

## Balmalloch Primary School and Nursery Class



### P3B Class Newsletter Term 1

responsiBility

grAitude

**BELIEVE IN YOURSELF**

huMility and forgiveness

perseverAnce

Love

**ACHIEVE YOUR GOALS**

hOnesty and generosity

Compassion and respect

friendsHiip & family

### **A PLACE OF ENTHUSIASTIC LEARNING AND ACHIEVEMENT**

Dear Parent/Guardian,

We hope that you all had a lovely time over the summer break. We are so glad to see the children back at school and we are looking forward to our first term in Primary 3.

#### **Routines**

The routines and expectations in Primary 3 will follow on from Primary 2. A reminder that as before, children can bring a water bottle with them to school. The children can fill their water bottles in school using the water fountain at the front door. In line with school policy, children are encouraged to only bring water in their bottles. Any fruit or diluting juices will be kept on the lunch trolley outside the classroom and children will be able to get these throughout the day.

#### **Health and Wellbeing**

Different aspects of Health and Wellbeing education permeates our school day. Each child has been given a numbered stone to enable them to respond to an 'Emotional Registration' check-in anonymously; only the class teacher will know the child's corresponding number to allow relevant follow up discussions. We have a class 'Bag of Worries' and time is always set aside to discuss children's emotions and concerns. This year the class teachers will lead learning in Health and Wellbeing linked to the SHANARRI indicators.

#### **Physical Education:**

**P.E. sessions are planned for Tuesday (indoors) and Thursday (outdoors).** Children can come to school dressed in their P.E. kit, a t-shirt or long sleeve top and a pair of long jogging trousers (or leggings). If your children prefers, they can also change into P.E kit before the lesson. Please ensure your child has appropriate shoes and a jacket on P.E. days as we would like to get outside for these sessions as much as possible even if it is lightly raining. 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 cover ear-rings with tape** on P.E. days (e.g. Micropore), for health and safety purposes. Throughout this term, our focus will be on Throwing and Catching Games and Bat and Ball skills. We will continue to build on our relationships and teamwork through a variety of P.E. games.

### SHANARRI:

Becoming and remaining 'Active' will be reinforced in our gym lessons in Health and Wellbeing. We will also explore the SHANARRI indicators and at the start of the term we will focus on being 'Safe'; the children will explore how we can be safe in school and in our community. Additionally, we will investigate safe practises around the preparation of food and how to store food safely. Throughout August we will continue to develop and discuss our class charter whilst exploring how to build and maintain positive relationships.

### School Values

Balmalloch Primary maintains great emphasis on our class values. Each stage has been given a value to work and focus on. Our value in Primary 3 is 'Gratitude'. The children will be encouraged to reflect on the things they are grateful for, both in and out of school. The children will also engage in learning a different value of Balmalloch Primary School each month and will discuss when or how they have demonstrated these.

### Literacy and Language

#### Spelling and Phonics:

We have 3 spelling groups this term, the Blueberries, Bananas, and Apples. Each group will be continuing where the children ended their Phonic Learning in Primary 2. Children will continue to engage in tasks in line with North Lanarkshire's Active Literacy programme such as magnetic boards, elkonin boxes and phoneme stories. In addition to this, the children are given the opportunity to develop their knowledge of phonemes and spelling strategies via active tasks like playdough spelling and games.

#### Reading:

We will have four reading groups, the Gorillas, Sharks, Buffaloes and Baboons. The children will continue to receive two reading books or one chapter book home each week. Children should bring their reading books every day for class reading and activities linked to their story. All children will continue to develop their reading skills via reading strategies. Each book will also have a comprehension task to encourage the children to engage in deeper thinking and to gauge each child's understanding of the written text.

### READING STRATEGIES

- Meta-linguistics
- Summarising
- Metacognition
- Inference
- Prior Knowledge
- Visualisation

### Writing:

We will continue to develop handwriting skills and sentence structure whilst incorporating our core writing targets. We will explore the features of the recount genre by linking to our IDL topic as well as scientific and social studies links. Children will build their confidence and skills in narrative story writing throughout the term. Pupils will be encouraged to make use of word mats and word tubs to create their sentences independently.

### Grammar:

The focus for this term will be full stops and capital letters. Children will be encouraged to continue considering other learned concepts, such as conjunctions (joining words), adjectives, nouns and verbs in their writing. Writing more complex sentences will be encouraged via taught writing genres and daily writing tasks.

### Maths

This term the children will be participating in various games to revise their addition and subtraction skills. In addition to this, we will also be covering the topic of number and number processes, shape and rounding. Children will be given practical and written opportunities to explore this topic as well as linking to other curricular areas such as P.E. We will also explore chance and uncertainty through relevant contexts. There will continue to be a focus on building confidence in addition and subtraction strategies. This will be achieved via daily mental maths tasks and the teaching of relevant strategies.

### Interdisciplinary Learning (Topic)

This term our new topic is 'Early Man'. Children will explore the time period associated with Early Man and compare their lifestyles, diet and habitat to their own. This learning will link to sustainability, health and wellbeing and science. IDL this term will incorporate outdoor learning, digital technologies as well as linking with our writing focus of recount and narrative writing.

### Religious & Moral Education

The focus for RME in Term 1 is Judaism and in particular Sukkot. The children will explore different events and traditions within the religion of Judaism such as significant celebrations. Children will be given opportunities to listen to and retell stories of why people left Egypt via role play and will also take part in art related lessons.

### Modern Languages

The children will learn new vocabulary in French and continue to use this in day-to-day classroom life. They will be able to respond to questions and statements about colours, days of the week, months of the year and greetings. Children will be encouraged to have conversations with each other in French to apply their knowledge in real-life scenarios.

### Expressive Arts

We have been issued with time to access the AV Room every week. Sessions in the AV Room will allow the children to engage in Drama and Music lessons. This term, the focus for Drama will be on freeze framing, hot seating, and mime. Our focus for Music will be on exploring musical concepts, pitch/ dynamics, and timbre/ instruments. We will also discuss

the different instrument sounds and their effect on stories. For Art and Design, we will be linking to our IDL topic and will be exploring cave paintings and creating our own images. The children will be given the opportunity to use different art mediums such as charcoal, paint, and chalk.

### **ICT**

Across the curriculum, we have the use of iPads for various learning opportunities. Children will be given opportunities to research topics, enhance their maths skills via Education City, Sumdog and Top Marks and develop their phonics knowledge via games such as 'Teach my Monster'.

### **Classroom Behaviour**

We will create our own Class Charter and refer to it throughout the year for behaviour and expectations that the children themselves made. If the charter is broken, pupils will be given two warnings to allow them to change their behaviour. A 'Blue Slip' is used across the school for persistent and serious behaviour issues. Pupils who receive a Blue Slip would spend one break time with a member of the management team to reflect on their choices. Every fortnight a Star Pupil assembly takes place which highlights two children from each class who have worked hard to meet our school values. A Deputy Head Teacher Award will be issued by Mrs Diamond on alternate weeks for children who have either demonstrated our 'Value of the Month' or have shown themselves to meet one of the four capacities - Successful Learner, Confident Individual, Responsible Citizen, and Effective Contributor.

### **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.

I am really looking forward to working with each child and their families and I hope to create a classroom that values and inspires your child. The relationship between the school and parents and carers is invaluable and I appreciate your support throughout the year. Should you have any concerns or questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours Sincerely,  
Miss Steel  
P3B  
Class Teacher

**Balmalloch Primary School**  
**Homework Grid Tasks P3 Term 1**

Every child must do some reading homework every night for 15-20 minutes. Below are additional activities that with your parents you can discuss and complete if you choose to do so.

Practise French by watching short BBC Bitesize clips. Watch KS1 French clips and with an adult, practise numbers, day of the week or colours in French.	Play a game outside with a sibling or a friend. You could also try to make up your own game that the class could try in P.E to include throwing and catching.	Draw pictures of some of the shapes you have learned. Can you draw/make a robot and label the different shapes or try and create your own art with 2D shapes or 3D objects.
Choose a book from home or our class library and write a book review for it. What type of book was it? Who would you recommend it to? What was it about?	Research information about the Jewish celebration Sukkot. Can you design your own Sukkah? Find out about the Kosher diet and any other significant traditions.	Research a prehistoric animal. Find out information about its habitat, diet and lifestyle. Use PPT or paper to create a factfile about your animal.
Compare and order numbers with two or three digits. Create a list of 10 3 digit numbers and partition these into HTU. Example: 564 5 Hundreds, 6 Tens and 4 units	Pick 5 words you find tricky and revise these over the week. Ask someone at home to help you. Find a fun way to practise these different words. You could use shaving foam, chalk or playdough.	Teach an adult how to use the symbols for greater than, less than and equal to. Write number statements using these symbols and ask an adult to check them.
Go on a trip or walk with an adult, use adjectives to describe what you see.	Write out and make sure you are confident with your 2x, 5x, and 10x tables. If you find these easy try another table that challenges you. Practise familiar times tables and increasing your speed with these. What patterns do you notice in these tables?	Write a diary entry for someone from the Early Man period. Describe what you can see, hear and feel.
Create a poster showing how and when to use full stops, commas, questions marks and exclamation marks.		Log on to Top Marks and complete a Daily 10. Write down your questions and answers and bring them in for me to mark 😊.

<u>Blueberries Spelling Group</u>	
<u>Phonemes</u>	<u>Spelling Words</u>
Revise - ue, aw, oi, au, ew	which what bring long three away always
Revise - ow, ou, igh, y, ea	again people each school some year too
Revise - i-e, o-e, e-e, a-e, u-e	never know yellow father mother these
'tch' as in stitch	another watch time only
'wr' as in write	gave family how might
'ea' as in bread	learn children because earth
'wa' as in walk	second fifteen five fourteen

<u>Bananas Spelling Group</u>	
<u>Phonemes</u>	<u>Spelling Words</u>
'ou' as in round	round found wish men
'igh' as in high	who after hand right
'y' as in cry	fly bring Mr. two
'i-e' as in time	five time life line
'o-e' as in bone	home more school Mrs.
'a-e' as in came	take gave cold don't
'u-e' as in pure	every find want girl

<u>Apples Spelling Group</u>	
<u>Phonemes</u>	<u>Spelling Words</u>
Revise - sh, ch, th, wh, ck	have your only by
Revise - ng, ph, qu, ee, oo	are come of new
Revise - ai, oy, oa,	said could her before
'ay' as in stay	day away always today
'ea' as in leaf	each ask year eat
'ow' as in snow	yellow grow again food
'ue' as in glue	blue best number other

**Websites that provide further ideas for learning:**

**All areas including topics and phonics:**

Discovery Education

Espresso <https://www.discoveryeducation.co.uk/resources/primary/espresso/>

Username: student13853 Password: balma110ch (digits in middle)

**Maths: Topmarks** - Hit the Button/Place Value Basketball and a range of maths games at different levels.

**Sumdog** - download the app (have their own username and password)

**Education City** - download the app (they have their own username and password)