



Canongate Primary School - Learning Letter EARLY Term 1 2025/26



Dear Parent/Carer,

IMPORTANT: It is essential that you use the QR code sent home to sign up to the SEESAW communication tool.

Learning in P1 at Canongate will follow Fife's Playful Pedagogy Approach. Learning will be through a blend of child-initiated play, teacher-initiated play & direct teaching. The balance of the day will change in response to the needs of the learners.

Miss Campbell & P1

Learning through play:

These areas are where child-initiated play will be encouraged fostering curiosity, experimentation, persistence, discovery, problem-solving, sharing and teamwork (known as **meta-skills**).

Home Corner	Sand/Water/Mud kitchen	Loose Parts	Small World
Leading, communication, collaboration, sense-making, adapting, feeling.	Creativity, sense-making, critical thinking, collaboration, curiosity, gross & fine motor skills.	Creativity, adapting, sense-making, initiative, fine motor skills.	Communication, feeling, sense-making, adapting.
Craft Area	Outdoor Area	Block Play	Construction
Curiosity, creativity, focussing, fine motor skills.	Initiative, sense-making, adapting, curiosity, creativity, communication, collaboration, gross-motor skills.	Focussing, initiative, critical thinking, creativity, sense-making, adapting.	Focussing, initiative, critical thinking, creativity, sense-making, adapting.

As part of our home/school partnership, we are aware that parents would like to know what their child(ren) are learning in school. Please use this Learning Letter to discuss your child's learning with them. These are the overarching 'Learning Intentions' for the whole class for the term. Individual children's targets may differ slightly based on need. Please don't hesitate to contact the school if you have any queries or if there is something you feel you could support us with.

Children engage in 'Teacher Directed', 'Teacher Initiated' and 'Independent' learning activities to complete the intended learning outcomes below.

Reading	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• We are learning to read our initial Jolly Phonics sounds.• We are learning to practise blending sounds to make simple words.• We will share and enjoy a wide range of stories together to build our vocabulary and phonological awareness (including rhyme and syllables).• We will enjoy weekly visits to our Bookery where we will learn to read and listen to stories for pleasure.• We are learning to share our thoughts/ feelings about stories in different ways.• We will be introduced to our Oxford Reading Tree programme (ORT). To begin, we will be introduced to the characters and will explore wordless stories and ORT stage 1 words.
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Writing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We are practising how to hold our pencils properly. • We will use different materials to make patterns, make marks & practise forming letters & numbers. • We will participate in daily 'Dough Disco' sessions to improve our finger and hand strength. • We will continue to use loose parts to improve our fine motor skills. • We are learning to retell a story using vocabulary like 'beginning', 'middle' and 'end'.
Listening & Talking	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We are learning to take turns when listening and talking. • We are learning to share ideas and can share them in the correct order. • We are learning to listen to and follow instructions correctly. • We are learning to articulate sounds/words correctly.
Numeracy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We are learning to recognise numbers to 10. • We are learning to develop our sense of size and amount using words like 'more' and 'less' • We are learning to show the correct amounts using different manipulatives (Numicon, cubes, counters etc). • We are learning to count on and back (to 10) starting at 0 and different numbers (i.e count back from 7) • We are learning to place missing numbers on a number line (up to 10). • We are learning how to match groups of objects/pictures to the correct numeral. • We are learning to recognise the number of objects in a group without counting – known as subitising. • We are learning to create simple patterns with a range of objects. • We will explore partitioning (separating) quantities up to 10 into two or more parts to help us understand the structure of numbers. • We are learning to identify the properties of 2d and 3d different shapes.
Social Studies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Our topic this term is 'People who help us' • We are learning to identify at least two people who can help us in the community. • We are learning to talk about the ways that those people can help us. • We are learning to take on the roles of 'people who help us' during imaginative play. • We are learning to identify at least two different shops or services that families may use to help them.
Science	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Using a range of books and stories as a stimulus (such as The 3 Little Pigs, Harry Builds a House and Teddy's Umbrella) we will be exploring the properties of different materials. • We are learning that materials can be natural or man-made. • We are learning to use vocabulary such as soft, stretchy, hard, rough etc. • We are learning to create different models using a variety of different materials and will be able to explain why I have used a certain material. • We are learning that some materials are waterproof and will carry out experiments to find out which material is best to make an umbrella.
Health & Wellbeing incl. P.E.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We are learning to work with others and to use our voices to help communicate as a team. • We are learning to follow rules and procedures through team games.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We are learning to improve our stamina and levels of fitness to increase heart rate and work key muscles (daily mile). • We are learning to familiarise ourselves with a ball/quoit/beanbag and think about our co-ordination when throwing and catching. • We are learning how to move into a space. • Through the creation of 'Our Class Promise' (class charter) we are learning about our rights and how these can help us to understand friendships, personal space and safety • We are learning about the importance of following our whole school values (ambition, kindness, equity, respect). • Through our 'Building Resilience' program we are learning how our words and actions can have a positive impact on the world around us. • We are learning that there are people who work to help others (charities).
Expressive Arts (Music, Art and Drama)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We are learning how to be a member of an audience with good listening, appreciation skills & how to give feedback. • We are learning to experience & experiment with sound & rhythm using our voices & bodies. • We are learning to explore a range of materials to make coloured marks on paper, eg paint, crayons, pencil, pastels, felt pens, highlighters etc. • We are learning how to control an implement to create curved, zigzag, looped and straight lines. • We are learning about primary colours and how to mix colours. • We are learning how the colours in a piece of artwork can show mood/emotions.
RME	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • As part of our investigation into world religions we will listen and discuss the messages in Christian stories - The Good Samaritan and Joseph and His Coat. • We are learning what is fair and unfair and why caring and sharing are important.
Digital Literacy/Technology	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We are learning how to access and use the smart board. • We are learning how to follow simple algorithms (instructions). • We are learning how to log on to our classroom computer.
French	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We are learning to understand and say simple greetings in French. • We are learning to understand and say simple phrases that encompass praise and being polite.
Outdoor Education	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We are learning to develop our teamwork, communication and exploration skills through weekly visits to the forest and sensory garden. • We are learning to use natural resources to create artwork.

Important Class Information:

CLOTHING!

School uniform should be worn daily except for Thursdays in P1 which is our forest/outdoor learning time. Children should wear dark leggings/joggers/jeans, old jumper, raincoat & wellies or old trainers. Children should bring their school trousers/skirts & sweatshirts to change into. Indoor shoes are now necessary every day as the grass can be very muddy. Black gym shoes that can be left in school are perfect. Your child should bring a raincoat every day. Please ensure ALL belongings are labelled.

Everyday Requirements	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Warm and waterproof jacket for outdoor play and learning experiences.• A change of shoes e.g. bring indoor shoes for in class.• Large, full water bottle refreshed daily.
P.E. Days	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Friday
P.E. Kit Requirements	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Please see separate guidance.
Outdoor Education Days	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Forest Day/Outdoor Education Day - Thursday• Sensory Garden Day – Monday (no change of clothing required).
Outdoor Kit Requirements	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Warm & waterproof jacket and suitable outdoor shoes/change of shoes and a change of clothes and/or waterproof trousers. Please come to school dressed in outdoor clothing and ready to go!
Homework Schedule	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Please practise sounds at home daily. Eventually, children will be sent home with reading books and tricky/ ORT stage words to practise.• N.B. Homework folders and entire contents should live in children's bags at all times except when being used. They are required EVERYDAY in school for various tasks.
Class Behaviour Strategies	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• House points• Secret Student
Adults in Our Class	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• PSA – Mrs Togi• PSA – Mrs Dracup• PSA – Mrs Burns• NCCT – Mrs Meikle (Wednesday afternoon).
Visits & Visitors & How You Could Help Us	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Do you have a job where you help people/ animals? We would love to have you in the class to talk to the children about it! Anything from a nurse/ carer/ mechanic/ builder etc. If you think you can help, please let me know via Seesaw!• We are looking for any junk modelling materials such as old cardboard boxes, toilet rolls, cereal boxes etc. Please send these in with your child if you have any you would like to donate.
Dates For the Dairy	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Family picnic – Friday 5th September 2025 (12:30 – 13:30)• Building Resilience homework due – Tuesday 23rd September 2025.

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| | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Flu Immunisations – Thursday 25th September 2025.• P1 visit from Cats Protection charity – Tuesday 30th September 2025• Coffee Morning & open classroom – Friday 3rd October 2025 (more details to follow).• Parent’s Evening (late) - Tuesday 7th October 2025.• Parent’s Evening (early) - Thursday 9th October 2025.• Last day of term – Friday 10th October 2025. |
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