



# MEET the TEACHER

SEPTEMBER 2020

*A warm welcome to P3b with*



**Mrs McNally AND Miss**

**Dougan**

# Oh, the Places You'll Go!



We are thrilled to be back with our St Clare's family, learning and having fun, and look forward to working closely with you this year. We will continue to use Google Classroom as our main platform for communication but wanted to take this opportunity to give a brief update on our new routines and journey so far.

Since returning to school in August, P3b have been inspired by the poem, "Oh, the Places You'll Go!" by Dr Seuss, to develop our Growth Mindset and set personal targets for the coming year. We are delighted to have already celebrated many 'steps to success', however at the same time, due to the current situation, things haven't always been easy. This hasn't held us back, however! In this class we are a team and always work together to overcome challenges and lift one another on our down days. The children's attitudes and determination has been fantastic and we are excited about the year ahead as we rise to the challenge of Being Our Best Selves and, as our poem says, "Soar to high heights!"

# Numeracy



In line with the recovery curriculum, we are extremely busy revisiting and reinforcing previous learning in maths. In term 1, we will continue to participate in weekly number talks to develop our knowledge and understanding of number strategies and place value.



We engage in active mental maths daily and are developing our confidence in recognising and answering a range of problem solving questions. New learning and concepts will also be reinforced in our weekly homework quiz and through home learning activities. In addition to this, we have already looked at Symmetry, Fractions, Time, Money and 3D shape this term, ensuring appropriate challenge and progression, as well as consolidation. Every minute is a learning minute in P3B! Progress will be continually assessed following our Mental Maths test in class every Friday.

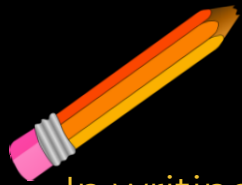
# Spelling



Similar to Primary 2, we have a weekly spelling rule which can be learned through a range of activities at home and in school. Your child's Spelling Frame login details can be found in their homework folder. This website is an excellent, interactive way of learning new words and we recommend pupils access this as often as possible as we strive to improve our spelling skills and weekly assessment scores.



This will be followed by a spelling test each Friday. We find the children require and are benefiting from regular reinforcement of Jolly Phonics sounds and tricky words taught to date, revision PowerPoints for which can also be found on our Google Classroom.



# Writing



In writing, we are working hard to 'up level' our sentences by incorporating a range of Vocabulary, Connectives, Openers and Punctuation (VCOP).

The children's efforts have already been amazing! Thank you for your support with the weekly Talking Task in preparation for writing in school. Regular short writing 'bursts' and group planning sessions throughout our week are really helping to generate ideas and interest, thus improving the overall quality of our written work. This is invaluable and we strive to encourage and develop this enthusiasm as much as we can. Our class novel, George's Marvellous Medicine, has been an excellent stimulus... the children are loving it! It has been wonderful to watch them get lost in a book full of such powerful imagery and figurative language as we share in their excitement about reading and creating texts of their own. They really have been working so hard and are now learning to give and receive constructive, meaningful feedback during our 'Star Writer' sessions, in order to help them continually improve their skills. The writing process is working really well and we look forward to seeing where it takes us!

# Reading



Lastly, reading books continue to be sent home each week after they have been explored together in class.

*“Rereading helps students to develop greater accuracy in reading. When students reread, words that they may have struggled to decode on a first reading become increasingly easier to parse.”*

*Samuels, The Reading Teacher, January, 1979*

Each child also has a 'Get Epic' account, should you wish to do some additional reading at home. This is another fantastic resource, the details for which can be found on Google Classroom.

# Finally...



Thank you so much for engaging with and continuing to support us through Google Classroom. It's fair to say we are off to a flying start and are excited about all the 'places we will go!' We are very grateful and will continue to keep in touch.

P3B, You are amazing!

*“Your mountain is waiting... so get on your way!”*

Miss Dougan and Mrs McNally



# KEEPING EVERYONE LEARNING SAFELY



- Each morning early entry is from **8.45am** with Mrs Absolom, Callaghan, Mrs Pinna and Mrs Cooper welcoming everyone
- Hand washing in class
- School day starts at **9am sharp** – try to be on time as every learning minute counts!
- Pupils remain in the same seat each day, to maintain social distancing
- At playtime, classes stay in their zone
- Pupils can buy Tuck at playtime or bring a healthy snack
- Children wash their hands regularly throughout the day
- Adults keep 2m apart from children and other adults