

Term 1 Newsletter - Primary 4



Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome back to school! We hope you were able to have a good break and made the most of the beautiful weather. Last week we really enjoyed hearing about all the things the children got up to during their time at home. We appreciate that these are difficult times for everyone, but the children have so far settled into the new school routine extremely well. We hope this continues and that they will be ready to work hard, learn lots of new things and have fun along the way.

You will be aware that, at the moment, the children may only bring a snack, lunch box and water bottle to school. It has also been decided that on days when they have PE, they may come to school dressed in their PE kit. This will be on a Monday, Tuesday and Friday with Miss Munro our PE specialist. As our Scottish weather can be unpredictable and we hope to work outside as much possible, on colder days, they may want to wear leggings or joggers rather than shorts.

Our main aim for the start of term is to ensure the children are safe, settled, adjusting to, and coping well with the new daily routine. This will enable the children to settle into learning again and progress successfully through this first term of P4.

We are extremely lucky to have an outdoor area adjoining our classroom and hope to develop this into a usable outdoor learning area. The children have so far come up with some great ideas and we will be looking at ways to put their plans into action this term.

Our focus in Maths will be recapping basic number bonds, times tables and different mental arithmetic strategies that can be used to help work out answers. We will continue to complete weekly Learn It and CLIC tests in class using Big Maths Online and it is extremely important that the children continue to practise for these at home. Practise Learn Its and CLIC challenges will be uploaded to our Google Classroom which can be accessed from home through Glow. We will also be learning about 2d and 3d shapes.

Now that the children are in P4, Spelling also changes and will now follow a four-week cycle. The first two weeks are spent looking at phoneme 'families' and during the last two weeks we concentrate on tricky words, spelling rules and spelling strategies. The spelling lists are constructed, and chilli challenged with the children in class. The children are then encouraged to pick a list that they feel is suitably challenging to practise.

Initially we will continue to use Giglets for Reading. More information about this will be shared with you via Seesaw next week. We ask that you continue to encourage your child to read for enjoyment at home from a wide variety of texts. In class, we are reading James and the Giant Peach, and the children are really enjoying the story so far. We are reading chapters daily so be sure to ask them for updates!

If you have any further questions, please don't hesitate to contact us via the school office.

Yours sincerely,
Mrs Leslie and Mrs Weir

