**Term 3 Newsletter – January 2024**

Dear Parents/Carers,

Happy New Year! I hope you all managed to enjoy some time together during the holidays, it was lovely hearing all the children’s stories when they returned. It is hard to believe that we are already into our third term.

**Weekly Timetable**

**P.E Sessions** Tuesday and Thursday

**Assembly** Tuesday afternoon

**Library** Friday - Children will independently select a book from the school library to share at home. Please note that books are to be returned the following Friday to enable a new book to be selected.

This term the children will also be continuing to work with the following teachers for short periods of time on the following days:

Thursday Mrs Rennie

Friday Miss Anderson (every 2nd week)

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. We have been loving getting out in the snowy weather that we have been having, however sometimes it does mean that we end up with wet feet. If possible, it would be great if children could bring a spare pair of socks with them in their bag so they can change if required. We do have a small amount of spare clothes at school, however at this time of year we go through our supply quite quickly.

**Topic**

For topic this term we will continue to build on our understanding of Seasons, looking at our current Season, Winter. In addition, we will also have a focus on birds, leading into the RSPB big bird watch. Through our bird topic, we will also learn more about living and non-living things, food chains, habitats and growth. Following our big bird watch we will begin our topic Granny’s Attic, where we will have a focus on toys. We will discover what toys children used to play with and how technology has changed what toys are like now. We will also continue to look at festivals and celebrations during this term too. As Burns night is fast approaching, we will also be exploring Scottish poems, songs, stories and dances.

**Literacy**

For our P1’s we will continue to introduce a new sound each week and revisit sounds previously covered. Phonics homework will continue to go home on a weekly basis. Please continue to spend time learning these sounds and encouraging your child to identify sounds that they hear or see while out and about, this will really help to develop their understanding.

The children will continue to work within our reading scheme and reading will be sent home regularly. Sets of new words to learn will be sent home to support your child’s learning as they progress. If your child finds these words tricky to learn or remember, ask them to look for clues or familiar sounds, look at what sound the word begins with, the shape or length of the word. Try to have fun looking for the words in books, newspapers, posters, menus, shops signs etc. You could also play games like matching pairs, snap and bingo to help reinforce their learning. The children might also like to have a go at writing and copying the words using sand or mud, fancy pens, paint, chalk, shaving foam or even snow!

P2’s will continue to focus on joined sounds such as sh and ch and blending sounds together. Phonics spelling homework will continue to be sent home, and uploaded to our Google Classroom, each week to be returned the following Monday. Reading will also be taught and sent home twice each week.

For both P1 & P2, we will continue with weekly writing sessions and a variety of other literacy activities to consolidate and build on their understanding.

**Numeracy**

This term P1 will begin to focus on addition within 10 and data handling, which will help us to record and display our findings during the RSPB birdwatch.

P2 will continue to explore addition and subtraction within 20, exploring different strategies to help us work with growing independence. We will also focus on data handling and build on our understanding from P1.

**Dates for your Diary**

**February**

Thurs 8th – Mon 12th Mid Term Holiday – School closed to pupils and staff

Tues 13th & Wed 14th In-Service days – School closed to pupils

Wed 21st Fishermoss Show and Tell Curriculum Event – 4pm-6.30pm (Further information to follow)

Wed 28th P1 - School Dental Inspections

**March**

Fri 1st School Photographer

Fri 15th Comic Relief Red Nose Day – Dress as you please

Thurs 28th Last day of Term 3

Please continue to ensure that all items brought into school are named, as, in theory, they are more likely to find their way home. It would also be appreciated if any borrowed clothing is returned to school for others to use.

As always, if there are any issues or concerns then please write a note in the homework diary, get in touch through the school office or catch me at the end of the day. Thank you so much for your continued help and support, it is greatly appreciated.

Wishing you all a happy, healthy 2024.

Mrs McDonald