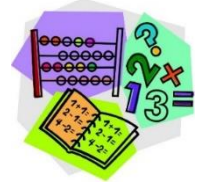




Primary 3 Newsletter – January 2020

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 School and I am looking forward to a busy and exciting term 3 with P3. So far the children have reorganised their classroom and are already working hard learning new concepts. 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. Please encourage your child to read at home. The children have been given passwords and usernames for using Bug Club at home.

For **spelling and phonics** we will continue to progress through our phonics planners, working on different sounds). 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: Adding and subtracting two-digit numbers (with bridging) e.g. $37 + 24$
- Multiplication and Division: using materials/pictorial representations and counting strategies to multiply and divide by 2,3,4,5 and 10.
- 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 using quarter past, quarter to, half past and o'clock. Calculate durations in whole hours and sequence the months of the year.

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 mind-set.

IDL

Our topic this term will be 'Healthy Eating and Sustainability' which will focus around STEM (Science, Technologies, Engineering and Maths).

Other Curricular Areas

Science	Food chains and how animals and plants depend on each other for food. We will design experiments to find out what plants need to grow and develop and look at how different types of energy are important to everyday life.	R.M.E	'How we Treat Others' Easter traditions.
Technology	The conservation of food, materials and resources. P3 will explore a range of simple food preparation techniques when working with food.	Health and Wellbeing	Food and nutrition - P3 will learn how to make healthy meal and snack choices and explore what nutrients are in their food.
ICT	Creating and editing a text, using software to create a digital picture and the importance of internet safety	P.E.	Gymnastics
Expressive Arts	Scottish artists - January. Other topic work opportunities.	French	Consolidating and building our knowledge from Primary 2.

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 everyday as there will be tasks throughout the week involving these books.

When needed, some children will receive written homework. This will be specific to each child and will contain different tasks for them to complete. This will be issued on a Tuesday and should be completed and handed in on a Monday.

P.E. kit and days

Our P.E. days will be **Thursday** and **Friday**. In order for your child to participate fully in P.E. please ensure that they do not wear any jewellery (e.g. ear-rings) on these days. 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.

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

Reminders:

- Please ensure your child comes to school prepared with a pencil, rubber, sharpener and ruler.
- Please do not allow your child to bring or wear smart devices to school (e.g. Apple watches or smart watches).

I am looking forward to a busy and exciting term with P3 and I am eager to see all of the lovely work produced. Thank you for your co-operation,

Mrs. Ferris

