

Topic - Super Scientists

Essentials for Learning (E4L) Our whole school focus for this half term is **Reflectiveness**.

The ability to reflect on our efforts is a vital skill to making meaningful progress in our learning. The children will be encouraged to continue discussing their learning and the impact of their choices with their peers as well as giving constructive feedback to each other. They will also be given the opportunity to plan, organise and prioritise their work in order to break tasks into manageable steps.

English:

We will develop our reading skills in guided group sessions, paired and individual reading times. Our writing focus this half term is creating our own Manx myths. We will focus on imaginative vocabulary and using literary devices to create powerful imagery. We will also continue to develop sentence structure and punctuation.

Mathematics:

This term's focus will be addition & subtraction, as well as shape. The children will be working through weekly challenges as well as small group work. They will have some maths related homework. There continues to be weekly timetables practice.

History, Geography and Citizenship:

Our main topic this half term will be the super scientists and their discoveries/inventions throughout history.

Science:

Our main topic will be learning about sound. We will continue developing our scientific enquiry skills focusing on gaining information from a variety of sources and evaluating our investigations to improve future enquiries.

PE:

MSR coaching will focus on hockey this half term, mostly indoors. Swimming lessons will take place every Tuesday afternoon.

ICT:

We will continue to look at e-safety and protecting ourselves online. We will also begin to use our new skills in different applications to present our learning in different ways.

RE/PSHE:

In PSHE we will be looking at the SEAL unit 'Going for goals' taught by Mrs Ashley. The children will reflect on their learning and how setting goals can improve outcomes.

In RE we will be looking at Local Churches, exploring the buildings and different denominations of Christianity on the Isle of Man.

Design Technology & Art and Design:

We will be designing and creating our own fairy doors which will hopefully be used in our next topic of geocaching.

P4C:

Our P4C sessions will focus on developing our thinking skills and strategies. We will be looking at different stimuli to create effective dialogue.

Music, Dance & Drama:

As well as practicing our drama skills to help us in our literacy lessons we will be learning to play several Manx tunes on the tin whistle.

Visits & Visitors:

TBA - walk to Andreas Church yard to inspire our writing.

TBA - visit to local churches for RE

TBA - trip to Manx Museum to visit Sophia Morrison exhibit

Significant Dates and Events:

8th February at 3.15pm - Special Assembly

How can I help my child at home this half term?

English	Please try to make sure that your child has completed their home reading for Guided Reading lessons. They are asked to read a relatively small amount at home each week. They should also be actively encouraged to read for enjoyment. Encourage your child to practice using joined up writing.
Maths	We have been using Sumdog in school and at home to help build up our maths skills. The games are interactive fun and very popular! The children can compete against each other, target their learning as well as watch videos explaining any concepts they might find tricky. If possible please encourage your child to access this on a regular basis as well helping them to rehearse their times tables and related division facts at home.
General	<p>Homework will be sent home on a regular basis, please encourage your children to try their best and sign it when completed.</p> <p>Tuesday is our 'workshop' day. This means we may be spending significant periods of time outside. Please make sure your child has a waterproof coat. You may wish to send in warm clothing as the weather gets colder.</p> <p>From now on homework diaries are going to be signed by the teacher every Friday and if possible to be signed by a parent. The homework diary is an opportunity to communicate with your child's teacher so please don't hesitate to send any questions, concerns or comments you may have (reminding your child to give it to the teacher to look at!)</p>

What is Essentials for Learning?

The Manx Curriculum and the curriculum at Andreas School is now based around the 6R's (Readiness, Relationships, Resourcefulness, Resilience, Remembering Skills and Reflectiveness). We feel it is incredibly important to equip our children with 'skills for life' rather than just factual knowledge. The knowledge, skills and attitudes that pupils will need, in the twenty-first century, are not the same as they were in the past and so school experiences need to evolve to reflect this.

Central to the design of the curriculum are the 6R's. These are dispositions which pupils need to develop in order to learn better. As a school we are developing the 6Rs so that we have:

- an explicit commitment, at all levels of the organisation, to the development of personal capabilities, alongside academic achievement
- a clear articulation of what learning means for all stakeholders
- an agreed definition of intelligence not as a fixed entity, but as capable of expansion
- provision which routinely supports the development of the 6Rs
- regular opportunities for pupils to exercise control over their own learning
- a common "vocabulary" used to discuss learning, prevalent throughout the setting
- opportunities for reflection and the evaluation of personal qualities, built into routines.

If you have any questions about this, please contact school and staff will be happy to talk to you about our provision.