



Canongate Primary School - Learning Letter EARLY Term 4 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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We are continuing to learn our Jolly Phonic sounds with a focus on digraphs i.e. ai, er, oa, ue etc. • We will continue to use the Actions Words Programme to help us read and recognise tricky words within a text. • We are continuing to practise blending and segmenting sounds in words. • We are learning to use punctuation when reading aloud. • We are learning to identify adjectives in a text. • We are learning how to find information in a text to help us learn new things. • We are learning to ask and answer questions about ideas and events in a text. • We will share and enjoy a wide range of stories together to build our vocabulary and phonological awareness. • We are learning to read for pleasure through regular visits to the Bookery. • We are continuing to learn ORT stage words. Some children will be introduced to stage 2, stage 3 and stage 5 words.
Writing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We are continuing to use loose parts and dough disco to improve our fine motor skills • We are continuing to practise forming our letters correctly (both lowercase and uppercase). • We are learning to use phonetically plausible strategies to spell or attempt to spell unknown words. • We are learning how to structure and write a sentence (independently) using a finger space, capital letter and full stop. • Some children will learn to make sentences longer and more interesting by using a range of conjunctions (and, but, because etc). • We are learning to write sentences using descriptive language. • We are learning to write a character and a setting description. • We are learning to invent our own characters and stories to share with others in different ways. • We are continuing to learn to neatly present our writing i.e., writing on the line. • We are learning to write a Haiku poem linked to our science/ social science learning.
Listening & Talking	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We are learning to communicate and share stories in different ways. • We are learning to share ideas with a wider audience i.e class. • We are learning to follow and give simple instructions (linked to Bee-Bots). • We are learning to improve our ability to recount stories, events and experiences in logical sequence. • We are learning to extend our vocabulary to help us talk about our feelings and ideas.
Numeracy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We are learning about odd and even numbers. • We are learning to skip count by 2, 5 and 10. • We are learning to count forwards and backwards to 30. • We are learning to recall doubles and halves within 20. • We are learning about the equal sharing of single items and groups of items. • We are learning to recognise simple fractions. • We are learning to demonstrate an understanding of simple fractions using a variety of models. • We are learning to measure height, length, mass and capacity using non-standard units.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We are learning to compare objects based on height, length, mass and capacity. • We are learning the language of movement, position and orientation. • We are learning to describe the location of an object/ place using positional language. • We are learning to identify pictures and patterns that are symmetrical. • We are learning to create symmetrical pictures using 1 line of symmetry. • We are learning to use programmable technology to create symmetrical patterns (Bee-bots).
Social Studies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We are learning to identify simple features of the local environment. • We are learning to draw or produce simple models of aspects of the local area. • We are learning how we can care for our local environment. • We are learning to draw a simple map of our local environment.
Health & Wellbeing incl. P.E.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This term we will be focussing on athletics and striking and fielding games in P.E. • We are learning to link actions and skills to create movement patterns and sequences. • We are learning to practise and improve skills to develop control and flow. • We are learning to understand and follow rules and procedures, developing ability to achieve personal goals. • We are learning to take part in individual and team events. • We are learning to improve our levels of stamina and fitness. • We are learning to improve hand/ eye co-ordination skills to aim accurately. • We are learning to use speed to be in the correct position in activities. • We are learning to understand what it means to have a healthy, balanced diet. <p>RSHP (Relationships, Sexual Health and Parenthood):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We are learning what I can do to look after my body and who can help. • We are learning that some body parts are private. • We are learning that people have similarities and differences but are all unique. • We are learning to manage personal space with respect towards ourselves and others. • We are learning about different types of families. • We are learning where living things come from and how they grow, develop and are nurtured (plants and animals).
Expressive Arts (Music, Art and Drama)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We will experience & experiment with sound & rhythm using our voices & instruments (Charanga). • We are learning to sing in tune and to a beat. • Using a sketchbook and a range of stimuli, we are continuing to learn about the visual elements of art (texture and colour this term). • We are learning about collage and will explore different techniques to create our own artworks. • We are learning to choose and explore how we can use our voices, movements and expressions in role play and drama. • We are learning to use drama to explore real and imaginary situations helping me to understand the world around me.

RME (Mrs Smith/ Mrs Redfern)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> We are learning to develop our understanding of what is fair and unfair and the importance of caring for, sharing and cooperating with others.
Digital Literacy/Technology	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> We are learning to create simple programs (Bee-Bots – linked to our numeracy learning). We are learning how to write a simple algorithm. We are continuing to learn to log on to the laptops with the help of our P7 Digital Leaders. We will explore ways to design and construct models (linked to our science learning). We are learning to reduce, re-use and recycle resources I use to help care for the environment (linked to our social sciences and science learning).
Science	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> We are learning how plants grow. We are learning to name different parts of a plant. We are learning that living things need water, food and care to survive. We are learning about the life cycle of some plants and animals. We are learning where living things come from i.e seeds, eggs etc. We are learning what 'makes something go' (energy source). We are learning about forces (push and pull).
French (Mrs Smith/ Mrs Redfern)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> We are learning how to ask what the weather is like and respond to this question. We are continuing to gain confidence with mini conversations and can fluently say: hello, how are you? What is your name? My name is... What is your age? My age is... The weather is... goodbye. We are continuing to enjoy learning French songs and play games in French. We are learning how to ask and say where I live. We are learning how to sing Happy Birthday.
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. We are learning to assess risk and to keep ourselves safe when travelling and working outdoors. Following Fife's Natural Connection's program we will be focussing on the following 3 elements this term: journeying, finding your way and helping the environment. We will be designing and building our own bug hotels (linked to our science and social science learning).

Important Class Information:

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"> Monday and/ or Friday
P.E. Kit Requirements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> See information overleaf
Outdoor Education Days	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Thursday
Outdoor Kit Requirements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> See information overleaf

Homework Schedule	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Please practise sounds at home daily – new sounds issued for the week on a Tuesday. • Reading – sent out twice a week – Monday and Wednesday and please sign reading record once you have heard your child read. <p>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.</p>
Class Behaviour Strategies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • House points
Adults in Our Class	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PSA – Mrs Togi • PSA – Mrs Dracup • PSA – Mrs Burns • NCCT – Mrs Smith/ Mrs Redfern (Monday morning or Wednesday afternoon).
Visits & Visitors & How You Could Help Us	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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"> • RNLI Assembly – Wednesday 22nd April 2026 • P1 Vision Screening – Monday 27th April 2026 • Holiday – Monday 4th May 2026. • New P1 Parent Introduction Evening – Tuesday 5th May 2026 at 16:00. • In-service Day – Thursday 7th May 2026 • Glee Regional Final – Friday 8th May 2026. • Sports Week – Monday 25th May 2026 • Sports Day – Friday 29th May 2026 • Holiday – Monday 1st June 2026 • New P1 Classroom Experience and Lunch – Wednesday 10th June 2026. • Family Picnic – Friday 19th June 2026 • Reports due home – Monday 22nd June 2026. • P7 Leavers Assembly – Thursday 25th June 2026 at 13:30 (TBC). • End of Term Service – Thursday 2nd July 2026 (TBC). • Last day of school – Friday 3rd July 2026. • New school year begins – Wednesday 19th August 2026.

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