



Dear P5 Children/Parents/Carers,

The next step in your learning journey starts here! I am delighted to be your teacher this year and have lots of exciting ideas for us to explore so that we have an engaging and fulfilling year at Cuiken Primary school.

Primary 5 is an important chapter in your educational journey. We are all being challenged to have high expectations for ourselves. As your teacher, I will expect you to have high expectations of yourself and work as hard as you can, *to be the best that you can be*. Our first short topic will look at the role of democracy in Scotland and P5 are always encouraged to bring in anything relating to our topics that they may wish to share.

Learning new things and reaching our goals can sometimes be very challenging. We will make mistakes and get things wrong, but mistakes are good. In fact, neuroscientists have shown that the only way to learn and become more intelligent is to try something new and work really hard at it... even if you make a lot of mistakes.

We have lots to look forward to, a variety of topics and trips with skiing being a highlight for P5. Our weekly PE slots will normally be a Tuesday and Wednesday and children should have a change of shoes, with plain shorts and t-shirt. P5 have also decided to do the Daily Mile as a regular exercise activity, which is completed come rain or shine and as such, a decent jacket is advisable for Scotland's unique weather. It is also our intention to enjoy regular outdoor learning activities in the school grounds and beyond.

In literacy we have begun with creative writing focusing on *description* while we are learning about data handling and multiplication in maths and numeracy respectively. Homework will be set on a Monday and normally due on a Thursday with a period of between one and two weeks to complete depending on the tasks. Hand in dates and instructions will be clearly laid out on the task sheet with a focus on creativity and choice for children. P5 will enjoy specialist PE lessons with Mrs Jones, French with Mrs Pringle and Music with Mrs Callaghan.

I am very much looking forward to learning with you.

Mr Abbott, September 2017.