



# Primary 2 Newsletter - Term 3



January 2020

## General

Welcome back and Happy New Year! I hope you had a wonderful and peaceful Christmas break. I am looking forward to working alongside you again this term to support your child to grow in confidence, foster a love of learning, and strive to be the best they can be. As we continue to promote independence in school, I am supporting your child to become responsible for their own belongings and organization of their own school resources (including homework bags). Please can children come to school every day with the following items: writing pencils, rubber and a glue stick. It would be best if children could leave large pencil cases and toys in their school bags. Children can then collect these when appropriate.

Our P.E. days are Wednesday and Thursday again this term. We will be focusing on Gymnastics and learning to use various pieces of apparatus safely. Please ensure that your child has a gym kit consisting of a white T-shirt, dark shorts and appropriate gym shoes on these days. It would be really helpful if pupils wore a polo shirt on these days instead of a shirt and tie. Pupils with long hair should have their hair tied back and all jewellery must be removed. Your child's gym bag should remain in school until the end of term.

To reduce congestion we will continue to exit school to the right of the ramp. Please can all parents stand where they would originally stand if their child was being dismissed from the ramp (towards the back of the playground). Please do not stand at the bottom of the steps or at the door as some children are being taken from the line before I have dismissed them. If children can all leave from where I am standing, I am able to count and ensure all children leave school safely. Children are aware that they should try to seek out who they are being collected from. If they do not see someone they know to come back to where I am standing.

This term, every Friday from 10am until 3pm, Mrs Macleod will be teaching the class. Mrs Macleod will plan alongside me to ensure consistency for the children in the class. Mrs Macleod has already visited the class several times to get to know the children and has worked alongside them.

## Maths

This term we will explore numbers beyond 100, with an added focus of addition and subtraction. Children will be challenged to apply their numeracy skills in their play as well as being supported to complete written and active teacher led tasks. Children will also be supported to apply their knowledge of skip counting to multiplication. In non-number work children will be exploring Measure. Children will be supported to learn the appropriate terminology and use standard and non-standard units to measure the length, height and width of objects. Children will also explore volume, weight and capacity and begin to estimate and compare findings. Pupils often have strengths in different aspects of maths and we therefore do flexible grouping in Primary 2. The children will be assessed at the start of each new maths topic and working groups then created accordingly.



## Literacy

Writing sessions will take place on a Thursday. We will continue to focus on and develop the use of vocabulary, connectives, openers and punctuation to add detail and expand the length of writing pieces. This term we will explore letter writing. In Primary 2 we are supporting the children to read over their work and complete self-assessment. Teacher assessment is always completed with the children orally to ensure feedback is effective and understood.

Children will be issued a new reading book every Monday and will be supported to read aloud four times a week; therefore, please ensure your child brings his/her reading book to school every day. This term children will begin to answer written comprehension questions in a jotter. Children will be encouraged to use their higher order thinking questions to develop their reading skills.

I have uploaded a list of spelling words on Class Dojo that the children are learning to spell accurately. Please refer to this list when you can to reinforce the correct spelling. Every Friday there will be an informal spelling test of a random selection of words.

## Interdisciplinary Learning (IDL)/ Play to Learn

This term Primary 2 collectively have chosen 'Factories – how things are made' as our topic. We will be following the pupil enquiry model so that children have ownership of their learning and the topic follows their interests. Throughout this term the children will be supported to talk and explain their learning, in particular whilst they are playing.

## Homework

This term there will be a slight change to our homework routine. All homework will be issued on a Monday and collected in on a Friday. This will provide more flexibility over when your child can complete his/her homework as I am aware the evening can be very busy.

This term the whole school will be using Maths grids for homework. Please use these the same way you have been using the spelling grids. Answers can be recorded on paper; however, it is not necessary to send this back into school. It would be helpful if you could write the date in the boxes on the grid when your child has completed an activity. The Maths grids can be adapted as you wish; for example, using the same task but changing the number that you are working with. SumDog can be used alongside the grids.

Please continue to practise spelling words as much as you can. Although it may seem children have had the same words for a long time, as they are irregular words, it is easy for children to forget the accurate spelling in big writing pieces.

Every Monday a reading book will be issued alongside Phonics homework and the Numeracy grid. The Numeracy grid will remain the same for this term

If you have any concerns or queries, please do not hesitate to contact me through the school office or catch me at 3 o'clock. Thank you for your continued support.

Miss Beattie



