



COMMERCIAL PRIMARY SCHOOL
January - April 2024
Class Newsletter for Room 6
Primary 3



General information:

Welcome back to school with Mrs Bell (Mon-Wed) and Mrs Matthew (Wed-Fri). Mrs Matthew is unwell at the moment but we wish her a speedy recovery and hope to see her back soon.

We are so excited to be back to school in 2024 and learning with you all.

We hope you had a wonderful Christmas and a very happy New Year.

In Literacy we will be learning ...

Writing

We will focus on up-levering our writing to make it more interesting through the use of interesting vocabulary, adjectives, and adverbs. We will also continue to ensure that our writing has the correct punctuation and appropriate use of capital letters. We will also be working on organising words to the 2nd alphabetical letter so we can use a thesaurus to help our writing. We will also be learning how to find and use rhyming words.

Handwriting

In Handwriting, last term we worked on formation of lower case and capital letters, and practised our number formation. We will continue this, but we will also be starting to join some letters together! We are getting much better at presenting our work neatly in our jotters, with most of us remembering to write a date and title and underline them with a ruler.

Spelling and Phonics

We have been working on our common words for the last few weeks and will continue this every second spelling week. We will also learn some new patterns. Both will be given as part of their homework, so it would be very helpful if the children could continue to practise these. They can choose any of the active tasks to help consolidate their learning. Of common words, beginning and end blending and new patterns, which you can practice more for homework.

Reading

In reading, we will be continuing with comprehension tasks to show understanding. Last term we worked really hard at looking for information from the text and being able to answer in full sentences. We read both fiction and non-fiction books.

This term we will continue to answer questions about our books so show understanding, make inferences, decide if statements are true, false or we can't tell and we will share our opinions about the book.

In Numeracy we will be learning...

Subtraction

We spent a lot of time last term learning about addition, and found lots of strategies we could use. We will be approaching subtraction in the same way, learning lots of strategies such as partitioning, bridging, column method and using concrete materials to help us understand.

Fractions

We will be learning about fractions. We will understand what the fractions are equal parts of a whole, learning about halves, quarters and smaller fractions. We will progress onto fractions of numbers and how they relate to percentages.

Time

We will also be learning about time. We will be working on analogue and digital times, 12 hour times, durations and how to read some timetables.

Symmetry, Angles and Transformation

We will be learning about how to find lines of symmetry and looking for symmetrical designs inside and outdoors. We will learn some directional language, use maps and understand how to use grid references.

Mathematics

Our maths topic this term will be measure. We had a brief introduction last term by measuring our heights for the Christmas baubles we took home. We will learn how to measure length, height, weight and volume. We will learn the main units of measurement, estimate measurements and learn how to measure and record accurately.

Mathematical Vocabulary

All the children need to work on using a variety of words to express a single function. We all need to know that minus, take away, less than and subtract all mean the same thing. We also need to learn the terms for units of measurement and fractional language.

<p>We will continue to visit the Library and always appreciate the offer of help from parents / carers. We will not now be going on Tuesday 20th February but will be going Tuesday 19th March. Thank you to those who volunteered last term too. We will be choosing books based on our own ability and interests and getting to know all the different sections of the Library. We are trying hard to be responsible and look after the books we have borrowed.</p> <p>Weekly Library Challenge – We will continue to develop our understanding of what we read through ‘Blooms Buttons’ which we will share information about on Seesaw as we use them.</p> <p>We are also building up a love of reading through reading for pleasure. Our whole class novels will be ‘The Creakers’ by Tom Fletcher (Mon-Wed) and ‘Circus shoes’ by Noel Streatfeild (Wed-Fri).</p> <p><u>Listening and Talking</u></p> <p>We are continuing to work on our listening skills, especially when others are talking or sharing their ideas. We are becoming very good at asking good questions and making sure we show with our body language that we are listening when others speak. We have been doing some listening exercises in class, where we are given an instruction once and we have to follow the instruction. The children are becoming very good at this. Our Drama activities will continue to develop our confidence sharing ideas and being able to give feedback to one another.</p> <p>In January, we will be learning a Scottish Poem near Burns’ Day. We will spend time learning these and will recite them in class. This will give us an opportunity to appreciate and learn about some Scottish words we may not know and listen carefully as others’ perform.</p> <p>We will also be developing confidence talking in front of others’ as we share our Assembly in February.</p>	<p><u>Health and Well-being / RME/ Science</u></p> <p>P.E</p> <p>This term our focus will be on Scottish Country dancing. We will be learning 2 different dances and performing at the dance festival. We will also link our circus topic into our own PE lessons and practise different ways of developing our ability to balance using various objects, speeds and movements.</p> <p>Our Gym day is a Friday. (although we are also practising on Mondays for our Sharing Assembly).</p> <p>As part of HWB we will continue to develop the world of work skills by breaking down each skill and seeing what we need to do to improve ourselves in each individual skill. We will also develop our understanding of medicine and substance safety and how to keep ourselves safe in different situations. As part of keeping ourselves healthy we will look at marketing and how adverts can influence our choices so we have a better understanding of what we believe in advertising.</p> <p>RME</p> <p>Our main focus for RME this term is looking at the different festivals that different religions celebrate and linking this to our topic of senses. We will also continue to develop our understanding of the Christian Easter story.</p> <p>Science</p> <p>This term we will explore the topic of our Senses. We are already familiar with the 5 senses that humans have, but will investigate these further with different experiments and learning experiences. We will learn some anatomy of the body parts involved in our senses and learn about how people can live without particular senses and how they can adapt and how these people may need supported.</p>
<p><u>Our Project - ‘The Circus’</u></p> <p>We will be learning all about different forces through the topic of the Circus. We will ask the children what they know already and what they want to find out about. We will explore:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> * the effect of shape and motion of different acts in the circus *How magnetism might be used within acts in the circus *Predict and investigate how a force can change the speed, direction and shape *Use language such as push, pull, stretching, squashing and twisting *Investigate balanced forces and explain if a push and pull are equal in strength *Develop and understanding of whether magnetic poles attract or repel through different circus acts. *Look at electricity within the circus and how it is used And look at how the use of energy has changed over the years until now as it becomes more sustainable. *Develop our understanding of how sounds can be altered in pitch by changing elements of sound *develop our understanding of how different materials are used in the circus for different things and classify them as 	<p><u>Expressive Arts – Art, Drama and Music</u></p> <p>Art</p> <p>In Art we will continue to work on our construction, cutting and sticking skills. We will also be using a range of media to create artwork relating to our topic including textured circus themes and senses.</p> <p>Drama</p> <p>In Drama we will link our understanding of the senses, learning the skills of mime, improvisation, using our voices effectively and developing characterisation. We will develop turn taking, working together in groups and learning how to give feedback to one another.</p> <p>We will also use our drama sessions to develop our Literacy skills, writing stories based on our Drama activities.</p> <p>Music</p> <p>In music, we will be working on using our voice. We will also use some musical instruments to discover and enjoy playing with sound, rhythm, pitch and dynamics</p>

<p>natural or man-made (synthetic).</p>	
<p><u>ICT and Technologies</u></p> <p>We will be learning to use the netbooks in school to help us use a computer independently. We have been working on logging on and off, opening up different programmes including Microsoft Word. We have learned how to change the style, size and colour of the font. We have also learned how to save a document into a folder.</p> <p>This term we will be learning about how to find pictures from different programmes and the internet and to copy and paste into Word Documents. We will also learn about Microsoft PowerPoint and learn how to add and edit slides, add special effects and layouts and add information we have researched online.</p> <p>We will also continue to learn how to access various websites and search for information using Google and keywords. Please see websites below for your child to access at home to practice navigating around various websites.</p>	<p><u>Outdoor Learning</u></p> <p>We plan to go outdoors most Tuesday afternoons. Please ensure your child has appropriate clothing, e.g., wellies and waterproofs please. We will send a reminder on Seesaw the days you need to send this clothing.</p> <p>In P3 we will continue working on gaining our Natural Connections Award. So far we have explored our local area (School woods, the Public Park and our playground) to meet the criteria of : DISCOVERY, ADVENTURE, JOURNEYS AND PRESERVATION. This term we will especially focus on mapping skills and using our senses outside.</p>
<p><u>How can parents/ families help?</u></p> <p>Encourage your child to access Sumdog online; logging in independently to practise their numeracy skills frequently.</p> <p>Encourage completion of reading and spelling homework each week.</p> <p>Read regularly – if not daily – with your child. Please discuss words, spellings and meanings within the text and/or pictures.</p> <p>Please ensure your child brings a full gym kit to school on Fridays. Suitable shoes, shorts / joggers, a t-shirt and a jumper / hoodie in case P.E is taught outdoors.</p>	
<p><u>Please make sure your child's name is on all items of clothing they bring to school, to avoid lost property.</u></p> <p><u>Other news from our class:</u></p> <p><u>Seesaw</u> Please ensure that the school have your latest email/contact information. There is good engagement from parents and families through Seesaw. It's super for communication, so please ensure you can see our class page to see your child's work and so you can get any messages from us. It's also handy for you if you have a question.</p> <p><u>Homework</u> Homework will be issued on a Wednesday and must be returned by the following Monday. It will include your child's reading book with a reading record (we would be grateful if this could be signed), spelling words uploaded to Seesaw each week (which can be practiced in the jotter provided or using the 'active' tasks given on the Spelling activity sheet). I will also provide a list of spelling words. We will alternate between spelling patterns and common words each week.</p> <p>Numeracy skills can be practiced through Sumdog (your child's username and password will be stuck inside the cover of their homework jotter) and other websites including:</p> <p>https://maths-games.org/time-games.html https://www.topmarks.co.uk/mathsgames/subtraction-grids www.sumdog.com www.mathplayground.com www.topmarks.co.uk/mathsgames/ www.bbc bitesize.com www.doorwayonline.com</p> <p><u>Important Dates</u></p> <p>* Friday 23rd February 2024 - Scottish Country Dance Festival at Dunfermline High (parent helpers needed)</p> <p>* 22.1.24 – finalists chosen for Scottish Poetry Competition (finalists will recite to judges on 26.1.24)</p> <p>* 20.2.24 - Visit from the Deaf Association to talk to the children.</p> <p>* 16.1.24 and 19.3.24 – two visits this term to the Library – Parent helper volunteers greatly appreciated!</p> <p>* Our Sharing Assembly (Parents invited) – Wednesday 7th February am</p>	