P1M - Term 2 Newsletter - November 2022

Dear Parents/Carers,

I hope you all managed to enjoy some family time during the October break. After the excitement of Halloween and Bonfire night the children are settling back into school and are ready for a very busy term at Fishermoss.

Preparations for our nativity performance are already underway. Some of you may have already heard some of the songs we have been learning over the last few weeks, if not then don't worry you will soon become familiar with them. Our nativity will be taking place on Friday 16th December, and we are delighted that we can once again welcome visitors back into school to watch our performance, more details about our nativity will be sent home in the coming weeks.

This term we have also welcomed Mrs Kiraly, a student teacher, into our class. Mrs Kiraly will be working alongside us for 5 weeks during this term and will return to complete her placement with us in March.

Weekly Timetable

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

Assembly	Tuesday afternoon
P.E Sessions	Tuesday and Thursday

This term the children will also be continuing to work with the following teachers:

Thursday PE/Music Miss Mellis

Mrs Muir will also support us on a Monday, working with individuals and small groups of children to both support and extend learning when required.

We will also try to get the children outdoors most days. To accommodate for the ever-changing Scottish weather, please ensure that children have suitable clothing for their outdoor learning sessions.

Clothing

If there are new winter items coming into school, such as jackets, wellies, gloves, hats etc. it would be helpful if you could ensure that these items are named. You wouldn't believe how many lonely gloves we end up with at this time of the year and this will help to ensure that any stray items can find their way home.

As the weather is beginning to change you may wish to pop a spare pair of socks or trousers into your child's bag for them to use, we often get wet feet and trousers after break and lunchtimes when the puddles appear! We are lucky to have some spare clothes within school that we can use if your child needs to change during the day, however we only have a small supply, therefore it would be appreciated if you could ensure that any borrowed socks or clothing are returned to school.

Topic

This term we will be continuing to discuss seasons and look at autumn/winter festivals and celebrations.

Preparations for our nativity performance will also be a large focus too and will provide the children with a range of cross-curricular opportunities. Some children may soon 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, such as t-shirts or tights, but please do not feel that you must go out and buy anything special.

Literacy

We are continuing to work on phonics and on our ability to recognise a range of sounds. A set of sound cards (s,a,t,i,p,n) was recently sent home to support your child with revision. You may find it beneficial to use the sound cards as flashcards or to play games such as snap or pairs. They could also be used to sort items they find around the house, beginning with the range of sounds, into different sets or used to create simple cvc words such as tin if you feel your child is at that stage. A short time working on these daily, alongside any new sounds, will really help your child progress. Further sets of sound cards will be sent home as each set of sounds are completed.

It has been great to hear how much the children have enjoyed taking home their first reading books with extended stories. We are continuing with wordless books and will be sending home books with words as children are ready. It would be appreciated if you could also continue to support your child to learn the words on the word walls that have been sent home, this will really help their progressing throughout the reading scheme.

Regardless of whether your child has wordless books or books with words, asking them questions will really help them begin to question what they read and develop their own storytelling skills, for example - What can you see? Why do you think that happened? I can see the trees are bent over and have swirly lines near them, what do you think that means? Asking your child to predict what they think will happen next, before turning the page, and asking them to re-tell the story afterwards will also help to develop vital comprehension skills.

Numeracy

This term Primary 1 will continue to focus on developing/extending their understanding of number within 10. We will also continue to look at pattern, shape and begin to work on addition. Your child's numeracy development can be encouraged through discussion during visits to the supermarket, during time spent outdoors, counting cars on journeys to and from school, baking, playing games with a dice, dominoes or other fun learning games. www.topmarks.co.uk is a great resource and the children enjoy playing the games in school.

Dates for the Diary

November

- Children in Need – Dress as you please day – Wednesday 16th
- In-Service Day – School closed to pupils – Thursday 17th and Friday 18th

December

- Christmas Fayre – Friday 2nd
- Nativity Performance – Friday 16th at 10am – Further details to follow
- Christmas outing to Cinema – Wednesday 21st
- End of term Church Service at Portlethen Parish Church – Thursday 22nd
- Last day of term – Friday 23rd

It was lovely to meet with you all during our recent parent consultations and welcome everyone back into the building for the first time in a few years. As always if there are ever any concerns, please do not hesitate to get in touch using the school diary, by contacting the school office or catching us at the end of the school day. Thank you for your continued support, it really is appreciated.

Best Wishes,

Mrs McDonald