Goal setting and identifying what was individually important to themselves occurred in the early days of this term. Some reminders have been needed as to what each student wanted to focus on. I am pleased though that most are making steady progress in their identified areas.

LITERACY

Texts this term will focus on information about Vikings. This is our classroom theme. So far, students have become quite knowledgeable about Viking longships. Future texts will focus on farm life, job roles, why the Vikings invaded other countries and their skills as warriors.

Reading sessions occur first thing each morning. Arrival at the classroom on time, every day, is very important so this learning time is not missed.

All students continue to work on individual spelling lists and activities. Familiarity with the routine enables this to be completed quickly, and to a much improved standard.

The ability to focus and listen carefully to access detail and instructions has unfortunately been missing over these last few weeks. Students have been very easily distracted and reliant on repetition by staff. By cutting back on this repetition we hope to see a big improvement in this area.

The theme of Vikings has followed through in our writing and reading comprehension. Information texts about Longships and reading tasks will be included in Learning Profiles to be sent home in Week 9.

MATHS

Recognising, ordering and then working with larger numbers have been an ongoing focus. Students have also worked to identify and then use the appropriate units of measurement for length/distance, volume and weight. Older students have also revisited learning about area and perimeter. We have now begun working with statistics to represent and interpret data.

CULTURE WEEK

Each year students and staff look forward to Culture Week at Kirton Point. This will occur during week 6 this term. Our country to study is Italy. Students have enjoyed finding out about famous Italians and learning to pronounce, for example, simple greetings and numbers in a different language. We have replaced our usual Spanish lesson time to undertake this learning.

THEME- History and Geography

Closely linked to our literacy work, students have been learning about Vikings, their origins, reasons for travel and family life. From our learning so far, particularly about daily life on the farm, it appears that they were a highly organised people. By the end of the term students will be asked to determine if they think the Vikings were a positive or negative influence on the world at that time.

HEALTH/WELLBEING

Learning has continued to be based on the Child Protection Curriculum. We have reviewed networks and the people we feel comfortable talking to if we have a problem. Focus is now on the concept of understanding the differences between public and private. Play is the Way Life Rafts are a constant referral point throughout the day, particularly with regard to 'having a reason for your actions'.

GYMNASTICS

Students have thoroughly enjoyed participating in gymnastics on a Wednesday afternoon. New skills and strengths are discovered each session. Cooperation with staff has been fantastic. Check out the pictures on the back!

OTHER INFORMATION

Thanks to those of you who have returned your child’s Learning Profile. New work samples are ready to be added. Please send this folder back to school if it’s still at home. These folders are to be shared with you during parent/teacher interviews at the end of the term.

Regards Kath Carter