**P4 Term 2 Newsletter**

Welcome back! I hope you all had a nice break and that you are ready for another busy term.

Here is some information you will hopefully find useful.

Please could you make sure that your child has the following items in school every day:

- Indoor shoes

- PE kit (black shorts and a white top)

- Water bottle

- Homework diary

- A painting apron or old T-shirt

Literacy

We will continue using Jolly Grammar to further develop spelling, comprehension and grammar skills to support reading and writing. We will also continue using some of the "Big Writing" approaches in order to encourage children to make their writing more interesting by adding descriptive vocabulary and using punctuation correctly. Listening and talking will be supported through different activities such as Show and Tell, groups presentations related to our topic and our class novel "The World's Worst Children 2" by David Walliams. Literacy achievements will be celebrated regularly with Star Writers certificates.

Numeracy

This term, we'll be consolidating our addition to 100 through problem solving. Children will also be learning different strategies to help them with subtraction up to 100. We will also continue working with money aiming to recognise the value of coins and notes up to £10 and also use their addition and subtraction skills to look at cost and change to £1. All these skills would come very handy during Children In Need day as the children will be organising and running their charity stalls, so they will have to organise costs, prices and give change.

Topic

Our topic this term will continue to be The Romans. We'll be looking into The Romans’ daily life: their jobs, how they entertained themselves, their food and habits, the life of Roman children and we will compare all to our lives nowadays. Through different topic activities the children will have the opportunity to develop skills for life and work, alongside knowledge and understanding.

Golden Time

Golden Time will be on Wednesdays. This is a reward for keeping the Golden Rules and is also a time for social learning, an opportunity to try new games, to spend time with other classes and to share with peers. Children can bring in a toy or game to share during Golden Time. However, as this is a time for social interaction and communication, no electronic devices/screens please.

Homework

New spelling words/sound patterns will be given to the children every Monday. There is no formal spelling tests as such, however the challenge will be for the children to use their spelling correctly throughout all activities every day. Therefore it is an ongoing assessment. A list with a variety of spelling activities/ideas to practise spelling at home will be sent with your child shortly. Regularly "Talk Homework" will be sent home on a Monday. This will normally be related to our extended writing lessons on Wednesdays and it gives your children the opportunity to converse with you about their work and allows them 'thinking time' to consider what they need to write about that week. I would greatly appreciate if you could engage in this activity with your children, as it really helps their confidence in writing. Reading will be on Mondays and Wednesdays or Tuesdays and Thursdays. This will be followed up with reading to be completed at home. Any other relevant homework such as maths, grammar, book detective, etc... will be sent on a Monday and should be completed and returned on/by the following Monday.

We also rely on you to consider some additional activities at home to encourage your child’s development and progress through learning, especially if your child has been absent or in the eventuality of adverse weather conditions and school is required to close. Here are some activities your child might be able to do:

* Continue to read for enjoyment any books you have at home or that you have taken out from the library. You could choose a favourite book you have read, or had read by you by an adult. You can record this on the **Book Passport** issued at school and then we’ll also record it in class in our very own hungry caterpillar!
* Don’t ever forget that practising your spelling words, number bonds and multiplication tables is always a good idea!
* Look around you while you are walking in the street…how many describing words (adjectives) can you list? How many action words (verbs)?
* Help your parents buying small items. Can you pay with the exact amount?
* Keep a diary to write highlights of your weekend, holidays or achievements.
* How many winter words can you think of? Can you write an acrostic poem with them?
* Make a fantastic model with Lego, blocks, K’nex, junk etc. Then draw it carefully to show to the class.
* Think up your own adventure for the characters in your reading books to have.

There are also lots of websites that are full of great ideas and activities:

* <http://www.sumdog.com>
* http:// glow.rmunify.com
* http://topmarks.co.uk
* <http://www.crickweb.co.uk>
* <http://www.bbc.co.uk/schools>
* <http://www.familylearning.org.uk>
* <http://www.tutpup.com>
* <http://www.crayola.com>
* <http://www.spellingcity.com/>

This term:

Monday - Assembly

Tuesday – PE (Social dancing)

Wednesday - Golden Time

Art

Library (fortnightly)

Thursday - Science (The body )

PE (Social dancing)

Friday – Show and Tell

ICT

French (Mrs Ruxton)

Dates for your diary:

**November**

Wed 1st - PSA Halloween Discos

Thu 2nd – Curriculum Event 6-7pm

Fri 10th Nov-Rotary Shoe Box Appeal-last day to return boxes to school

Mon 13th & Tue 14th - Staff In-Service Days-School closed to pupils.

Fri 17 th -Children in Need Dress as You Please Day & fundraising class stalls

Friday 24th - PSA School Christmas Fayre 6:30-8:30pm

**December**

Tue 5th -Thu 7th PSA Community Santa Run

Thu 14th –Red Nursery class & Primary 1 Concert to Parents-2:30pm-details to follow

Fri 15th – Blue Nursery class & Primary 1 Concert to Parents-9:30am-details to follow

Tue 19th -Primary 1 to Primary 7 Fishermoss School Christmas outing to Cinema-details to follow

Wed 20th -School Christmas Lunch-details to follow

Thu 21st - End of term Christmas Church Service 9:30am-Portlethen Parish Church

Fri 22nd - Last day of term Mon 25th Dec to Fri 5 th Jan-Christmas Holidays!

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

Best regards,

Mrs Ferrero