



Primary 4/5 Newsletter: Term 3

Confident Individuals ❖ Successful Learners ❖ Effective Contributors ❖ Responsible Citizens

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

Welcome

Happy New Year to you all! I do hope you all enjoyed the Christmas break after a very busy end to the term. It was lovely to hear the children talking excitedly about their holiday fun (and presents, of course!) when we returned to school last Monday.

We enjoyed a whole-school collaborative learning week on our return, with the usual Term 3 focus on literacy. In their collaborative groups the children worked to decide on a topic of interest; voting for their favourite before working to plan, research for and create a factual text using the book creator app on the iPads. This meant that all the children could contribute to the finished book – some drew pictures which were photographed and uploaded while others researched and made notes about specific subtopics. The work was then combined and edited on the app. The children have used the app before, so they really hit the ground running. It was great to see the children working so well together; everyone was fully engaged in the whole process. At the end of the week they were able to share their learning in a presentation to the other groups.

Homework

Spelling

This term's spelling words and task grids have been added to the homework jotters. Please practise a little each day, submitting completed work in the usual way, to Google Classroom, by Friday of each week. Full task instructions are included on the grid. There are 2 short weeks in February during which I have not allocated spelling words. You could use this time to revise recent word lists, if you wish.

Reading

I've included 3 reading tasks at the bottom of the literacy task grid (stuck into the front of the homework jotter). One task should be completed fortnightly (see Google Classroom assignment for due dates). The children can complete these tasks for any book they choose. In class, we are completing the novel we started in Term 1, so there won't be set reading homework until nearer the end of the term. Please continue to encourage reading for pleasure at home.

Maths

Fortnightly mental maths should be completed in the back of the new maths homework jotter that's been sent home. This will be posted on Google Classroom every second week. We are focusing on learning the tables facts too – please see detailed information in the email sent home earlier this week. There's further support available via some links I've posted on the Times Tables assignment on Google Classroom too. The best way to learn is regular, short practise sessions.

This term we aim to...

Topic

Our topic this term is Scottish Farming and Land Use. We'll be starting off by looking at Scotland's landscape and what it's used for. Then we'll learn about soil and its role in arable farming as well as how to care for it and use it more sustainably. We'll also be finding out about clean energy production and how our farmland is being utilised for this purpose. We hope to arrange a field trip to find out more so watch this space!

Maths

We will be learning about budgeting in the context of our class shop. Each week, the children get paid a wage (in plastic coins!) for doing their class jobs. They can then spend their money in the class shop to buy small items such as pencils, pens and notepads. Before we open the shop this term, I've set the children a challenge in their table groups, to plan the purchase of items for the shop with a budget of £15. The winning team will get the money to spend on the items of their choice for the class shop. We are also working to practise and learn our tables facts (and associated division facts) through a range of fun games in class. When we have completed our unit on fractions, we'll move on to addition and subtraction, mastering a range of mental strategies for accurate computation. In practical maths this term, we will start with weight.

Weekly Big Writing started last week with a Target setting task followed by writing an informal thank

Mrs Johnston / Mrs Robertson

	Spelling	Music	Health and wellbeing
Mon	*		
Tues			
Wed		*	
Thurs			*
Fri			

Timetable

	P.E	Spelling H / W issued	Mrs Thomson
Mon		*	
Tues			
Wed			
Thurs	*		*
			(alternate weeks)
Fri			*

you letter this week. Throughout the term ahead, the children will have the opportunity to write across a range of genres inspired by our topic and class novel.

In-class reading will consist of following the class novel, library time on Thursdays as well as a paired reading opportunity during which children will get to read with a partner, from a book of their choice. We did this in class last year and found it very successful in developing reading skills.

PE

PE will be indoors this term as the children will be doing a gymnastics unit. They will require comfortable, indoor PE kit, to be kept in school if possible.

French

Our French this term will be focused on colour, likes and dislikes as well as telling the day and date. We are working on revising the weather, too. The children are very familiar with simple classroom instructions and ordering their lunch each morning. Don't forget the [Northern Alliance Family Learning](#) site is available for family language learning - there's loads available and it's arranged in a fun user-friendly way.

Please do get in touch directly if you have any queries (gw17mckerrowsarah@glow.sch.uk). Time-sensitive or urgent enquiries should be directed to the school office.

Finally, we'd like to wish you all the very best for 2023.

Mrs McKerrow and Mrs Thomson.