January 2016 Dear Parents/carers,

Happy New Year and welcome back to term 3. I hope you all had a wonderful Christmas and are ready for the busy term ahead of us.

In literacy we will continue with spelling patterns and sounds being taught weekly using Jolly Grammar. Spelling informal assessments will still be on a Friday, so please make sure your child revises and consolidates the spelling during the week.

In numeracy, the class will be exploring and developing the knowledge of time, introducing half past the hour (P3) and quarters (P4) and comparing analogue and digital clocks. Please support your child's learning by encouraging them to read the time while at home by comparing both analogue and digital clocks. We will be looking at 2D and 3D shapes and their properties and also directions . P3 children will be studying place value up to 1000 and P4 children will be expanding their knowledge of multiplication, division and fractions. Both, P3 and P4 children, will continue to consolidate the 2,5 and 10 times tables. I would like to emphasise the importance of learning multiplication facts and developing speed and accuracy in recalling them as this knowledge will undoubtedly lay firm foundations for your child's understanding of much of the number work they will encounter in Primary School and beyond.

Reading will be again on alternative days. Your support at home spending time hearing your child reading and encouraging them to discuss and talk about the book is greatly appreciated. Please note that across all P3 classes, children will continue reading a wider variety of books and genders from different reading schemes. The purpose of this is to further develop comprehension skills, to enrich and extend children's vocabulary by exposing them to less familiar words. Children will also benefit in the variation of genders, such as factual books, poems and plays, in terms of stimulating interests in reading and inspiring their writing.

Spelling and any other homework will be given on Mondays to be handed in the following Monday. Book detectives will be handed on Mondays/Tuesdays for the following week.

The topic this term will be The Vikings. Children will have the opportunity this week to share what they know about The Vikings with the rest of the class and they will also be able to discuss what they would like to learn and how. This topic will provide a fantastic opportunity for learning historical facts and also to develop a range of skills across the curriculum. If your child has anything related to The Vikings that they would like to bring in to contribute to the topic, please encourage him/her to do so.

Term 3:

PE- Tuesday (Mr Waz), Wednesday/Thursday - please remember indoor shoes and gym kit

Science- Thursday (Mrs Middleton)

Art - Thursday fortnightly (Miss Thomson) - please bring an apron or an old t-shirt

Library - P4 on Wednesday fortnightly and P3 every Friday - please remember to return library books

Please note that on the 12th and 26th of January, Aberdeen Football Club will be delivering activities to P3/4. Also P4 will be swimming on a Wednesday from the 25th of January to the 8th of March.

If you have any questions or you would like to discuss anything with me, please don't hesitate to contact me via homework diary, catch me in the playground or phone the office to arrange a suitable time.

Kind regards,

Mrs Ferrero