



Canongate Primary School - Learning Letter EARLY Term 2 2025/26



Dear Parent/Carer,

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.

IMPORTANT! 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 also ensure your child comes to school with their homework folder **EVERY** day.

Miss Campbell & P1

Learning through play (core provision):

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.

Learning:

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.

Reading	• We are continuing to learn our Jolly Phonic initial sounds. • We are continuing to learn to identify the 'beginning', 'middle' and 'end' sounds within words. • We will practise blending sounds to create words. • We will continue to learn to identify and use rhyming words. • We will share and enjoy a wide range of stories together to build our vocabulary and phonological awareness. • We will use the Actions Words Programme to help us read tricky words. • We will use the Canongate "Bookery" to choose our own stories. We will begin to talk about our preferred type of book to read. • We will continue to use Oxford Reading Tree (ORT) reading programme to start reading stage 1 books. Some children will be introduced to stage1+ and stage 2 key words and books. • We are learning to recite the alphabet through song and rhyme.
Writing	• We will use a range of Autumn and Winter stories as a stimulus for our writing this term. • We are continuing to learn 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 form our letters correctly. • We are learning to write simple cvc words. • We are learning to create a story map. • We are learning to identify letter names and will be introduced to uppercase letters.
Listening & Talking	• We will improve our ability to communicate in a clear and expressive way. • We will listen carefully to others and take turns to speak. • We will improve our ability to recount stories, events and experiences in logical sequence. • We are learning to discuss what we liked/ disliked about a story. • We are learning to use appropriate body language when performing to an audience e.g. eye contact and gesture.
Numeracy	• We will continue to develop our sense of size & amount. • We are learning to recognise, count and form numbers to 20. • We are learning to find a number between two 2-digit numbers up to 20. • We are learning to estimate the number of objects in a group up to 20 & count to check. • We will practise recognising the number of objects in a group without counting – known as subitising. • We are learning to count forwards & backwards from any number up to 20.

	• We will learn to place missing numbers on a number line up to 20. • We are learning to double numbers to total of 10. • We are learning to use ordinal numbers in a variety of contexts. • We are learning to explore, continue and create simple number patterns. • We will explore partitioning (separating) quantities up to 10 into two or more parts to help us understand the structure of numbers. • We will begin to learn our Friends of 10 – these are numbers which add to 10. • We will collect information & create pictographs. We will be able to talk about what the graph is telling us. • We are learning to order the days of the week and months of the year. • We are learning to link events to specific seasons and months.
Health & Wellbeing incl. P.E.	• We are learning to create a short dance sequence using our creativity. • We are learning to develop our skills and techniques in P.E and to improve our level of fitness. • We are learning what strength and stamina is and how we can improve this. • We are learning how the role of physical activity can keep me healthy. • We are learning that people need different types of food to keep them healthy. • 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). • We are learning how to assess and manage risk, to protect myself and others, and to reduce the potential for harm where possible (fire safety – Bonfire Night). • We are learning ways to manage a range of different feelings, thoughts and emotions (Building Resilience) • We are learning how our behaviour can be influenced by our thoughts and feelings (Building Resilience).
Expressive Arts (Music, Art and Drama)	• We are learning to take on different roles within a dramatized performance. • We are learning to perform with confidence and enthusiasm for an audience. • We are learning to communicate ideas and feelings through drama using aspects of voice, movement and facial expressions. • We are learning to use our voices to explore sound and rhythm. • We are learning how to be a member of an audience with good listening, appreciation skills & how to give feedback to others. • We are learning to discover and choose ways to create images and objects using a variety of materials. • We are learning about primary colours and how to mix colours. • We are learning to improve our observational skills through drawing, painting and modelling. • We are learning to solve a simple design problem.
RME	• We are learning the Nativity Story. • We are learning some Christmas songs.

	• We are learning how to sequence the Christmas Story.
Digital Literacy/Technology	• We will continue learning how to log on with help from our P7 Digital Leaders. • We are learning to explore, play and communicate using digital technologies safely and securely. • We are learning to identify computing devices in the world around us.
Science	• We are learning about the sun, moon & stars and will link them to the patterns of daily life. • We are learning about constellations and will create some of our own. • We are learning to use technology to look at pictures of our solar system and will be able to identify the earth, moon and sun. • We are learning to make and use simple models to describe the movement of the earth at different points during the day.
French	• We are learning how to say our names. • We are learning our numbers to 10 • We are learning key Christmas phrases
Outdoor Education	• 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:

Everyday Requirements	• 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	• Monday and/ or Friday
P.E. Kit Requirement	• Please see following page for guidance.
Outdoor Education Days	• Forest Day/Outdoor Education Day - Thursday
Outdoor Kit Requirements	• Please see following page for guidance.
Homework Schedule	• Please practise sounds at home daily – new sounds issued for the week on a Monday. • Reading – sent out twice a week – please sign reading record once you have heard your child read.

	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	- House points - Secret Student
Adults in Our Class	- PSA – Mrs Togi - PSA – Mrs Dracup - PSA – Mrs Burns - NCCT – Mrs Smith (Wednesday afternoon).
Visits & Visitors & How You Could Help Us	- 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. - To celebrate Book Week Scotland (17th-23rd November) we would love to have parents come in to read stories to the children. If you can spare 20 minutes at the end of the day, we would love to hear from you!
Dates For the Dairy	- Monday 3rd November 2025 – Dental Inspections – P1 & P7. - Monday 10th November 2025 – Anti-Bullying Week. - Friday 14th November 2025 – Inservice Day. - Monday 17th November 2025 – Book Week Scotland. - Wednesday 3rd December 2025 – Byre Theatre performance of 'Aladdin' - Monday 8th December 2025 – P1 & P2 Nativity performance 1:30pm - Tuesday 9th December 2025 – P1 & P2 Nativity performance 9:30am - Wednesday 10th December 2025 - Christmas Fayre - 2:00pm - Friday 19th December 2025 – Christmas sing-along – 2:15pm - Friday 19th December 2025 – End of term.

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