



### General Information

We hope you all had a great Festive break and are refreshed for our Winter term. Last term there was a great deal of lost property, again we would ask that every item of clothing is clearly labelled with your child's name. We would also ask that everyone comes to school with a hooded coat and appropriate footwear, especially on **Tuesday** for our woods time. **Monday** is now going to be our gym day.

### Literacy

#### Reading

After thoroughly enjoying **the book 'Slime'** last term, we want to maintain that enthusiasm, so this term our class novel will be *Blunder* by David Walliams.

Each child will also receive another reading book which will be read for homework. This should be in schoolbags **every day** please.

*We will not have replacement books available for your child to use if they are forgotten/lost. Unfortunately, several school novels have already been misplaced this year. We would ask you to search for these at home and return to school please.*

#### Spelling and Handwriting

We have re-tested all children this term to find out accurate spelling ages. Spelling will be given for homework each week. We will be focussing on the rules for consonants blends, vowels, prefixes and suffixes in class and doing this is making a difference to the retention of skills. We will be revisiting certain spelling rules that were still causing difficulties amongst the children, e.g. silent letters and vowel patterns.

#### Writing

We are looking to develop confidence in using sentence openers, connectives, WOW words and extended punctuation (especially speech marks for those confident with the basics). We will also be investigating and writing poetry in a variety of forms: acrostic, limerick, haiku, tanka and cinquain.

#### Talking and listening

We will be doing lots of talking and listening this term relating to our topic. This will include giving short speeches for ideas orally either in small groups, or to the class. We will also be taking part actively in debates. We will continue to develop our ability to

### Numeracy and Maths

This term, maths will be focussing on Time and how to use appropriate units of time. We will be looking at timetables and routines We will also be looking at Mathematics and its impact on the world, past, present and future.

In numeracy we will be continuing subtraction and then moving onto multiplication and division. In order to assist with this, it is very important that the children practise counting in 3s, 4s, 5s, 10s, as well as doubling and halving of numbers in order to build their confidence of their times table facts. This will help them solve calculations with more ease. This could be supported further at home through recall games and online resources such as Topmarks and Sumdog.

### Health and Wellbeing

We will continue to follow the Building Resilience programme to develop strategies to cope during challenging times throughout our lives, as well as using an online resource called Tree of Knowledge which is specifically tailored to P4 age children and relevant personal issues they may encounter and how to overcome them.

This term the pupils will continue to focus Scottish Country dancing, we will be attending the Scottish Dance Festival on **Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> February** at Dunfermline High School (performing the Gay Gordons, Dashing White Sergeant and Strip the Willow). We will also need some parent helpers for this day between **9:30am-12:30pm**. Please get in touch if you would like to come along with us.

Parents will also be invited to an assembly on **Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> February at 9.30am**.

We will also be focusing on ball skills within basketball and netball including dribbling, throwing, passing, accurate shooting, defending, as well as crucial teamwork skills required for all aspects of life.

### Expressive Arts

speak in a persuasive and interesting manner and how we can use our skills to grip the audience. Pupils will also learn about poetry and make a focus on Scottish poetry in the lead up to Burns day. It is hoped that all of the children will be able to recite at least one verse of a poem they have learned.

### ICT

We will continue to use the netbooks in school to help us use a computer independently, especially signing in via password and saving our work in a safe, personal file. We will consider email and the different forms of communication we can use, including blogs and vlogs. We will also develop our typing skills by sharing our learning on Microsoft Word and PowerPoint.

### Interdisciplinary Topic (IDL)

#### Dunfermline

We will be looking at buildings and historical figures who put Dunfermline on the map! Mapwork and exploring primary and secondary sources of 'old' Dunfermline will be key to recognising changes in our hometown. We are keen to investigate outside and explore local sites of interest.

### RME

This term, children will learn about carnivals related to Easter for example Mardi Gras. Pupils will also learn about the Jewish festival of Purim. Children will have an increasing awareness of the beliefs of other world religions and consider the diversity of the beliefs in Scotland.

### Art

In art this term we will be discussing how the work of artists and designers make us feel using some art and design vocabulary. We will then try to use these feelings and thoughts to create work that portrays similar feelings.

### Music

We will begin looking at a programme called Charanga to interpret and perform some pieces of music either using instruments or via singing. Through our Scottish Country Dancing lessons, we will also be listening, singing and interpreting some traditional Scottish music.

### Drama

We will continue to work on our drama skills each Friday. We will explore mime, scripts, facial-expression and body language and self-assessing which will be a key-focus.

### Outdoor Learning – Natural Connections

In school, P4 will have Outdoor Learning **every Tuesday afternoon**. We will continue to look at the damage caused to the School Woods and how we can regenerate growth and preserve the area to encourage more flora and fauna to inhabit the area. For this reason, we will not visit the woods as often, instead doing our Outdoor Learning in various other locations. **Wellies are still required every Tuesday afternoon.**

### How can parents/ families help?

- Homework will continue to be issued every **Wednesday** and should be returned every **Monday**. The homework will be issued as an assignment and should be handed in on **Seesaw**.
- Outdoor Learning takes place every **Tuesday afternoon**. Pupils will require wellies and a jacket on these days.
- Our **PE day is a Monday afternoon** so children should have their gym kit in school. No football strips are allowed. Please dress warm and include a full change of clothes as it can be muddy.
- Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> February is an In-service day before the 2-day holiday on the 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup>.
- ***Please ensure that the school have your latest email/contact information.***

Many Thanks, Miss Brown and Miss Berry