**Primary 1**

**September 2017**

Dear Parents,

I hope you all had a great summer and managed to have some time off in the holidays to enjoy some family time together. It was lovely to welcome the children into primary one at Fishermoss after the summer break, they all looked very smart and grown up in their new uniforms. The children are learning about the routines of school and are enjoying their experiences both within and beyond classroom. The school golden rules have been discussed with children and can be found in the homework diary, please take time to discuss these with your child and sign the page.

Children are already beginning to attempt to independently select their lunch choice, your support with helping to make sure your child is aware of their school lunch choice or whether they are home or packed lunch is appreciated.

All children have now brought home their green folders and diaries, please try to remind children to take these each day and to check for any letters or homework that may have been issued. We will check diaries each day for any communication from yourselves.

This term we will be exploring the topics of All about me and Our School which will provide us with lots of cross-curricular opportunities as we begin our learning journey in P1. This will enable us to share important information about ourselves and get to know the school and our new classroom environment. We will also get to know the adults within the school and learn about their roles. Throughout the year we will also be looking at how our seasons change, this will include studying the weather, living things in our environment and looking at harvest.

This term we are lucky to have Mrs Robertson, our P.S.A., with us to help support both classes. Our specialists this term are:

Wednesday Science Mrs Middleton

Thursday Music Mrs Young

The children will also have PE on Wednesday and Friday. We have not yet had PE in the hall as we have been enjoying the outdoors. Weather permitting, we will be taking the children outside as much as possible this term so please ensure they have a jacket for cooler days and the changeable Scottish weather. However, if you have not already done so, can you please ensure that children have their named PE kit in school for days that it is not possible for us to get outside. It may also be beneficial for children to have welly boots on wet or muddy days, we may even use these days for learning experiences outdoors too!

It would be helpful if you could ensure that all of your child’s belongings are named, to make it easier to find out who missing items belong to.

**Literacy**

We have already been having lots of fun learning our Jolly Phonics sounds through songs, crafts and outdoor activities. Children will have homework every week to help them revise the sound and support the formation of the letter. Your support at this stage is so important so thank you for the time you have taken to help your child with this.

Children have already taken home their first reading books and are getting to know the characters within them, thank you for the support the children are receiving at home with this. A short time spent on this and learning the characters each day will really help your child build the foundations of reading. Through questioning, the picture books they are taking home will help to develop vital comprehension skills before they move on to books containing words. The example questions within the support leaflets, which are sent home with each book, will help you support your child with this at home.

Children will visit the school library every Friday. They will have the opportunity to browse and select a book of their choice to share at home. Please help to remind children to return the books every Friday to ensure they have the opportunity to select another book.

**Numeracy**

This term we will be focusing on numbers within 10, working on formation and recognising the number in a variety of ways. We will also be looking at days of the week and investigating patterns. To support your child with this you could make patterns with Lego or look for simple patterns in everyday items such as clothes, wall or wrapping paper and items in the outdoor environment. Please refer to the leaflet that was sent home within P1 packs as to how you can support your child’s numeracy development further at home.

**Dates for your Diary**

**Sponsored Walk** Monday 25th September

**Parent Consultations** Wednesday 27th September, 6pm – 8.30pm

**Parent Consultations** Thursday 28th September, 3.45pm – 6.15pm

**Curriculum Evening** Thursday 2nd November, 6pm – 7pm

If you have any worries or concerns, please do not hesitate to catch us in the playground or let us know by either putting a note in the homework diary or contacting the school office.

Thank you for your support and we look forward to working together this year.

Best Wishes,

Mrs McDonald and Miss Sang