

Primary 3 Newsletter - January 2020

Welcome back everyone! I hope you all had a lovely Christmas and a Happy New Year. I am very happy to return to Baljaffray Primary and I am looking forward to a busy and exciting term 3 with P3. So far the children have redesigned their classroom and enjoying their new learning. This newsletter will give you a summary of what the children will be learning in term 3 and other important reminders.



Literacy

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

For the first half of our term our **writing** will focus on planning and creating journey stories through our Talk for Writing programme. We will also explore the characters and setting in these stories. The children will continue to take part in recount writing where they share their weekly news. You can support them with this by chatting about the events of their weekend before they arrive in school on a Monday. Throughout all genres of writing we will concentrate on using more ambitious vocabulary and using a range of punctuation accurately in our writing.

For the second half of the term, we will be focusing on report writing: planning and writing about topics of interest in our own words and organising information under headings.

For **reading** we will continue to focus on different strategies (reading tools) to read unknown words as well as developing comprehension skills. The children will use a range of programmes such as 'Bug Club' and 'Nessie' 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 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 2'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 learning about
- For technologies, we will be learning to log onto a PC or I-pad, create and save words documents, ...
- **Expressive arts will be delivered through opportunities e.g. topic work.**
- For R.M.E. we will be learning about...
- **Our Health and Wellbeing focuses**
- In P.E. we will be focusing on gymnastics.
- **In French we will be consolidating and building our knowledge from Primary 2.**

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

