

Balmalloch Primary School and Nursery Class



Class Newsletter

responsiBility
grAitude
BELIEVE IN YOURSELF
huMility and forgiveness
perseverAnce
Love
ACHIEVE YOUR GOALS
hOnesty and generosity
Compassion and respeCt
friendsHiP & family

A PLACE OF ENTHUSIASTIC LEARNING AND ACHIEVEMENT

Welcome parents and carers to Primary 6's newsletter for Term 3.

It is great to have the children back in class following the festive period. I hope everyone had an enjoyable and relaxing time with family and friends and I want to wish you all the best for 2023. The class ethos of P6B will continue to be based on respect, positive reinforcement and nurture. I will do my best to support the educational and social development of each child and I hope you feel free to contact me should you wish to discuss any personal concerns. I cannot speak highly enough of the effort and conduct of the children in P6B and I hope they continue to take pride in their work and themselves. I thank you for your encouragement and support at home.

Due to staff changes, my non-class contact time will differ for this Term. I will be out of class on Tuesday mornings (9-11.45). During this time, Mrs McDaid will lead learning and she will be responsible for gym and RME. P6B also have gym with myself, however the day of this has changed to Mondays (10.45-11.45) meaning our gym days are **Mondays and Tuesdays**. Both of these gym slots will be indoors so please try to ensure that on these days children attend school wearing comfortable shoes, black jogging bottoms/leggings and a white polo-shirt. If pupils want to change into trainers or more suitable footwear for sport, they can do this on PE days. Please ensure that all of your child's clothes are **labelled** and he/she refrains from wearing jewellery on these days. If your child has earrings which cannot be removed for several weeks, please try and cover them with tape on P.E. days (e.g. Micropore), for health and safety purposes. Jogging trousers/leggings should only be worn on gym days.

I will soon be providing your child with a Scottish poem that we will be practising in class. Our class poem is called **'First Catch Your Haggis'**. Each child will be given the chance to perform this poem to the rest of the class and three children will be chosen by me to represent P6B as part of a full school competition (three children from each class are chosen to participate in a school final). This competition is usually judged by senior pupils from the Academy and tends to take place at the start of February - when these details are confirmed I will let you know. In the meantime, it would be great if you could encourage your child to practise their poem at home. I am aware, and I do appreciate that some children do not enjoy speaking or performing in front of audiences or even their peers. Talking and Listening does form part of our national curriculum and it is important that I am able to assess children throughout the year. As well as performing this poem, children will also be participating in a 'solo talk' later this term, which I will provide details on nearer the time. Whilst I do want to encourage children to try these activities and support them to push themselves, I do not want to cause any distress or anxieties. If any children are not able or willing to perform in front of the full class I will provide opportunities for them to perform in front of a small peer group or even 1 on 1 with me. If anyone has concerns about this, please let me know.

In addition to this school competition, there is also a Cumbernauld competition ran by the Cumbernauld and District Burns Club. This is an Annual Schools' Competition and finalists would perform on Saturday 4th March. This competition is separate from the school and whilst we will encourage children to enter, it is the responsibility of the parents/carers to submit entries and take their child to relevant locations. There are 21 different

competitions that children can enter dependent on their age, only 7 of those are appropriate to P6. I have outlined these below:

Competition 6 - recitation of 'To a Mouse' by Robert Burns

Competition 8 - open for any recitation in the Scots vernacular

Competition 9 - open Burns' song 'A Red Red Rose'

Competition 11 - Senior Art (P4-P7). This can be any picture, sketch, drawing or model with a Burns' theme. A photograph entry must be submitted and 2-3 will be requisite for models

Competition 18 - an essay for P4-P7 entitled 'A Day on the Farm' - set in the past or present. Any style of writing can be submitted

Competition 19 - a poem on a Scottish theme and with Scots dialect entitled 'The Rhymers' for P4-P7

Competition 20 - any duet singing one of the prescribed songs

If you would like a copy of 'To a Mouse' or 'A Red Red Rose' please let me know.

If your child will be entering any of these competitions please advise me so I can organise the relevant submission details.

As Balmalloch Primary School is a Health Promoting School, could you please ensure that your child only brings water to drink in class. Water bottles can be refilled throughout the day as fruit juices/cartons should only be consumed at lunch. Although gym days are Mondays and Tuesdays, outdoor education and activities such as the Daily Mile will often be incorporated in to learning so it would be helpful if children brought a water bottle each day.

If you could also please ensure your child brings their homework jotter in to class each day. At the start of each week (usually a Monday), children will write their spelling words in their homework jotter to allow practise to be completed at home should you wish to do so. In P6 children focus on homophone words, spelling rules, affixes and tricky words which require the use of spelling strategies. The spelling strategies that children learn in class are:

- Sounding out letters
- Syllabification
- Words within words
- Compound words
- Use of analogy
- Mnemonics
- Applying a spelling rule

Children should be encouraged to explain these strategies to you and show you how these can be used to help with spelling.




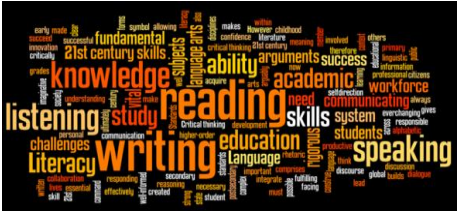



As always, I am very grateful for your support during your child's learning. Please remember to follow our school twitter @balmalloch for regular school updates and photos of our work in class. Should you wish to discuss any aspect of your child's learning or welfare please do not hesitate to contact me. You can phone the school office to request a call back, send a note in with your child, or email me; nlwrightd@glow.sch.uk

All children are encouraged to choose a book from our class library to read when they come in to class in the morning and at various points throughout the school week. Children can take these books home to read and are also welcome to bring in books from home. Please encourage your child to read in class and at home when possible. Please remember as well as the attached Homework Grid, children can engage with Study Ladder, Sumdog, Topmarks, Discovery Education and BBC Bitesize.

Kind regards,
Miss D Wright

Class Teacher

What I am learning this term:

<p style="text-align: center;">Health and Wellbeing</p>  <p>PE and Sport: Athletics (Mondays and Tuesdays) HWB: SHANARRI Indicators - Active, Achieving, Responsible</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Expressive Arts</p>  <p>Art & Design: Famous Fashion Designer - Vivienne Westwood, fashion, fabrics, sketches and design Drama: Fairy tales and alternative endings Music: ABC music - composition</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Mathematics and Numeracy</p>  <p>Money: Continuation of exploring borrowing and saving. Investigating interest rates, use of bank cards and understanding loans and credit cards. Calculating profit and loss. Time: Use and interpret electronic and paper-based timetables and schedules. Explain units of time. Link knowledge of time, speed and distance. Read and record time in 12 and 24 hour notation. Patterns and Relationships: Explore complex number sequences. Investigate patterns including square numbers, cubed numbers, triangular numbers, Fibonacci and Pascal's triangle. Expressions and Equations. Solves simple algebraic equations.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Literacy and Languages</p>  <p>Listening and Talking: Poem recitation and solo talk Reading: make appropriate predictions about what will happen in a text, use visualisation to explain ideas, read between the lines to discover what the author wants the reader to think, understand and value. Focus on Visualisation and Prior Knowledge. Writing: Focus on Explanation and Narrative Genre Modern Languages: French - Clothing, Talking about Yourself and Feelings Grammar: comparative and superlative adverbs, colons and semi-colons, commas, abstract/collective nouns, Scots and Slang</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Social Studies</p>  <p>STEM: Science and Investigation. Biological Systems and Cells - Water. Identifying characteristics of living things and their environment. Exploring energy flows between plants and animals, complex food chains and webs and ecosystems. Discussing the necessity of water for life, growth and river flow. Investigation of the Water Cycle.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Religious and Moral Education</p>  <p>World Religions: Judaism - Bar/Bat Mitzvah. Understand the religion of Judaism and its Core Values. Explore the Synagogue and Torah. Explore Jewish traditions. Investigate the Bar/Bat Mitzvah ceremony.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Technologies</p>  <p>ICT: Cyber resilience and Internet Safety. Importance of being a responsible cyber citizen. Identify appropriate ways to report concerns. Use strong passwords. Understanding of law in relation to online behaviours.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">School Values Primary 6's School Values: Forgiveness & Humility</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Term 3's Values Perseverance, Your Goal - See it, Believe it, Achieve it, Responsibility</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Mental, emotional, social and physical wellbeing</p>

Homework:

Each term a grid will be given out with a variety of homework activities, these tasks are optional and can be returned to class for correction. The main emphasis of homework is reading. Each child should complete a minimum of 20 minutes reading per night which will support reading activities in school. This should be recorded in your child's reading record. Each night the pages read should be recorded in the jotter and the entry signed by a parent. This record will be checked weekly.

Snapshot Jotters and Learning Logs:

Each year, children will be given a Snapshot Jotter specific to their stage (P1-P7). The jotter will include a 'snapshot' of children's work each term in Numeracy and Maths and Literacy Across the Curriculum providing evidence of learning and achievement. The Senior Leadership and Management Team will monitor these jotters as part of Quality Assurance procedures, including a Kind, Specific and Helpful comment to support children's progress. In addition, parents and carers will also be asked to comment on their child's work each term, improving partnership working to support a holistic approach to learning and progression.

Learning Logs will also be provided but these jotters are kept for a three year period - Early Level/First Level/Second Level which will contain the following, depending on the level:

- 50 Things to do before you are 11 $\frac{3}{4}$
- Number Square
- Words I use a lot
- Conjunctions/Connectives
- Homophones
- Days of the week/Months of the year/Colours
- Punctuation
- Language Devices
- Parts of Speech
- Writing Targets
- Novel Studies
- Comprehension Strategies
- Pupil Profile
- SHANARRI Web (Safe/Healthy/Achieving/ Nurtured/Active/Responsible/ Respected/ Included) Pupils
- SHANARRI Web (Safe/Healthy/Achieving/ Nurtured/Active/Responsible/ Respected/ Included) Parents & Pupils
- Four Capacities
- Self-Assessment
- Progress Report
- Target Setting/Benchmarks

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Home Learning Tasks

Every child should be encourage to complete reading homework every night for 15-20 minutes and record this in their Reading Record. Include:

- Reading on your own
- Reading with a partner (e.g.) brother, sister, friend
- Being read to by an adult

Below are additional activities that you can discuss with your parents/carers and complete if you choose to do so. Please hand in finished homework to your class teacher on completion.

<p>Find out the current records for some of the athletics performed at the Olympics. Consider the 100m sprint, the long jump, the triple jump, javelin, 400m and any others you are interested in. Try these activities at home with an adult, how much of a difference is there between your record and the athletes'?</p>	<p>Create a timetable that shows the activities you participate in during one month. Write this out in 12 and 24 hour time. Once you're finished estimate how much time you approximately spend at school, sleeping, participating in a hobby and on a screen, then try to approximately calculate it. Were you close?</p>	<p>Practise our class poem 'First Catch Your Haggis'. Practise the Cumbernauld Burns Club poem 'To a Mouse' or any recitation in the Scots vernacular. Practise the Burns song 'To a Red, Red Rose'.</p> <p>Create a 'Scots Dictionary'.</p>
<p>Create an imaginary (or real!) enterprise activity. Consider the costs to you/your business as well as your potential profits each month. You could link this to a fashion product and consider some of the marketing/advertising strategies we have been learning about.</p> <p>Continue to use Sumdog, Topmarks and Study Ladder to revise mental math.</p>	<p>Create a picture, sketch, drawing or model with a Burns' theme. Create an essay entitled 'A Day on the Farm' - set in the past or present. Write a poem on a Scottish theme and with Scots dialect entitled 'The Rhymers'.</p> <p>Or write a short story involving the use of Scots Language/Slang by the characters.</p>	<p>Calculate 1-10₃. e.g. $1 \times 1 \times 1 = 1$</p> <p>Create problems with cubed numbers e.g. $5_3 + 3_3 =$ $5_3 + ? = 89$</p> <p>Create sequence problems for an adult to solve: e.g. 0, 1, 1, 2, 3, 5, 8,</p>
<p>Choose an animal to research and investigate the type of environment it needs to survive. Consider its place in a foodchain/web.</p>	<p>Write a diary entry written by a child who has just participated in their bar/bat mitzvah. Explain some of the things that happen during this process as well as the person's emotions.</p>	<p>Create a pantomime using humour showing a character resolving conflict. You could use Stop Motion or iMovie to record this or draw it out in a comic style strip.</p>
<p>.Create a PPT explaining the steps in the Water Cycle process. Try including animations, images or hyperlinks to videos.</p>	<p>Research a UK or Scottish fashion designer. Find out what inspired their fashion, the materials they use and where their products can be found. Use inspiration from them to create your own fashion range. Think about sustainability!</p>	<p>Create a poster explaining how and when to use speech marks, commas, colons and semi-colons. Test your adult to see if they can put them in the correct place!</p> <p>Continue to practise your spelling words.</p>

