

Learning Centre (P2-P7) Newsletter 24-25 Term 1

Welcome back! The children are doing well with all the changes we have had to the Learning Centre environment over the holidays.

Curriculum – As usual we will cover a mixture of first and second level topics, so that when the children are able to visit their own classes they will have been working on the same themes. This term for Health and Wellbeing we will be looking at friendships and feelings and our meta-skill this term is resilience. In literacy the children will be working at their own levels for reading, writing and spelling, but we will all look at *The Snail and the Whale* as it fits in well with our friendships and feelings topic. For Numeracy we will again be working at our own levels, but some of our children will be looking at rounding and estimating, as well as time. We will also be learning about green energy and sustainability. We will be using ICT to communicate what we learn this term.

As mentioned previously our PE days will be Mondays (with Mrs Irvine McLean, our PE specialist) and on Wednesdays with myself. Whereas our mornings are time for individual and pair learning with the teacher, our afternoons will be our group times, for food preparation, sensory story, music, proprioception and interoception activities (to help us learn to understand and use our bodies) and also for Fun 31 where we will have chance to exercise our right to play, with our mainstream classes where it is appropriate.

Last term we began more group work and it was great for learning to work together and alongside our peers, and this will have long term benefits when we are wanting to join in with mainstream activities.

Below are some photos of us working together and alongside each other.

Staffing – we are pleased to have Mrs McIlorum back from maternity leave, but we are also lucky that Mrs Hooper is staying with us and she is covering my class non-contact time, so the children are familiar with all the teachers. Our learning assistants will stay with the children this term.

Environment – the children are using the outdoor area nicely with the new P1 children, which is great. Then we are using the classroom for our more focussed learning, with fewer distractions! It is taking some getting used to but the children have all managed to get back into routines.



Communication – The children seem to be enjoying looking at their Sways! Please let us know if you have any problems with it. You can still email me (gw09armstrongsarah@ea.dumgal.sch.uk) or the school office, and the school office (01387 263594) is the place to contact for absences. Mrs McIlorum, our Learning Centre Principal Teacher, is also available (gw13mcilorumlisa@ea.dumgal.sch.uk) We will be in touch with you as soon as we have our new planning, tracking and communication system up and running. Thank you for completing the children’s profiles for this before the Summer.

