

Primary 3 Newsletter - January 2020

Welcome back everyone! I hope you all had a lovely Christmas and a Happy New Year. The children have been eager to share what they got up to over the holidays. The children have been working hard so far this year and have lots to look forward to between now and Easter. This newsletter will give you an insight to the content we will be covering throughout term 3, as well as some extra pieces of important information.



Literacy

We will be developing a range of skills as part of literacy this term.

Our **writing** focus will continue to be recount writing, where the children will write about things that have happened to them. We will continue to ensure the children are correctly including capital letters, full stops and finger spaces in their writing. We will also have a focus of creative writing through our Talk for Writing programme. The children will have opportunities to explore different characters, settings and vocabulary. At the end the children will have the opportunity to create their own journey story.

For **reading** we will continue to focus on different strategies to read unknown words as well as developing comprehension skills. Programmes such as 'Bug Club' will also be used to further develop decoding and comprehension skills. It is beneficial to encourage your child to read a wide variety of texts outside of school.

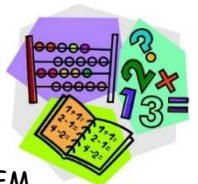
For **spelling and phonics** we will continue to progress through our phonics planners, working on sounds such as se (cheese), c (city) and ough (thought). Alongside phonics we will be learning and practising spelling our common words. A quick search on the internet can help you locate these if you wish to revise them with your child at home.



Numeracy and maths

This term we will be focusing on:

- Counting in multiples of 3's and 4's
- Multiplication - use practical materials/pictorial representations to calculate the total of equal groups, e.g. 3 groups of 4; use counting strategies to multiply a single digit by 2, 5 and 10, e.g. $5 \times 4 = \underline{\quad}$
- Division - use practical materials/pictorial representations to calculate the number of groups or number in each group when a collection is shared equally, e.g. 15 shared between 3; use counting strategies to divide by 2, 5 and 10, e.g. $18 \div 2 = \underline{\quad}$
- Adding and subtracting two-digit numbers (with bridging) e.g. $37 + 24$
- Money - using mental strategies to find the total cost of items up to £1, calculating change up to £1.
- Time - tell the time on an analogue clock, calculate durations in whole hours, sequence the month of the year.



IDL

Our topic this term will focus around STEM (Science, Technologies, Engineering and Maths), which links into electric transport.

Other curricular areas

- In science, we will be finishing off our topic on the human body and starting electric transport.

- For technologies, we will be learning to log onto the internet using an iPad, and using apps to support our learning.
- Expressive arts will be delivered through opportunities e.g. topic work.
- For R.M.E. we will be learning about Hinduism and Easter Traditions.
- Our Health and Wellbeing focuses are medicines and emotions. In P.E. we will be focusing on gymnastics.
- In French we will be revising colours and learning vocabulary for the weather and seasons.

Growth Mindset

We continue to develop a Growth Mindset and further improve our learning culture in Baljaffray. Your support in this development is crucial to our work. You may find the following questions useful when discussing your child's learning with them.

1. What did you learn today that surprised you?
2. Did you make any good mistakes today?
3. How did you learn from them?
4. What did you do today that made your brain grow?
5. How did you help someone else stretch their brain power?

A crucial component of the learning culture in our classrooms is to continually talk with pupils about how the brain grows, how we can grow our abilities by practising and through input and of being able to learn from one another and so tapping into all our different strengths.

We continue to emphasise the words "time", "effort" and "practice" as the keys to success. Please support us by using them to encourage your child. "Yet" is another helpful word! If you hear your child saying "I'm no good at....." just add the word "yet" to the end of the sentence to promote a growth mindset.

Homework

Each week, your child will be given a reading book to read with you at home. Please ensure your child brings these to school every day as there will be tasks throughout the week involving these books.

Where appropriate, some children will receive written homework. This will be specific to each child and contain different tasks for them to complete. This should also be completed and handed in on a Friday.

P.E. kit and days

Our P.E. days will be **Monday** and **Wednesday**. Just a friendly reminder that if gym kit goes home then it should be returned before our next P.E. slot. This will allow your child to participate fully in the lesson. Your child should bring a white t-shirt, dark shorts and a change of shoes for their kit. Where possible, please label your child's bag and clothing to ensure items are returned to the children if misplaced. Please also ensure your child does not wear any jewellery on P.E. days.

Website Links

<https://www.topmarks.co.uk/>

<http://www.doorwayonline.org.uk/>

<https://www.primarygames.co.uk/pg2/splat/splatsq100.html> - splat square to 100

I am looking forward to working with the children throughout this term and I am eager to see the wonderful work they are going to produce.

Miss Fraser

