

## Balmalloch Primary School and Nursery Class



### P7 Term 1 Class Newsletter

responsi**B**ility  
gr**A**ttitude  
**BELIEVE IN YOURSELF**  
hu**M**ility and forgiveness  
persever**A**nce  
**L**ove  
**ACHIEVE YOUR GOALS**  
h**O**nesty and generosity  
Compassion and respec**T**  
friends**H**ip & family

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

Dear Parents and Carers,

I would like to welcome your child back to school and hope they enjoyed a well-deserved summer break. I am very much looking forward to an exciting year ahead in Primary 7. As explained in class, being a senior pupil demands the highest standards in work, behaviour, attitude and manners; I'm sure with our collective encouragement they will all rise to the challenge admirably. In Primary 7 our class value is Perseverance and Responsibility. Throughout the year the class will be working to develop these values as well as explore other school values.

#### Literacy - Reading

To begin our term, the class will be engaging in a class modelling block on the novel, *Carrie's War* as this links to our topic of World War II. The modelling block will allow the class to become familiar with the six reading strategies: Prior Knowledge and Prediction, Inference, Summarising, Visualisation, Metalinguistics and Main Ideas. After we have completed our novel study modelling block, the children will begin their group novel which they will take home to complete reading at home as part of their homework.

#### Literacy - Writing

The genre focuses for Term 1 will be Information Report writing. The children will be encouraged to use their learning from their topic to write their own reports. We will also begin our own Personal Project where we will be exploring how to how to research information from a variety of sources efficiently and to then record it in note form.

#### Literacy - Spelling, Grammar and Punctuation

Primary 7 will continue to follow the North Lanarkshire's Active Literacy Spelling Program. At the beginning of the term, your child will revise and consolidate their spelling knowledge from June 2023. This will help prepare them for progressing through the program. The class will also be exploring new aspects of spelling throughout the year as a class including affixes, prefixes, and suffixes. They will also be learning about homophones such as write and right. In addition to reading and writing, your child will be learning about pronouns, speech marks, colon and semi-colon, and contractions in Grammar this term. These will be taught as individual lessons and applied to all literacy work.

#### Literacy - Talking and Listening

The children will be building on these skills and will be listening to a variety of texts. We will practice how to summarise key information and how to organise these notes in a logical way. We will build on our talking skills through partner and group discussions in all areas of the curriculum.

### **Modern Languages- French**

This term, the class will be revising their knowledge of greetings, feelings, the date, calendar and weather, and talking about themselves through class and whole-school experiences.

### **Mathematics**

As a school, we use the Heinemann Active Maths scheme. This seeks to help pupils make better connections between different mathematical concepts and skills. This term our class will be focusing on revising prior knowledge of numeracy and maths concepts, introducing new knowledge of number and number process as well as estimation and rounding. We will also be revisiting some of the mental maths strategies the children are familiar with and will be developing these further with the introduction of new strategies.

### **Interdisciplinary Project: Britain During World War II**

This project will integrate all our literacy work for the term in a relevant and meaningful historical context. Literacy will focus on developing research skills necessary for lifelong learning: reading for information from a variety of sources, note-taking and creating information text in an appropriate form to communicate ideas. In addition, there will be opportunity for pupil choice in conducting a personal project within our topic of WW2. Included in this learning block will be drama, music, art and design ICT and some related areas of problem solving and mathematics.

### **Health and Well-Being**

This term the children will focus on general fitness such as circuit training. This will take place on Wednesday (outdoor) and Thursday (indoor). Please ensure that your child adheres to the school policy on P.E. uniform which is plain black shorts/jogging bottoms, a plain white t-shirt/ polo shirt, outdoor jacket when applicable and suitable footwear and comes appropriately prepared on these days. We will attempt to go outdoors where the weather will permit. Please also ensure all jewellery will be removed and hair tied back.

### **Religious and Moral Education**

This term we will be learning about Judaism. This will be linked to the school values where relevant.

### **STEM**

On a Monday afternoon we will focus on STEM based learning through a range of experiments and technology.

### **Expressive Arts**

Our IDL topic provides lots of opportunities for Expressive Arts such as drama scripts, war-time music and recreating artwork such as war propaganda using a variety of materials.

### **Snapshot Jotters and Pupil Progress Profiles**

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 showcasing their learning in all curricular areas from throughout the term and overall year. Each piece of work will have personal feedback given to them from me. The Senior Leadership and Management Team will also monitor these jotters as part of Quality Assurance procedures, including a Kind, Specific and Helpful comment to support children's progress.

### **Class Charter**

As a Rights Respecting School and in our journey to become a School of Character, our class has determined and agreed upon their own Class Charter to ensure everyone's rights are being met and to encourage a positive and productive learning environment.

### **Homework**

In addition to reading, we will issue spelling words weekly. These will be copied into jotters on a Monday morning and sent home. These jotters should be returned on a Friday to be marked. In addition, there will be an IDL grid issued each term to allow personalisation and choice which should be completed as and when your child wishes to.

As always if you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to get in touch with me directly at [enquiries-at-balmalloch@northlan.org.uk](mailto:enquiries-at-balmalloch@northlan.org.uk) or alternatively phone the school on 01236 632058.

Kind regards,

Mrs R. Murphy

**Balmalloch Primary School and Nursery Class**



**Home Learning Tasks**

Every child must do 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><b>Maths</b> Complete weekly Sumdog challenges.</p>	<p><b>Writing</b> Look for an article that interests you that links to your topic. Rewrite this as a newspaper report in your own words.</p>	<p><b>Topic</b> Find 5 new facts about the Battle of Britain. Record them in a method of your own choosing and share them with your classmates.</p>
<p><b>Topic</b> Find some statistical facts on World War II.</p>	<p><b>Topic</b> Find any family links to WW2 and record them in a method of your own choosing.</p>	<p><b>Expressive Arts</b> Listen to a piece of music written during World War II such as the White Cliffs of Dover. Explain how this made you feel listening to this and what connections you made with the lyrics.</p>
<p><b>Expressive Arts</b> Watch a film you like and write / draw/ or act out your favourite part.</p>	<p><b>Health and Wellbeing</b> Design your own fitness circuit with 12 stations.</p>	<p><b>Health and Wellbeing</b> Make a healthy snack or meal with a member of your family. Record the different food groups you have used or write instructions on how you made this.</p>
<p><b>Health and Wellbeing</b> Go for a walk with a family member and share your thoughts and feelings about school, friends and what's happening in your life at the moment.</p>	<p><b>Topic</b> Produce a propaganda poster from WW2 or draw a picture of your own choice using any materials you have at home.</p>	<p><b>Values</b> Be a responsible citizen by helping your parent / guardian around the house - without being asked - remember this includes keeping your room tidy.</p>

## **Useful Links:**

Sumdog - [www.sumdog.com](http://www.sumdog.com)

Topmarks - [www.topmarks.co.uk](http://www.topmarks.co.uk)

Education City - [www.educationcity.com](http://www.educationcity.com)

Newsround - [www.bbc.co.uk/newsround](http://www.bbc.co.uk/newsround)

BBC Bitesize - [www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize](http://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize)

Spell Zone - [www.spellzone.co.uk](http://www.spellzone.co.uk)

Code.org - [www.code.org](http://www.code.org)