

Primary 6 Newsletter - Term 3

2019-20

Dear Parents/Carers,

Happy New Year! We hope that everyone had a lovely holiday and look forward to a very busy term including our upcoming performance with the Scottish Opera.

Maths: Hit the Button should be used frequently to aid rapid recall of all number facts. Why not try having a competition between adult and child to see who wins! This is essential in order to make progress in most areas of the maths curriculum.

Reading: Children will be given a reading book to read at home, we hope you will be able to enjoy reading with your child. Please use the Reading guide if you want to further extend your child's learning at home.

Spelling: We strongly advise you to encourage your child to go on Doorway Speller regularly. They can work their way through the common words as well as picking trickier words and sounds to practise. This is now available on iPads.

Targeted Homework: Extra learning will be sent home if we feel it will be of benefit to your child. We have provided each pupil with a notebook which will detail any important dates.

Some of the areas we are studying this term are:

- **Writing:** Taught writing sessions will continue to focus on 'Talk for Writing', an engaging way of motivating children to write through a number of teacher led and shared learning processes. This term we will focus on Recounts through the novel 'The Amazing Story of Adolphus Tips' by Michael Morpurgo. This story is set in WW2 and links to our topic of Conflict from last term. A recount text can be in the form of a letter or diary entry. Children will continue to be encouraged to read their writing aloud to self-edit with peer support.
- **Reading and Comprehension:** Through a variety of reading books the children will be building their confidence and comprehension skills by working on inferential and evaluative questions. We have attached a list of questions to help you should you wish to ask your child about any book they are reading. In addition to this we will be building vocabulary. 'The Amazing Story of Adolphus Tips' will be read in class alongside our reading books which are book banded to an appropriate level for your child. We will also look at how authors use different techniques to build a story.
- **Numeracy and Mathematics:** This term our main focus will be fractions, percentages and decimals. We will continue to use the mental strategies that children have been taught to help them with their accuracy and depth of learning. We have attached some examples of the learning which we will be doing in class. Mrs Hetherington will be teaching aspects of non-number on a Friday morning – this term she will focus on 2D and 3D shape.
- **HWB:** We will build on our Mindfulness techniques learned in previous terms as well as focusing on our Paths unit of friendship, making friends and dealing with conflict within friendship groups. A letter will go home at a later date regarding Bikeability sessions which will take place towards the end of term.
- **IDL (Inter-Disciplinary Learning):** Through Social Studies, IDL allows cross curricular experiences to enhance the children's learning. It includes a lot of personalisation and choice for the children as the learning is led by them more. They thoroughly enjoyed learning about World War 1 and 2, we will continue with this up to the February weekend. We will then return to our Food and Farming topic as part of the STEM initiative which all schools in the local area will be participating in.

P.E: Our P.E. days continue to be Tuesday and Wednesday. 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. Fitbits and Smart watches are unfortunately not allowed to be worn during PE.

Numeracy and Mathematics

Multiplication and Division

We strongly recommend you continue to use Hit the Button and Top Marks to reinforce times tables.

Fractions, Percentages and Decimals

This is a huge chunk of the children's learning so will be our main focus this term, the aim is for children to link the learning from last term in order to be successful in this area of numeracy.

Some examples to focus on at home should you wish to work with your child on their learning:

• I can mentally \times/\div decimal fractions (tenths) by a single digit, e.g. 3.5×4 or $13.2 \div 4$

• I can find fractions of an amount, e.g. $\frac{2}{3}$ of 12, $\frac{7}{9}$ of 72

• I can convert fractions into decimal fractions and percentages, e.g. $\frac{1}{2} = 0.5 = 50\%$

• I can use mental and written methods to find simple percentages of quantities, e.g. 25% of £16 or 50% of £24

A useful interactive game would be:

https://mathsframe.co.uk/en/resources/resource/120/match_fractions_decimals_and_percentages#.UCdcd2MsCEY