



Primary 3, 4, 5 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>Hello everyone! I hope you enjoyed the October break – it’s lovely to hear about the children’s holidays, especially those who travelled somewhere sunny and warm. Having said that, it sounds as though everyone managed to have fun, regardless of the terrible weather we’ve been having.</p> <p>It was lovely to meet so many of you at our parents’ night just before the holidays, too. Thank you for coming to meet with us.</p> <p>Week one was our usual collaborative learning with a health and wellbeing focus; friendship was the theme. The children worked brilliantly together to create a friendship recipe, poem and drama about friendship scenarios they came up with themselves. This has been a helpful reminder for all our learners about what it is to be a good friend to others and how we can support one another.</p> <p>In class, we’ve been settling back into our usual routines.</p>	<p>Homework jotters have been updated with spelling word lists for this term. Please submit completed tasks to Google Classroom in the usual way. Further information about homework has been sent home via homework diaries (please check in the back!). Spelling should be practised for a short time each day and submitted when complete, at the end of the week.</p> <p>Reading books have been issued and the children arranged into groups for the term ahead. Set reading will be recorded weekly in the homework diaries. I will also post the schedule to Google Classroom just in case! It won’t be necessary in every case to have your child read all set pages aloud if they are reading longer texts and novels; many are now at a stage where they should manage to read some of the material independently. Wherever possible, reading homework will be allocated at the beginning of the week with set pages for Wednesday and Friday.</p> <p>Sumdog is being used to allocate regular consolidation tasks for maths, as well as spelling assignments for the children to complete. The spelling is an optional extra task, but we hope your child will enjoy these tasks and that this is an easier way to complete homework! There are some Sumdog maths competitions coming up too – keep an eye on Google classroom for updates!</p>	<p>We are continuing with our topic on living things this term, beginning with learning about flowering plants, their different parts and their lifecycles. We’ll be setting up experiments to see what factors affect the growth of plants. Further to our learning about animal classification and endangered species last term, we’re going to find out about animal communication and soundwaves.</p> <p>We will, of course, be making time to do some fun Christmas themed activities during the term ahead as well.</p> <p>In maths this term we’ll be rounding numbers to the nearest 10, 100 and 1000. We’ll begin some work on calculations and will discuss various mental strategies for addition and subtraction. Mrs Thomson will be continuing with shape position and movement.</p> <p>The children will continue weekly paired reading in addition to reading in their groups. Please encourage your child to share what they are reading with you at home.</p> <p>Our first Big Writing piece of the new term has been a creative piece for submission to the BBC 500 words competition. Some brilliant original ideas have grown into entertaining stories. We’ll be doing instructional writing this term as well as some Christmas poetry and story writing too.</p> <p>PE Timetabled PE will be on a Thursday each week. When we have completed the ball skills unit, we are going to explore creative dance. Please ensure that your child has appropriate indoor PE kit for this term, including trainers / plimsols.</p> <p>French –</p>

Mrs Johnston / Mrs Robertson

	Music	Mixed literacy	HWB
Mon		*	
Tues			
Wed	*		
Thurs			*
Fri			

Timetable

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

We'll continue with daily French within our class routine – the children are growing in confidence ordering lunches in French each day, saying the day and date, and responding to simple classroom instructions. Continuing from last term, we are learning conversational French around pets and whether we have any at home; describing them using vocabulary about colours and being able to tell a partner what their names are. A reminder that the [Northern Alliance Family Learning](#) site is full of engaging family focused activities that you can do together at home – perfect for the dark nights and inclement winter weather!

As always, if you have any queries about your child's learning or life at school, please get in touch through the school office, or if non-urgent, contact me directly at gw17mckerrowsarah@glow.sch.uk.