**ST MARK’S PS**

**TERM 1**

**PARENT INFORMATION LETTER – P3/4**

**LITERACY**

This term our reading focus will be using the ORT/Rapid Reader reading schemes. The children will have access to our Reading Zone and weekly challenges and will have lots of shared reading experiences. We will be working on identifying the main idea of a text and using supporting evidence to back up our thinking. We will have a paired reading time with Primary 7 on a Wednesday, which I am sure all children will enjoy. Our focus in writing will be sentence-writing using correct punctuation, spelling and common words correctly. We will be using information gathered through reading and topic time to create a fact file. In listening and talking, we will participate in Circle Time activities in order to develop our core skills in this area.

Hello and welcome back everyone! I am delighted be working and learning together with P3/4. They are a fantastic class community and we are developing good class routines and getting to know each other better. P3 Children can be collected from 2.50pm each day and P4 dismissed at 3pm. I will be available to have a chat if you have any questions.

**CLASS INFORMATION**

Mrs Logue will be in class supporting us Monday - Friday and Mrs McInnes on a Wednesday and Thursday afternoon.

* Throughout the week, we will have access to the infant playroom for play-based activities.
* We are also enjoying learning through play with our discovery zones in class! This allows pupils to lead their learning, more challenge opportunities and to have fun! We will hold a small open afternoon to allow parents/carers to share our classroom. A date will be emailed as soon as possible.
* Our PE days are a **Tuesday** and **Friday** so please ensure your child is wearing comfortable shoes/bottoms on these days.
* It would be preferable if water bottles could have a sports cap and taken home nightly. Please leave jewellery at home on PE days.
* As a school, we have decided that homework will consist of reading. Homework will given out **MONDAY**. Your child will be issued with a homework folder – *reading record, word wall and book*. Books will be changed weekly OR fortnightly. We will be reading most days in class so please keep your child’s folder in their bag at all times.
* Please label your child’s school clothing especially jumpers and cardigans. It saves a lot of confusion!
* Mrs Gallagher will teach on a Wednesday morning during my non-class contact time.

**ACROSS THE CURRICULUM**

* We will be using Emotion Works and Bounceback! to focus on learning more about our Emotional Health and Wellbeing. We are looking at emotions and strategies to regulate them. We will also discuss friendship, what makes a good friend and the importance of resilience
* In PE, we will be developing our fitness, Hockey skills and gymnastics.
* We have already started continuing our Spanish journey and will be learning more greetings, personal information and numbers to 20…and maybe more.
* Our class vote for our topic was Dinosaurs! This is an exciting topic with lots of fun learning activities and science based learning too. We will also be using the playroom to supplement our learning.
* Primary 3 will be making their Sacrament of Reconciliation in St Mary’s during the month of November. This date has still to be confirmed. You will be lettered nearer the time. A Parent booklet will be issued to children who will be making their Sacrament of Reconciliation and this should be completed and kept at home.
* P3/4 will also be ‘Children’s Champions’ and working with the school community in our journey to becoming a Silver Award Rights Respecting School.

**NUMERACY**

In Numeracy we will be working on developing our mental maths strategies with our daily mental maths tasks and challenges. This term will focus initially on revision then onto Place Value and Estimation and Rounding.

In Maths, we will be learning about the properties of 2D/3D shape, Pattern and Calendars. Our discovery zone challenges will also allow us to further explore our learning!

I look forward to working with you all this year. Thank you for your continued support, any questions or queries please do not hesitate to ask.

Best Wishes,



*Louise Griffin*