

HERE WE

ARE

NOTES FOR LIVING
ON PLANET EARTH

OLIVER JEFFERS

Newburgh Primary School

September 2020 Curriculum



WHOLE SCHOOL UNIT OF WORK

- ▶ *The children in our care will each have had unique experiences of and responses to the events of 2020. This has been a year of significant world events, disrupting and changing the ways of life of people across the globe.*
 - ▶ In response to this unique situation the CLPE (Centre for Literacy in Primary Education) has developed a unit of work to support reintegrating our children back to school.
 - ▶ Our staff have each taken ideas and developed these further to create experiences that will best suit our children.
 - ▶ Launching straight back into the usual timetable is likely to be challenging, as pupils have had a long period of time away from the usual daily routine.
 - ▶ The introduction of this unit allows children in all classes the time and space to settle and share their experiences, thoughts, feelings, reflections and questions.
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READING, WRITING, SOCIALISING AND THE WIDER CURRICULUM

- ▶ The age-appropriate activities within the unit will provide opportunities for children to use writing for a range of purposes including personal responses as well as shared reading and meaning-making. The planned activities will also:
- ▶ provide a framework for children to re-engage socially with each other and their wider community;
- ▶ suggest opportunities to engage positively with the outdoor environment;
- ▶ stimulate thinking and talk about world events and the impact of these events on individuals and the wider world;
- ▶ provide a safe forum to share thoughts, concerns, ideas and personal responses;
- ▶ use art and writing to help children respond personally to experiences they have had.

KEY THEMES

- ▶ Each series of sessions will explore the key themes of:
 - ▶ Earth's place in the wider universe
 - ▶ The Earth's environment
 - ▶ Our place on the planet as humans
 - ▶ How we, as humans, relate to each other
 - ▶ Other species and our responsibility towards them
 - ▶ Belonging and community
 - ▶ Our responsibility as world citizens
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WHOLE SCHOOL CONSIDERATIONS:

- ▶ As the children settle back into school life, it will be perfectly normal for things to continue to feel different for a while.
- ▶ It is important that all children ensure that they know that they can share thoughts, feelings and questions at any time.
- ▶ Newburgh Primary School will include and use a range of recommended practices:
 - ▶ Journals for each child to note thoughts and feelings;
 - ▶ A worry box for children to leave notes detailing questions or concerns;
 - ▶ Dedicated mindfulness sessions embedded into the weekly timetable;
 - ▶ Identified key staff members who are available to listen and talk with children 1-1 or in smaller groupings;
 - ▶ Designated 'calm spaces' in the school that children can visit to relax;
 - ▶ A dedicated book display in the school library featuring titles that explore feelings;
 - ▶ Identify children who may need additional support and draw on wider pastoral support through our Learning Mentor to provide this.

LOOKING FORWARD

- ▶ The work that the children produce from this unit will be displayed in school and shared with you on the Newburgh school web-site.
 - ▶ From 21st September the children will continue with their learning in their year groups following plans that we will publish on our Year Group pages on the Newburgh school web-site
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