

Primary 5 Newsletter - Term 1

2020-21

Welcome to our first newsletter of the year. We have a busy year ahead of us and this newsletter will give you an insight into what your child will be learning during this coming term.

General

The children are adjusting well to being back and our new class routines which include lots of handwashing!

Maths

This term we will be consolidating the four core number processes of addition, subtraction, multiplication and division. There will be daily maths challenges and mental maths activities to develop and ensure quick recall of number facts. We have been revising some of the aspects of maths that we were working on before the lockdown period (Time, fractions). Throughout the term we will also be looking at place value (numbers to 100,000 and beyond) and investigating money in the real world. It would be very helpful if children could practise their tables at home to support the work in class.



Literacy

In our writing, we continue to focus on improving our VCOP (Vocabulary choices, connectives, openers and punctuation). This term we will learn about different writing genres, including imaginative and letter writing. Extended writing may be self-assessed, peer-assessed or teacher assessed and feedback/comments given as 2 Stars and a Wish (two things they have done well and one thing they should continue to work on to improve further).

We are currently doing a class novel study on *Stig Of The Dump* by Clive King and we will be focusing on comprehension skills. As well as this, children should be encouraged to read for their own personal enjoyment at home.



Health and Wellbeing

This term we are focusing on our feelings; how to identify them and to know that it is ok to have different feelings, sometimes many at once! We are focusing on discussing how we feel at different times and what we can do to help us feel differently and think more positively in difficult situations. We have been using a 0-10 number line to track our feelings and recognize where we are at any point in the day. We will also be using the Emotions Works Recovery Program to further develop children's emotional literacy and wellbeing at school.

We are encouraging the children to bring healthy snacks for playtime and have been using our outside PE time to focus on fitness, using circuits and developing stamina.



Interdisciplinary Learning (IDL)

Our first mini topic is Space Junk which will take us up until October. This focuses on why it is a problem and what can be done to lessen it and protect space crafts from it. From October to Christmas, we will be widening our investigation of Space. We will be using the Pupil Enquiry approach to learn about the solar system, space exploration and the future of the universe. Pupil Enquiry based learning allows for increased personalisation and choice for the children as the learning is led by them. Throughout this term the children will be learning and developing social, research, communication, thinking and self-management skills.



Homework

Each week Primary 5 will be asked to complete a variety of spelling, reading and maths homework tasks that can be accessed online. These will be issued on a Monday and completed tasks should be uploaded to their Dojo Portfolio by Friday. Maths homework will be written consolidation of concepts previously taught in class. There will also be tasks and challenges to complete on Sumdog. We have been really impressed at the work uploaded so far!



P.E.

Our P.E. days are Tuesday & Friday and on these days children can come to school dressed in their P.E kit. They should wear plain, navy or black joggers/leggings or shorts and a school polo shirt or plain white t-shirt. Children can wear their trainers all day. We will be outside a lot more this term so please ensure children have a suitable waterproof jacket with them. It may be useful to have a spare pair of shoes or socks if it is a particularly wet day.



Please remember that we are unable to respond to messages on Class Dojo but if you do have any questions or queries at any point, please do not hesitate to get in touch via office@bearsden.e-dunbarton.sch.uk

Kind regards,

Mr McLeod.

