**Primary 3 - Term 2 November 2023.**

Dear Parents,

We've had much excitement at the start of this term, with Halloween and Bonfire night and this busy start to the term will continue with preparation for children in need fund raising.

We have been sharing ideas for activities and discussing how to price fairly whilst still making a profit for charity. The event also gives us opportunity to practise **numeracy** skills in coin recognition and money handling. As we continue learning money skills, please take every opportunity to allow children to handle coins, for example up to a pound, paying for small purchases, whilst discussing which coins to select and if there will be change. Furthermore, discussion around selecting the largest and least number of coins would also be beneficial; For example, 25P being made with two coins, as opposed to using 10p’s or lesser coins.

Continuing in **maths**, we will be formally consolidating the two, five and 10 times tables and it would be very supportive to encourage children to not only practise these, but to carry on regular counting on in twos, fives and tens. Division will follow with children encouraged to make links between multiplication and division and to understand the importance of learning their times tables so that they can rapidly recall these facts. In **time**, regular referencing an analogue clock on the hour and half past the hour will also support children's awareness of time and their understanding when it's formally taught later next year.

In **social science**, we will be continuing our current history topic, Ancient Egypt.

In **literacy,** we will continue with weekly spelling for home practise to consolidate recognition and understanding of the spelling patterns / sounds taught weekly. If you can, please extend your child's understanding by sharing different words with the same sound and spelling pattern and contrasting them with words that sound the same but have a different spelling pattern; for example flower and flour, encouraging children to spot their focus sound in their reading books.

**Reading** will continue as in term 1. This term we will introduce **Book Detective** tasks to support reading comprehension (please refer to the start of homework diaries for an explanation of these activities). As with any homework activity, please be reassured that these are not assessments and therefore they should not cause anxiety or pressure but instead be seen as an opportunity for you to share and support your child’s learning. Your support in dedicating time to hearing and sharing reading homework, sounding out and discussing tricky words in context as well as questioning and discussing children’s books generally is, as always, invaluable.

**Weekly Timetable
Monday:** PE with Mrs Storey
**Tuesday:** French – Ms Ruxton
**Wednesday:** Assembly **Thursday**: ICT
**Friday:** Library, PE, Golden Time

* Please remember to discuss lunch menu choices.
* Bring a secure closing water-bottle
* Wear shoes children can tie independently
* Take green folders daily
* Label all clothing and property

Remember to catch me in the playground or message via email as necessary.

**Dates for the Diary**

* **Friday 10th November** - Rotary Shoe Box Appeal-last day to return boxes to school.
* **Wednesday 15th November** - Children in Need - Dress as You Please Day -Further details to follow.
* **Thursday 16th & Friday 17th** **November** - Staff In-Service Days-School closed to pupils.
* **Saturday 2nd December** - PSC Christmas Fayre @ Fishermoss- details to follow.
* **Tuesday 19th December** - Primary 1 to 7 Christmas outing to the Cinema-details to follow.
* **Wednesday 20th December** - End of term Christmas Church Service 9:30am-Portlethen Parish Church
* **Wednesday 20th** **December** - School Christmas Lunch-details to follow.
* **Friday 22nd December** - Last day of term 2
* **Monday 8th January 2024**-Term 3 begins.

Kind regards,

 Mrs Muir