Year 7 Newsletter – Nov/Dec 2021

Dear Parents,

We trust you and the children all had a happy Halloween break. Your children have all settled in well at this stage and have already shown their maturity in setting a great example as the oldest boys and girls in the school.

**Numeracy:**

In Numeracy we will focus on the following topics this half term:

* Use programmable language to construct regular and irregular shapes using LOGO and ProBot.
* Understand a letter can stand for an unknown number and use simple algebraic sentences.
* Find the Volume of cuboids.
* Use negative numbers e.g. in context of measurement and bank statements.
* Design and create a simple mathematical board game for a target audience.
* Evaluate the success of their board games.
* Design and construct computer spreadsheets to find totals and averages.

Your child has been provided with their login details for LBQ Maths. This programme motivates and engages your children and encourages them to become active participants in their mathematical learning. Please ensure your child completes the practice activities on TEAMS on a daily basis to improve their speed of recall and to help develop understanding of mathematical concepts.

**Literacy:**

In Literacy, much of our work will be embedded within our context for learning. In reading, pupils will continue to read the novel Street Child with a Victorian-based theme. We will focus on the main elements of narrative writing such as plot, characterisation, setting, theme and use of flashbacks, with pupils developing their abilities to discuss and write about these in more depth. In Reading we will examine features of non-fiction texts, developing skimming and scanning skills for quick retrieval of information. We will continue to work on comprehension strategies such as inference and cloze reading.

Pupils will continue the Accelerated Reading Programme where they read books at home and complete quizzes in school. We would appreciate if you could discuss the reading material with your child to expand their knowledge and understanding of the text. We are delighted with most pupils’ response to the Accelerated Reading Programme and hope that their enthusiasm continues. Again we would encourage the children to read daily as we are confident that this sustained practice will foster a love of reading and help your child fulfil their potential in Language and Literacy.

**World Around Us:**

This half term, our context for learning is “Victorian Times” We will discuss reasons for and against going to the workhouse and create a leaflet outlining life inside the workhouse. A range of primary and secondary sources will be used and evaluated by the pupils in order to develop their historical thinking. In class, pupils will complete their leaflets and evaluate their own and those of their peers.

**Music:**

 All pupils will resume tin whistle sessions on a Wednesday with Mr James McShane. Again please ensure your child comes prepared and practises regularly. A tin whistle can be purchased from the office for £5.

**P.E:**

Your children have the opportunity this term to avail of swimming lessons in the Leisure Centre. This is a marvellous opportunity for your child to learn a life skill. Rest assured that the children are well supervised by experienced staff while in the pool. Please ensure your child comes fully prepared with a towel and appropriate gear that day. They have no need to bring any money as they won’t be in the shop. Your child will also have access to specialised gaelic coaching sessions on a Wednesday. Mr. O’Neill will continue the Running Club at 8.20am on Mondays and Wednesdays.

**Confirmation:**

Confirmation will take place on Saturday 2nd April 2022 For Mr Loane’s Class and Saturday 26th March for Mrs Quinn’s class.

**Other Important Dates:**



* 19th November Year 7 attend mass at 10:00am.
* 13th Nov Entrance Tests at the Convent Grammar.
* Monday 15th November “Odd Socks Day.”
* Monday 15th – Friday 19th Anti-Bully Week
* School Closes Half Day Wednesday 22nd December

Mrs Quinn and Mr Loane