



# P4 Newsletter

January – March 2024

## Welcome back!

We hope you had a lovely Christmas and New Year. We are still currently sharing a classroom with Miss Low and Primary 5. Some learning experiences will be shared, but others will be specific to Primary 4. Below is some information about the upcoming term, which we hope you will find useful. Should you wish to speak to us, please contact the school office and we will get back to you.

Mrs Ferguson and Mrs Hughes 😊

## Literacy

### Phonics & Spelling

The **Authors** will continue to work through Stage 3 of the Active Literacy programme. We will focus on one new phoneme each week along with common words.

The **Editors** and **Bloggers** will continue Stage 4 of the programme, which operates on a four-weekly rotation. For the first two weeks, this group will explore the different representations of a particular sound (e.g., /ae/ can be shown as a-e, ay, ai, ey or ea). In the third week, they will practise common words and in the fourth, they will focus on a spelling rule (e.g., Silent 'e' makes the vowel say its name).

### Reading

The **Editors** and **Bloggers** will be given a novel to read at home and in class. The **Authors** will be issued with a book from the Rapid Reader series each week. We will also use a range of non-fiction texts and other suitable types of media to provide opportunities for talking and listening.

**Please remember to bring your reading book to school every day!**

### Writing

We will have a taught writing lesson each week, usually linked to our IDL topic or other current events. We will begin with **explanation** writing, followed by **narrative** and **persuasive writing**. We will also try writing some Scots poetry in January for Burns Day.

The children will continue to have handwriting practice on a Wednesday, along with P5 and Mrs Daly.

## Numeracy & Maths

Numeracy and Maths lessons will usually begin with Number Talks, which gives children the opportunity to share solutions to number problems as a class. We will then move onto group or individual work, using Heinemann Active Maths as our main resource. In general, we will focus on numeracy on Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday, with maths (sometimes referred to as 'Beyond Number') on Thursdays and Fridays.

### Numeracy

We will begin by learning about **Multiplication and Division**. The **Circles** will learn how to display equal groups in different ways and write number sentences about them. They will explore the 2-, 4- and 8-times tables and discuss the patterns between them. They will use their knowledge of times tables to solve division problems. The **Triangles** will focus on multiplying and dividing by 10 and 100. They be multiplying 2-digit numbers by 1-digit numbers and using their times table knowledge to divide 2-digit numbers by 1-digit numbers. After this, both groups will move onto **Fractions**.

### Maths

We will start with **Measurement**. The **Circles** will learn to estimate, measure, and compare length, mass, and volume. The **Triangles** will learn to estimate and calculate area, before solving measurement problems.

After Measurement, we will move on to **Shape, Position and Movement**.

### Health and Wellbeing

Last term, we learned about the SHANARRI indicators, **Safe, Healthy, and Achieving**. In January, our focus will be on **Nurtured**, before moving onto **Active** in February and **Respected** in March. We will continue to have **P.E.** on a **Tuesday** and **Thursday** afternoon. Please ensure that children come to school wearing appropriate clothing and footwear on these days.

In Term 1, the children enjoyed athletics and gymnastics, and we learned lots of new games from our visiting sports coaches. We will begin the Term 2 with **possession games** followed by **central net and wall games**.

### Interdisciplinary Learning (IDL)

Our IDL topic this term will be 'Natural Disasters'. We'll be learning about tsunamis, volcanoes, and earthquakes, and how these link to climate change. We will also be learning about the importance of saving and protecting water, as part of our STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths) learning. Scottish Water have set a challenge called 'Mission H2O' and Room 4 will be encouraging other classes to participate in January.

### Religious and Moral Education (RME)

In Term 1, we learned about Christianity, including Christian customs and the Bible stories of David and Goliath, and the Nativity. We also learned about the Hindu festival of Diwali. This term we will be learning about Islam, focusing on Halal and Haram foods, before moving on to explore the Hindu festival of Holi.

### Modern Languages

The children have been enjoying learning **French** in Term 1. We shall continue by learning to talk about the months of the year and clothing. As well as French, we are fortunate to be taking part in **British Sign Language (BSL)** lessons, led by an online tutor. This will last for 10 weeks.

### Homework

We shall continue to upload homework activities to the P4 Teams page on a fortnightly basis. Children should continue to use their homework jotter to complete tasks, and this can be kept at home.

Whilst homework is optional, we would appreciate if children could read some of their reading book each evening, whenever possible (and remember to bring the book into school each day!). All children in P4 should have been issued with a plastic wallet to protect their reading book in their bag.

### Show and Tell

We know that the children in Room 4 love to share stories and achievements from outside of school, and we love to hear about them! It is a great opportunity for children to speak in front of their peers and to learn from each other. We don't have a set day or time for Show and Tell, but if children have something to share, they should let a teacher know in the morning so that we can make time for this during the day.

### Glee Club

Several children in P4 will be participating in a Glee Competition in February. The children have been working hard to rehearse two songs, 'Space Man' by Sam Ryder and 'You're a Star' from the new Disney film, 'Wish'. The songs are sounding great, and we are looking forward to the big performance.

Wish us luck!