**P1/2A - Term 2 Newsletter**

Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome back! I hope you all managed to find some time to enjoy the October break. Hopefully the children are refreshed and ready for the very busy term we have ahead of us!

**Weekly Timetable**

There are no significant changes to our timetable this term. However, here is a reminder just for reference.

Assembly Monday afternoon

Gym Sessions Monday and Thursday

Golden Time Friday morning

This term we will also continue to work with the following teachers:

Thursdays Outdoor Learning Miss Sang

Friday RME/French Mrs Muir

To accommodate for the ever-changing Scottish weather, please ensure that children have suitable footwear and a warm jacket for their outdoor learning sessions. If there are new winter items coming into school, such as wellies, gloves hats etc. it would be helpful if you could also ensure that these items are named if possible. This will help to ensure that any stray items are returned.

**Homework**

Homework tasks will continue to vary from week to week. Last term it was wonderful to hear that children had been discussing their topics at home. Thank you for your continued support with discussions and allowing them to bring in topic related stories, artwork, songs etc to share.

For some children, reading will still be set as homework two or three times a week.

**Topic**

This term we will be continuing to discuss seasons and look at autumn/winter festivals and celebrations. In addition, we will also be looking at items from the past through our new topic Granny’s Attic. Preparations for our nativity performance are already underway. Very soon some children will come home with words to learn for the nativity and your help in supporting them with this would be appreciated. We are lucky that we have lots of costumes available to us, however, you may be asked to help provide some items from home but please do not feel that you must go out and buy anything special. The nativity will be taking place during the afternoon of Thursday 12th, more details will follow shortly.

**Literacy**

In P1 we are continuing to work on our Jolly Phonics and our ability to work on our ability to recognise a range of sounds. A short time working on these daily will really help your child. We will also begin to encourage the children to blend known sounds together to make simple 3 letter words such as s-a-t. It would be great if you could also encourage your child to blend sounds together to make simple 3 letter words, as well as looking for words and sounds both at home and when you are out and about. Your child will really enjoy success as they learn to read and create more and more words.

During this term the pupils will continue to develop their writing skills. P1 pupils will be encouraged to develop their vocabulary, share and record their ideas in writing lessons. P2 pupils will learn about common and proper nouns, pronouns, adjectives and verbs. They will be encouraged to apply this newly acquired knowledge into their writing.

They will have opportunities to develop their listening skills and their ability to ask questions relevant to their learning. They will also be developing their comprehension and prediction skills. You can support this at home by asking questions about their reading books/story books and getting them to explain their answers.

The children will continue to 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 their books every Friday, this will ensure that they are able to select another one.

**Numeracy**

This term Primary 1 will continue to focus on numbers within 10, working on formation and developing/extending their understanding of number bonds. Some children will also begin work on addition. We will also continue to look at, and identify, 2D and 3D shape. Your child’s numeracy development can be encouraged through discussion during visits to the supermarket, counting cars on journeys to and from school, baking, playing games with a dice, dominoes or other fun learning games.

In P2 we will be consolidating and extending the pupils’ understanding of number bonds, addition to 20, days of the week and months of the year. We will also be developing our understanding of mathematical language linking to addition and subtraction. Some pupils will also begin to explore numbers beyond 20. 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. As always, your help and support with this is appreciated. [www.topmarks.co.uk](http://www.topmarks.co.uk) is a great resource to support children in their learning. In addition, all children will shortly be coming home with a login and password for Sumdog, [www.sumdog.com](http://www.sumdog.com), which is another wonderful resource.

All pupils will be learning about money, identifying and naming coins from 1p to £2 and adding up small values of coins. This will be of benefit to them when they come to spend their own money during our Children in Need event.

**Children in Need**

On Friday 15th November we will be supporting Children in Need, this event will enable all children to dress as they please and develop a variety of skills whilst communicating with others and deciding on how to spend their money at the many stalls. Primary 2 pupils will be responsible for running our class stall, taking it in turns whilst other groups go around the other stalls.

One of the things the children suggested for raising money was to sell old or unwanted toys at their class stall. We would really appreciate any donations of old or unused toys that are in good condition that we could sell. Please be aware that they may be put up for sale quite cheaply. Any donations of toys should be brought to school on Thursday 14th November so that they can be sorted and priced up for the stall. Thank you in advance for your help.

**Dates for the Diary**

**November**

* In-Service Days (closed to pupils) - Monday 18th and Tuesday 19th
* Rotary Shoe Box Appeal – last day to return boxes to school - Thursday 7th
* Children in Need – Dress as you please and Fundraising class stalls - Friday 15th

**December**

* Nativity Performance – Thursday 12th - afternoon (details to follow)
* P1-P7 Fishermoss School Cinema Outing - Tuesday 17th (details to follow)
* School Christmas Lunch - Wednesday 18th (details to follow)
* End of term Christmas Church Service - Thursday 19th, 9:30am at Portlethen Parish Church
* Last day of term - Friday 20th

It was lovely to meet with you all during the parent consultations and at our show and tell curriculum event. Thank you for your continued support, it really is appreciated. As always if there are ever any concerns please do not hesitate to get in touch using the school diary or by contacting the school office.

Best Wishes,

Mrs McDonald