



Canongate Primary School - Learning Letter Term 2 2025/26



Dear Parent/Carer,

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 our 'Learning Letter' to discuss your child's learning with them.

Please find an overview below of the areas they will be looking at this term. 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.

Miss Maclaren and P4/3

Learning:

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

Reading	• We are continuing to read aloud with fluency and understanding. • We are continuing to read aloud with expression and pay attention to punctuation and layout. • We are learning to share my thoughts about structure, characters, settings and comment on effective wording. • We are continuing to engage with various reading tasks through our class novel 'The BFG' by Roald Dahl.
Writing	• We are continuing to spell commonly used words and to use a range of strategies to spell unknown words. • We are learning to form our letters correctly, use correct letter heights and join our letters. • We are continuing to use openers, conjunctions and descriptive language in our writing to make it more interesting. • We are using capital letters, full stops, question marks and exclamation marks in our writing, confidently. • We are learning to read over our writing to ensure consistency of meaning, purpose and correct spelling. • Some of us are learning to use paragraphs in our writing.

	• We are learning to order words alphabetically. We are learning to use commas. We are learning to use verbs with the appropriate tense. • We are learning to write for different purposes (including narrative stories, book reviews and Science reports).
Listening & Talking	• We are continuing to listen, take turns and make suggestions. • We are learning to recognise fact and opinion. • We are continuing to identify and discuss the main ideas of a text. • We are exploring how pace, gesture and expression can be used to engage our audience (2 min talk).
Numeracy	• We are learning to use different strategies to make reasonable estimates of an answer. • We are learning to order numbers from 3 digits and beyond. • We are learning to recall number words just before and after a given number from 3 digit and beyond. • We are learning to count forwards and backwards in various multiples (2,3,4,5). • We are learning to describe and create patterns (doubling numbers, repeating patterns involving shapes). • We are learning to use positional and directional language to describe, follow and record routes and directions (linked to topic when exploring maps of St Andrews).
Social Studies and Science	• Our topic for this term is continuing with St Andrews 2025. • We are learning about the different types of energy around us and its importance to everyday life. • We are learning about the conservation of materials and resources, considering the impact of our actions on the environment. • We are exploring the geographical features of our local landscape and comparing it with that of another country. • We are learning about maps, and this will link to our maths. • We are learning how to write a science report linked to our previous sound waves experiment.
Health & Wellbeing incl. P.E.	• We are learning to identify and manage emotions as well understanding how others feel. This will be linked to Anti-bullying week. • We are learning to create our own creative dances with props using movement, turns, gestures and pauses in response to different genres of music. • We are learning to strike a ball, move with the ball and defend with the aim to play hockey. • We are learning what it means to be an effective sports person.

Expressive Arts (Music, Art and Drama)	On a Friday afternoon, P2, 3 and 4 will be working together to identify and develop their meta skills (e.g. creativity and collaborating) whilst exploring the expressive arts: • We are learning to design and build models to solve problems, choose materials suitable for different purposes, and explore how engineers create solutions in the world around us. • We are learning to explore different visual elements and a range of media when creating artworks in response to a stimulus (e.g. music). • Through the art of storytelling, we will demonstrate our understanding by creating musical sequences. This will be done collaboratively with opportunities to perform to an audience. • We are learning about pattern, form, colour, texture and a range of media when creating artworks linked to our class novel. • We are learning to create 3 dimensional artworks using natural objects, linked to our outdoor learning.
Digital Literacy/Technology	• We are starting to learn to use GLOW – logging in, opening/ creating files and saving files. • We are learning to use applications and websites such as Sumdog, BBC Bitesize and TopMarks to support our literacy and numeracy. • We are learning to safely search for information online. • We are learning how to keep ourselves safe online.
French	• We are learning how to respond to the register. • We are learning numbers to 20. • We are learning how to say our age and ask someone's age. • We are beginning to learn about the French alphabet.
RME	• We are learning about Hanukkah and Divali and can describe the key beliefs. • We are learning about the festival of light. • We are learning how to sequence key Divali and Hanukkah stories.
Outdoor Education	• We are learning to assess risk when outdoors and to keep ourselves safe. • We are learning to develop our communication, teamwork and exploration skills through visits to the forest and sensory garden.

Important Class Information:

Everyday Requirements	• Please see our School Uniform and Kits information copied below. • Large, full water bottle refreshed daily. • Homework folder.
P.E. Days	• Wednesday
P.E. Kit Requirements	• Please see our School Uniform and Kits information copied below.
Outdoor Education Days	• Forest/Outdoor learning – Friday. • Sensory Garden – Thursday.
Outdoor Kit Requirements	• Please see our School Uniform and Kits information copied below.
Homework Schedule	• Reading/ Spelling/Vocabulary/Numeracy/Other - Out Thursday returned Tuesday. • Numeracy tasks will be on Sumdog. • N.B. Homework folders and entire contents should live in the children's bags at all times except when being used. They are required every day in school for various tasks e.g. spelling work/ reading/ transfer of important letters.
Positive Class Routines	• House Points and class incentive for showing kindness and promoting the other school values – respect, ambition and equity.
Adults in Our Class	• PSA – Mrs Dempsey • PSA – Mrs Burns • Additionality Teacher - Mrs Ward/Miss Irvine • Mrs Smith- Non class contact teacher (Monday morning)
Visits & Visitors & How You Could Help Us	• Please bring in junk for modelling. • Our topic will be Our St Andrews 2025. Please let us know if you can or know anyone who can help with this in anyway (see Social Studies and Science section for more details). • If you would like to help during our outdoor learning at the forest (Thursday afternoons), please let me know.
Dates For the Diary	• Friday 14th November – Inservice day • Wednesday 3rd December – Byre Theatre Pantomime • Friday 5th December – Nativity Dress rehearsal (P1 and P2 only) • Monday 8th December – Nativity performance (PM) • Tuesday 9th December – Nativity Performance (AM) • Thursday 11th December – Christmas lunch • Wednesday 17th December – Santa's grotto • Thursday 18th December – P1-P4 Christmas Party (130pm) • Friday 19th December – Last day of term 2. • Monday 5th January – Start of Term 3.

Canongate School Uniform and Kits – P.E./Outdoor Education

We are aware there is some confusion about what children should wear on P.E./Outdoor Education days. **We do still want to look like we belong to Canongate and ask for the following uniform.**

Key Points for Parents:

- **Comfort & Practicality:** Children should be comfortable and ready to be active most days. Minimising changing time helps maximise learning time.
- **No Need to Buy Anything New:** Please don't feel pressured to purchase new items. Any changes can be made gradually, like with the next shoe change.

Footwear/Coat Guidelines:

- Children can wear **dark trainers any day** – school shoes are not required unless you prefer them.
- We would recommend that the best option is for children to have - **two pairs of trainers or trainer style shoes - one for inside to remain dry and clean and one for outside.**
- Children should have a **waterproof coat** in school at all times for all experiences.
- Teachers will use discretion as to when to change shoes to protect the carpets and gym hall floor, especially in dry weather. Outdoor are required for 'Running the Mile', playing in inclement weather and outdoor P.E. e.g. children cannot run the mile in wellies/Crocs/plimsoles so trainers that can get muddy would suit all of these experiences.

Uniform/P.E. Guidelines:

- **Top:** White or blue polo shirt daily, with a **royal blue school sweatshirt/cardigan** (without school logo acceptable/iron on logos available in the office £2). This is also suitable on a P.E. day.
- **Bottoms:** Grey/black trousers or skirts, or **plain black/navy leggings, joggers, or shorts** (no stripes/logos).
- Some people may prefer other items of uniform e.g. Gingham dresses, these are also welcomed but not on P.E/Outdoor Education days.
- On **P.E. days**, leggings/joggers/shorts are preferred and should be worn as uniform with no need to change.

Outdoor Education Days:

- Usual P.E. clothes are fine unless it's **very muddy** – then a change of clothes and warmer top may be needed.
- Children should have a **waterproof coat** in school at all times for all experiences.
- **Wellies/waterproofs** are available in school, but children can bring their own. Outdoor trainers may be fine in good weather.

Support Available:

- If you need help with **uniform or footwear**, please reach out – support is available **confidentially**.
- Some families may be eligible for **additional uniform funding** through free school meals – please ask if unsure.