



P1 Family Newsletter

School Closure Home Learning



It is with much sadness that we have prepared this 'home learning' newsletter to assist you in supporting your child in their learning during the school closure imposed by the Scottish government as a result of the Coronavirus.

We have provided a list of suggested activities below to enable you to consolidate and extend learning for your P1 child during the school closure. We are sending each child home with their whiteboard and pen along with a blank jotter and some surplus worksheets we already had copied. We will also aim to provide you with a weekly summary of suggested activities collectively via Twitter (P1D - @BishopmillG and P1T - @BishopmillP1T).

If possible, we would advise that you structure your child's day with set times to get up, work on home learning, take a break, eat, stop working, play and go to bed. We would also recommend that you avoid learning at the weekend and allow them time to relax and develop in their own ways. Please also remember the children are due to be on holiday for two weeks. They will be tired and need that rest before you start on more learning.

Our normal weekly timetable is varied and consists of play, show and tell, reading, shared stories, phonic and alphabet learning, writing, French, numeracy, mathematics, art, music, singing, assembly, religious and moral education, health, P.E., buddy time, learning context and Floorbook.



Literacy and English

- Regularly read books with your child (e.g. daily bedtime story). Encourage them to read known words and sound and blend unknown words. Ask them to use the pictures to retell the story in their own words.
- Learn to recognise and read all tricky words and spell them correctly.
- Recap all phonic sounds, especially digraphs.
- Practise writing all sounds using the correct formation (and an improved grip).
- Practise writing the capital letters from A to M. Learn the order of the alphabet from A to M.
- Use knowledge of phonics to write own sentences or practise copying writing from books. Ensure use of capital letters, full stops and finger spaces. Expect phonetic attempts of words rather than correct spelling.
- Talk and listen face-to-face with your child, recapping what you have each heard. Allow them to phone or face-time a friend or family member (if possible).
- Reading - please try to register free with Oxford Owl which has a range of e-books available. You may choose to read any of the e-books but we are planning to set a book per week with related activities.

Check out these web-links:

www.oxfordowl.co.uk

www.teachyourmonstertoread.com (also available as an app)

www.phonicsplay.co.uk

Numeracy and Mathematics

- Practise writing all digits using the correct formation (and fixing backwards errors).
- Write out the numbers to 20 (and beyond) in the correct order.
- State a number to 100 and ask your child to write it down. Discuss the value of place (e.g. 56 = 5 tens and 6 ones).
- Learn number facts to 10 by rote (i.e. they should be able to immediately recall the answer to the sum rather than having to work it out). Look at them in number pattern order initially by building up from 0 (e.g. $0 + 5 = 5$, $1 + 4 = 5$, $2 + 3 = 5$, $3 + 2 = 5$, $4 + 1 = 5$, $5 + 0 = 5$) then mix them up.
- Count on and count back (using fastest finger to add a single digit). Work to/from 10/20 initially then extend to 100 (as required), e.g. $56 + 5 = ?$ $47 - 4 = ?$
- Work on recognition of coins and place a set of coins in value order (smallest to biggest and biggest to smallest). Create small amounts using a range of coins (to 10p/20p). Create you own 'shop' using packaging and use to pay with correct coins or give change.
- Make a calendar and use each day to talk about the day (plus day 'yesterday' and 'tomorrow'), month, season and weather.
- Use clocks to identify o'clock and half past times.
- Help weigh out items for baking or cooking tasks.



Check out these web-links:

www.oxfordowl.co.uk

www.topmarks.co.uk (including 'Hit the Button')

www.crickweb.co.uk

Health and Wellbeing

- Talk about the aspects of SHANARRI explored so far: Safe, Healthy, Achieving, Nurtured. Make a poster to demonstrate what the different terms mean.
- Safe - discuss and look for examples of safety (or lack of it) around the house (e.g. dangerous substances such as medicines, cleaning products).
- Healthy - discuss and demonstrate correct hand-washing techniques.
- Achieving - discuss personal achievements at home, e.g. independently making own bed.
- Nurtured - discuss feelings, especially in relation to 'worries'.
- Encourage development of a 'growth mindset' with a focus on "I can't do it...yet!" Look for opportunities to use this language with your child to help build resilience.
- Try to get moving, even if it needs to be inside.

Check out these web-links:
www.learningstationmusic.com
www.gonoodle.com
www.cosmickids.com

Other Curricular Areas

- French - sing learned songs and rhymes. Draw and label pictures of learned words.
- Science - go on a garden bug hunt (possibly a scavenger hunt). Draw and label pictures.
- Social Studies - find out about a person of interest from the past. Make a poster.
- Outdoor learning - build a den (then snuggle up and read stories).
- ICT - explore recommended websites and play games to develop mouse control.
- Art and Design - Draw or paint pictures (try to encourage looking for detail and being neat).
- Dance - Make up your own dance to a favourite piece of music.
- Drama - Make up and perform your own little 'show'.
- Music - Listen to and discuss a range of types of music. Clap rhythms. Sing songs and rhymes.
- Home skills - Make own bed. Wash the dishes. Weed the garden.

Check out these web-links:
www.twinkl.co.uk/offer (use code: UKTWINKLHELPS for free access for a month)
(Resources can usually be downloaded)
www.abcya.com

Play (a great way to learn!)

- Jigsaws - completing a puzzle helps to develop spatial awareness and perseverance.
- Board Games - playing games helps develop turn-taking and learning of rules to play the game properly.
- Drawing/Colouring/Writing - help to develop fine motor control, concentration and attention to detail.
- Craft (e.g. junk modelling) - helps to develop imagination and fine motor control (it is amazing what children can produce out of a pile of 'rubbish' - let them tell you about what they have made!).
- Construction Material (e.g. Lego, K'nex) - helps to develop creativity, fine motor control. It can be beneficial to 'set' challenges, e.g. build a rocket.
- Small World (e.g. dolls, plastic animals) - helps develop imagination and speech (the toys normally want to talk to each other!).
- Role-play area (e.g. house, vet) - helps develop imagination and making sense of the world.
- Water play (e.g. bath-time, paddling pool) - helps to develop awareness of safety and capacity.
- Sand play - helps to develop fine motor control and imagination.



Home Project - The Wonderfully Wacky World of Work

- We have supplied each child with a jotter to use as a journal to record any learning they undertake in relation to their home project. We are setting a context but not telling them exactly what or how to learn - the choice is theirs and yours. They are being asked to explore different jobs they think might be interesting and to record what they have learned about them (e.g. in relation to skills needed, uniform worn, etc.). They can design a titled cover for their jotter then: research, print, draw, make, photograph, comment, interview, record, etc. on each of their chosen jobs.

We would love to keep in touch and hear how the children are getting on, possibly with one weekly photo added. You may contact us via e-mail:

P1D - gillian.donegan1@moray-edunet.gov.uk

P1T - moira.grimson@moray-edunet.gov.uk



Finally, we would like to thank you for working in partnership with us to support your child in their learning. It has been our great pleasure to teach your child during their time in P1 so far. We wish you all good health and happiness in the weeks to come and hope that we will be reunited before too long.

From the P1 team (Mrs Donegan - P1D, Mrs Grimson, Mrs Kendrick and Mrs Heald - P1T)