



Primary 3, 4 Newsletter: Term 2

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Welcome to our termly 'Class Newsletter' which aims to give you a little more information about what your child will be doing this term.

Welcome	Homework	This term we aim to...
<p>Welcome back everyone! I hope you've all enjoyed the October break, whether at home or away.</p> <p>It was great to meet most of you virtually before the holidays. Despite the abrupt ending, the system seemed to work well and I hope you found the meeting a useful progress update.</p> <p>Week one has been and gone in a flash! Our focus, as you may know, was on healthy eating. We learned about the Eatwell Guide, which supports us to make healthy choices from each of 5 food groups. Using this knowledge, each class was set a challenge to create items for a healthy lunchbox. They worked in groups within the class to design either a healthy snack, fruit salad, smoothie, or sandwich. Working together they created their items, and everyone was offered a taste. It was a great opportunity to try something new; some children were surprised to enjoy foods they believed they didn't like.</p> <p>Week two has been another busy one with a virtual Mandarin Chinese session, visit from the SSPCA and observing a Silence for Remembrance Day.</p>	<p>Homework jotters have been updated and re-issued with spelling words for this term. You'll find each word list is dated week beginning at the top. I have also included a spelling menu in the front of the jotter. Your child should write each word at least twice in neat handwriting and then choose one of the activities for further practise. Please remember that a few minutes' practise each day is more effective than one long session once a week.</p> <p>Reading books have been issued and group reading is ongoing. Homework will be issued regularly – page numbers to read will be recorded in the homework diary. Please take some time to hear your child reading at home. I've given each pupil their own Reading Strategies Bookmark which will remind them what to do when they come across words they aren't familiar with. I hope they will find them helpful.</p> <p>Maths tasks will be issued regularly and will combine basic skills practise with some classwork consolidation. I'll signpost a variety of tasks, mostly web based. Please check Google Classroom for these.</p>	<p>Our topic this term is Materials and Sustainability. We have started off this week with a focus on COP 26, learning why it's so important our world leaders act urgently. Considering our own impact on the planet, we'll think of what we can do to help. We'll investigate properties of different materials and conduct a variety of experiments and challenges to find out more.</p> <p>Our numeracy focus this term is addition and subtraction. We'll be learning a variety of different strategies for quick, efficient calculations. Continuing with our mastery approach, the children will be supported to select from a range of concrete and pictorial resources whilst developing a range of mental strategies. Alongside, we'll continue to revise and consolidate basic number facts to achieve fluency.</p> <p>Practical maths this term, led by Mrs Thomson, will be mixed measure. The children will experience a range of practical and written activities to practise measuring length and height, volume and weight whilst learning the correct units of measure for each.</p> <p>Everyone has settled well into their Spelling programmes, completing routine activities with increasing independence.</p>

Mrs Johnston

	RMPS	Handwriting
Mon		
Tues		*
Wed	*	
Thurs		
Fri		

Timetable

	P.E	Spelling H / W	Mrs Thomson	Gardening
Mon		*		
Tues				
Wed	*			
Thurs			*	*
Fri			*	

Reading groups continue into this term and will be heard in class at least twice weekly. Each group will work on a range of written tasks designed to support the development of comprehension skills.

We'll work on reading strategies in our groups so that we are able to tackle new and unfamiliar vocabulary when we come across it.

Weekly Big Writing continues – we expect to complete 5 pieces this term which will cover a range of genre. We will be doing some creative writing as well as functional writing alongside our topic.

PE / Gardening

Our PE will now be indoors as we are doing gymnastics. Please have your child dress in comfortable leggings or tracksuit bottoms, along with school polo shirt and sweatshirt on Wednesdays.

On gardening days children should come warmly dressed in suitable footwear for muddy conditions (preferably wellies!). Depending on the weather, it is likely that only a group at a time will go out to the garden as we have fewer jobs at this time of year and the garden gets very muddy.

French –

This term we are going to be learning French vocabulary for weather and seasons. We'll be adding to our class routine commands and instructions, too. Remember the [Northern Alliance Family Learning](#) site is available for family language learning at home – it's a great way to introduce a new language at home.

As always, please do get in touch at any time via the usual channels should you have any queries. Best wishes and thank you for your support,

Mrs McKerrow and Mrs Thomson.