January 2020

Dear Parents/Carers,

A very Happy New Year to you all. We hope you all had a lovely break at Christmas and were able to enjoy some rest and relaxation amongst all the festivities. The planning and preparation seemed to last for ages and then it is all over and we are watching for the first signs of Spring. This is a very busy term as usual and hopefully will not be interrupted by the dreaded snow.

Our reading will continue to be taught twice a week, either on Monday/ Thursday or Tuesday/Friday and will always be accompanied by a book detective task. The book detective tasks can be found at the start of the class diary if you are unsure what is required. Other homework will also be given out as and when and children will know when they are expected to return it to school. Children are responsible for making sure homework is completed and handed in on time however we would appreciate if you would encourage them to do this. It is difficult to please everyone when it comes to the amount of homework set, however children can always benefit from revising times tables, trying to beat the clock at how fast they can answer a set times table. They could research aspects of their class topic, do an extra book detective activity, take an interest in current affairs through watching Newsround or reading the paper or put their maths skills to the test and try some cooking or baking. They all have a log on for Sumdog, which is a maths programme testing all concepts that have been taught in class. They could log into this and test their maths skills which are all aimed at their level of ability and they could win prizes for their Sumdog house. We have different activities at the end of this letter for your child to try if you feel they need an extra challenge or you are looking for something different to do with them. These can also be used by pupils should school have to close due to inclement weather. We do have a class Glow page where they can also access this letter and activities suggested.

At the start of this term we will be preparing for the annual Burns Supper. Pupils will have songs and words to learn as homework and we appreciate your help in encouraging them to learn these. They will have the opportunity to perform this to you on Monday 27th January at 2.30pm in the PE hall. We look forward to seeing you all then if you can manage along and the children are all very excited for this event, having written and delivered their personal invites to members of the local community.

For our project this term we are looking at India. This topic will have us researching the geography of the country. Aspects of our topic will also be the stimulus for our language, art, PE and Fairtrade work.

Library this term is every second Tuesday and we will also be partaking in Bounce-back activities on Tuesdays, looking at how we see ourselves and what we can do to build up our self-esteem and resilience.

PE this term will be on Tuesday morning and Thursday afternoon. We will be looking at jog Scotland activities, Indian Dancing and circuit training. All pupils will need shorts and shoes on those days and please encourage them to bring these.

Our maths this term will be covering lots of different concepts. Primary 7 will be looking at equations, negative numbers and fractions, decimals and percentages and how the three connect to each other.

Our written work will link largely to our topic but we will also focus on aspects of writing that the children need to focus on, to help up-level their work, such as expanding their vocabulary and improving their sentence structure.

Please encourage your child to always have indoor shoes, a sharp pencil and a rubber.

We look forward to welcoming you to our Assembly in three weeks.

 Of course, if you wish to contact us at any time please either pop a note in the home/ school diary or call the school office and we will get back to you at the earliest convenience.

Kind Regards

Linda Dawson/Yvonne Sayer

 Extra Home Activity Ideas

* **Plan a lesson** to teach your classmates about one aspect of your current topic. You can use any resources that you would usually use in the classroom.
* **Spend time learning your times tables** that you feel less confident in.
* **Make up some tricky word maths problems for your friends to try** .
* **Visit the maths website below**.
* **Create a leaflet about how to stay safe in the dark, in the snow, using your bike or walking to school using prior knowledge.**
* **Write an acrostic poem** about any subject to share with your class.
* **Read two more chapters of your reading book** or any novel you are reading for The First Minister’s reading challenge.
* **Create a word search using topic vocabulary.** Use a dictionary and/or Thesaurus to helpyou find new words.
* **Take a photo of a scene** and bring to share with your class mates. Be prepared to talk about it.
* Play hangman or make a wordsearch using your spelling words.

**Possible websites to visit**

[www.sumdog.com](http://www.sumdog.com)



www.fuelthebrain.com