

# Primary 7 Newsletter - Term 2

2019-2020

Dear Parents/Carers,

We cannot believe that we are into Term 2 already! Term 1 was extremely busy with new jobs for everyone, and Term 2 promises to be even busier! We hope that during Term 2 children continue to come equipped with a full pencil case, including pencils, rulers, erasers, sharpeners, glue stick and whiteboard pens. Preparations are well underway for the Baljaffray School Show, 'A Musical Extravaganza', and the children are showing enormous enthusiasm. This newsletter will give you an insight into what your child will be learning during this coming term.

**Reading:** In Primary 7 children are expected to be reading for 15-20 minutes each evening. You can help with their understanding by using HOT questions examples of these can be found in the useful website handout. The benchmarks in reading we will be focusing on are:

1. I can integrate information from multiple nonfiction sources to deepen understanding of a topic with help.
2. I can use resources (e.g., encyclopedias, articles, Internet, and nonfiction texts) to locate information independently.

All children have been given reading homework on BugClub. Please make sure your child is regularly engaging with this fantastic resource.

**E-Mail:** In Primary 7 we will predominantly communicate with the children through e-mail. Children should be encouraged to access their e-mails regularly at home. Please try this out with your child to ensure they are checking regularly.

**Homework:** This will be given as and when it is needed on an individual basis. The children all have a 'notebook' that they will record reminders, passwords, any work to be completed at home. A TJ Maths homework book was sent home in Term 1 to all children, and this may be worked on at any time if you or your child feels they need some extra practice. E-mails will be sent weekly to tell the children what pages in the TJ book reinforces the work they are doing in class.

## Topics for this term

- **IDL** – This learning will encompass Science, Social Studies & Technologies along with and including Art, Music & Drama. Our topic is 'People and Events that Changed the World', will be continuing in Term 2.
- **HWB:** PATHS will continue to focus on Making Good Decisions and Behaviour Management.
- **Literacy:** Our approach to writing is based on interactive learning with a focus on four core targets – Vocabulary, Connectives, Openers and Punctuation (known as VCOP). We will follow a holistic approach to writing, in line with Pie Corbett's Talk 4 Writing this term we will be creating a 'Fear Story'. Our focus will be:

*Considering the type of text I am creating, I can select ideas and relevant information, organise these in an appropriate way for my purpose and use suitable vocabulary for my audience.*

We will also continue to use a variety of texts to gain more knowledge about how we can improve our writing. Through this we will encompass Grammar, Listening & Talking, Reading and Comprehension.

- **Numeracy & Maths** – Along with mental maths and problem solving our focus will be on:
  1. Fractions, decimals and percentages
  2. Time & Money
  3. Negative numbers
  4. Measurement and properties of 3D shapes.

Mental Maths topics covered are in the handout given at 'Meet the Teacher'

As in Term 1 the Primary 7 children are given the opportunity to take ownership of their learning and throughout various subjects will be able to choose either the 'Awesome', 'Fantastic' or 'Incredible' challenge. This allows them to look at the level of work and select an appropriate challenge for their ability.

**P.E.:** Our P.E. days are Monday (p7a), Friday (P7b) & Thursday with Miss Barrett our P.E. specialist. Please ensure that your child brings a gym kit consisting of a white T-shirt, black shorts and appropriate gym shoes on these days. It would be most helpful if all items are named. Girls with long hair should have their hair tied back and should bring socks for P.E. if they are wearing tights on a gym day. Please encourage your child to leave jewellery at home on gym days.

We are continuing to develop our Recognition Board in class. The purpose of the board is to foster positive interdependence in the classroom. It is a collaborative strategy which will target learning attitudes and behaviour. The target chosen will raise the expectation for all the children. The board will emphasise peer responsibility where pupils are rewarded for effort.

We are now introducing Positive Notes home. The positive note is sincere recognition for those pupils who go over and above consistently. We want to communicate good news to you at home.

Hot Chocolate Friday with Mrs Rodden– This will be a reward for those children who behave impeccably. Their name will go into the special box and each week six lucky names will be taken from the box and invited to share a Hot Chocolate with Mrs Rodden.

As part of the Rights Respecting Schools initiative, we aim to promote positive behavior. Along with the articles we chose for our class charter we will be focusing on the following rights:

#### Article 35

No one is allowed to kidnap you or sell you.

#### Article 21

You have the right to have the best care for you if you are adopted or fostered or living in care.

If you have any questions or queries, please do not hesitate to contact the school office.

Kind regards,

Ms. Nicola Devlin & Mr. Barry Fitzsimmons  
[office@baljaffray.e-dunbarton.sch.uk](mailto:office@baljaffray.e-dunbarton.sch.uk)

