Primary 2 Newsletter – Term 3

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Dear Parents/Carers

Welcome back! We hope you had a fantastic Christmas and New Year and that our pupils are returning refreshed and ready to learn. We have another busy term ahead of us!

Our Weekly timetable

There are at present no significant changes to our timetable. Here is a reminder for your reference.

* Assemblies will be held on a Monday afternoon
* Mrs Ruxton will continue to teach French on a Monday
* P.E sessions will be on Tuesdays and Thursdays
* Art sessions will often link in with our Topic work this Term and will therefore not take place on a set day
* Golden Time will be on Friday afternoon.

Homework

Homework tasks will continue to vary from week to week. Reading will still be set as homework two or three times a week. We are continually monitoring and assessing the development of every pupil’s reading skills. Please remember that the reading books your child takes home to share are only one small part of the reading “package.”

As well as looking for fluency, expression and accurate tracking when reading these books, pupils need to develop a number of related skills to become confident and competent readers. These include being able to decode unknown phonetic words through sounding out and blending and being able to sight recognise words that do not spell phonetically. Pupils are also required to apply all of these skills when reading pieces of text outwith their class reading book. Finally, the level of verbal and written comprehension each child displays needs to match with the level they are reading at. It is so important that pupils can process and understand what they have read, not just read the words on the page.

Please refer to our guide on how to support your child with their reading. If you need another copy of this or any further guidance please let us know.

For the pupils who receive spelling homework, this will continue to be issued on a Monday to learn and practise for Fridays.

Numeracy

The focus this term will be working with numbers to 20, recognising, writing, partitioning and ordering these numbers, and counting amounts of up to 20 items. Some pupils will be adding and subtracting within 20 and may begin working with numbers beyond 20. The pupils will have a variety of resources available to help them solve mathematical problems, however, we will still be encouraging them to develop their ability to recall basic number facts, particularly number bonds to 10 and 20.

We appreciate your support with this. [www.sumdog.com](http://www.sumdog.com) and hit the button ([www.topmarks.co.uk](http://www.topmarks.co.uk)) are good resources that can help motivate and engage your child with their learning. We will be continuing with Big Maths weekly challenges and that will hopefully help to encourage rapid recall of number facts.

Literacy

During this term the pupils will continue to develop their writing skills and we will be encouraging all of the children to work as independently as possible. They will learn about spelling words containing magic “e” and how to use past and future tense when writing. We will continue to revisit alphabetical order, nouns, adjectives and spelling of common words.

They will have opportunities to develop their listening skills and ability to ask questions relevant to their learning during reading sessions, mat and circle time. In order to encourage your child’s comprehension skills, we would be grateful if you can continue asking them to make predictions about what they are reading, to summarise the main idea of a section or page, to describe what they think is happening-based on the illustration-prior to reading the text. You could do this together using your child’s school reading book, library book or any other story that you share.

Topic

We will be moving on from Day and Night to Castles and Scotland where we will be learning about famous Scottish castles and Scottish culture, language and customs.

Helpful Reminders

Please provide your child with a named P.E kit in appropriate bag. The kit should consist of a pair of shorts and a t-shirt. No football strips please.

Please ensure your child has a named pair of indoor shoes to change into when coming in from outdoors.

If you wish, please send in an old oversized t-shirt or art apron for your child to wear during art and craft activities.

As always, if you have any questions or queries please don’t hesitate to catch either of us in the morning or at the end of a day.

Many thanks,

Mrs Bryson and Mrs Cameron.