week children will continue to have opportunity to develop their number fluency, reasoning and problem solving. Knowing number facts is a very important skill and class five will continue to be challenged to the Ninja maths challenge. This will involve knowing different number facts by heart - see the classroom display.

Health and Wellbeing:

We are beginning the half term by participating in activities to remember soldiers of Mexborough who were killed in WW1. As part of Jigsaw we will be celebrating that *we are all different but we are all equal*. This is also the theme of our anti bullying week in November. This is a National event and by the end of it children will have a clear definition of what bullying is and what to do if they are bullied. The children will be focusing on identifying language to describe their feelings and emotions through a variety of different stories.

Scientific and technological understanding

We shall be looking at everyday materials and their properties. The children will be learning about the properties of materials and why certain materials are used for different purposes. The children will be learning about the changing face of technology when they look at artefacts from the past.

In computing, we will be looking at algorithms and programming linked to our work on Sammy the Robot.

Art and Design

We will be looking at different paint and collage techniques to create winter art work to display in our school.

The crafts of the past will be explored when we try our hand at cross stitch and Patchwork sewing. As well as this we will be using techniques from long ago to make Christmas decorations and cards.

Religious Education

During our study of Christianity, we will be finding out about the true meaning of Christmas to Christians.

Family Learning Sessions

There are many dates for parents this half term so these will be sent out this week on a separate list.

Parents are invited to a session of family learning to help their child discover their family tree on Friday 29th November at 9am.

*** Reminders ***

PE kits

Each week your child will participate in two PE sessions. Children need to bring PE kits to school on Monday and leave it in school until Friday.

All children must have appropriate PE kit and should not wear any jewellery including earrings.

Useful maths websites to use at home:

<https://www.mathplayground.com>

<https://www.brainpop.co.uk/games>

<http://bedtimemath.org/>

www.bbc.co.uk/learning

Homework

This term our maths homework is set weekly on the 'maths with parents. website. If you still haven't connected this link please see Mrs Bailey. In addition to this, we send home a 'menu' where the children can choose three projects to complete in the half term. Please can you also read at least twice a week and make sure your child brings their Reading diary each day.

We shall be continuing our Hero Reading Challenge where the children can collect cards from school to put in their sticker album, after they have read three times at home.

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**Class Four
Curriculum Newsletter**

**Autumn Term Two
Who is the child in the photograph?
2019**

