



Welcome to the first newsletter of this session. Please see below our planned learning for this term. Many thanks for your continued support. 😊

Literacy

In writing, we will continue to develop our ability to write in full sentences, including the correct use of capital letters, full stops and finger spaces. Some of us will learn to use adjectives and more adventurous vocabulary to produce more descriptive pieces of writing.

In phonics, we will revise and develop our abilities to both read and write double vowel sounds (e.g. oo, ee, ai). Some of us will work on spelling common words correctly.

In reading, we will practise blending sounds together and will work on reading common words by sight to increase our fluency. We will develop skills in comprehension by answering questions about what we have read and will discuss text in our groups.

In our IDL topic 'Toys' we will:

- Talk about our favourite toys and ask questions
- Learn about how toys work and describe the different parts and materials
- Learn how magnets, forces and energy affect how things move
- Compare toys today to toys from the past
- Design and create model toys

After the October break we will continue with a science focus and will use a '**Space**' theme to:

- Learn about the 'light and dark'
- Observe the sun at different points of the day
- Investigate shadows
- Learn about the moon and why there are different phases of the moon
- Think about our place in the world and the importance of caring for our planet
- Learn about stars and constellations

Numeracy and Maths

In numeracy we will be working on 'Place Value'. We will learn about tens and ones (e.g. 28 has 2 'tens' and 8 'ones'). Some of us may work with hundreds and beyond.

We will order numbers from smallest to largest, work out missing numbers in sequences and practise skip counting in 2's, 5's and 10's.

We will work on quick recall of number bonds (to 10, 20, 100 and beyond for some). Any practise of this at home would be very beneficial (all the ways to make 10... e.g. $2 + 8 = 10$, $6 + 4 = 10$.)

In Maths, we will be working on 2D and 3D shape. We will sort, compare and tile with shapes. We will learn to use the correct mathematical language to describe shapes (e.g. vertices, parallelogram, symmetrical). We will learn the proper names for shapes which might be new vocabulary for some pupils (e.g. triangular prism, hexagon, sphere).

Health and Wellbeing

We will be focusing how our brain works and how to have a 'growth mindset' this term. We will try to think more positively and know what to do if we are finding something tricky.

We will learn more about 'resilience' and the importance of respect for yourself and others, recognising that we all have similarities and differences but are unique.

P.E. will be on a **Thursday** this term and pupils can come to school wearing their gym kit.

In P.E. we will work on fitness skills and will take part in circuit activities to develop our fitness levels. We will also take part in team games and will discuss the importance of co-operation and good sportsmanship.

Outdoor Learning

Our outdoor learning day will be a **Thursday** this term. Pupils **do not** need to bring wellies to school each week. Most of our learning will take place in the quad, school grounds or in the classroom. If we are planning on using the school woods for our learning, class teachers will send an **e-mail** home to let you know in advance.

This term, we are planning a 'quad project' in order to improve the school quad area for all classes to access. We will do a survey in order to plan what needs to be done, clean and tidy the quad, do some weeding and gardening, restock resources and communicate our plans with the rest of the school.

Expressive Arts

In art, we will work on line drawing and design in relation to our toys topic. We also use construction skills to design and build our own toy. We will learn different painting techniques and will develop our fine motor skills through cutting and sticking activities.

In Music we will use the 'Charanga' resource to support our learning of pulse and rhythm. We will practise moving and singing in time to music. Later in the term, we will learn to sing songs in relation to Nativity and Christmas.

In Drama, we will be learning to use our body to mime and act out short scenes. We will work with others in order to create small performances. We will use stories to inspire our drama work.

Homework

Weekly homework consists of:

- Reading book to practise with an adult at home
- Common words to learn to read by sight / or a spelling task
- Maths websites to practice skills we are working on in class (see below)

Please return common words/reading books daily (keep in school bags) so that pupils can have access to these in class and at home each day.

Suggested websites to support numeracy/maths:

Shape:

[topmarkhttps://www.topmarks.co.uk/carroll-diagrams/2d-shapes.co.uk](https://www.topmarks.co.uk/carroll-diagrams/2d-shapes.co.uk)

<https://www.topmarks.co.uk/ordering-and-sequencing/shape-patterns>

https://mathsframe.co.uk/en/resources/resource/115/sorting_3d_shapes_on_a_venn_diagram#

<https://apps.mathlearningcenter.org/pattern-shapes/>

Place Value:

<https://www.topmarks.co.uk/learning-to-count/place-value-basketball>

<https://www.topmarks.co.uk/place-value/bean-numbers>

<https://www.topmarks.co.uk/place-value/place-value-charts>

<https://ictgames.com/sharkNumbers/mobile/index.html>

<https://mathsframe.co.uk/en/resources/resource/59/itp-beadsticks>

How can parents/families help?

- Please label all of your belongings with our name – many 'nameless' items have already been lost and sent to the main office lost property box.
- Help us with homework/reading book and common word practise. This really makes a huge difference to pupils learning in school.
- As we are no longer using Seesaw for communication (for pupil learning journey's only), please feel free to catch us at the door at the end of a day or e-mail us through the main office at: commercialps.enquiries@fife.gov.uk

Thank you for your continued support,
Mrs Westwood and Miss McCouaig