



Dear Parents,

Welcome to the Term 2 newsletter for Primary 7/6. I have been delighted in Term 1 with the children's attitude to their learning and the progress they have made. This is always a busy term, particularly with the run up to Christmas. I am delighted that we can present a Christmas concert to parents this year, more details will forthcoming.

Homework

A new homework grid has been given out. Any work completed can be handed in to myself. Children should continue to try and maintain a period of private reading each night, this could include novels, comics or audio books. It is important to try different genres to help each child find a genre/author they enjoy. Homework can also be completed on Study ladder, after school hours the children can access 3 daily activities. Education city is available until 4.30pm and Sumdog is free to use at home. The children should all have a copy of their logins, if not they can bring their jotter home to make another note of them.

Maths

We will continue to develop our addition and subtraction skills before moving onto multiplication and division. We will be developing these skills and applying them to written problems. It is vital that the children are confident with their table as it can help in so many different areas. As part of this work the children will become familiar with terms such as factors, multiples, prime numbers, squared and cubed numbers. We will continue to work on shape each Friday before moving onto angles and symmetry.

Literacy

The class have completed our novel study, *The Explorer* and will now begin working in groups on both fiction and non fiction books. Our first novels will be *Nicking Time* for P6 and *Guardians of the Wild Unicorns* for P7. Both novels are set around Scotland and involve characters of a similar age to the children. With these novels we will continue to work on the following strategies; prior knowledge, prediction, visualization, paraphrasing, inference, metalinguistics and main ideas. We will also be looking at the author's use of language.

In writing, our main focus will be on Narrative and Explanation. These writing pieces will focus on our IDL topic (Crime scene Investigation, Scientists and Inventors) and upcoming holidays/seasons.

In addition to writing explanation texts, the children will each give a personal talk. This will be a family task comparing childhood experiences with a family member of their choosing. More details will be given on this later in the term.

The children will continue to work through the NL spelling programme, looking at prefixes and suffixes.

Grammar and spelling

Miss Paterson will work with the children on a Thursday morning each week.

This term the main focus will be looking at complex punctuation; including speech and connectives, to help develop the children's writing skills.

French

The children will continue to learn French, we will look at family members and pets.

Interdisciplinary Topic

IDL is science based this term with a number of investigations such as recognising fingerprints and chromatography. We will also be investigating past and present scientists and inventors and their impact on our world.

STEM

Our STEM Mondays will continue with a selection of science/technology based lessons and IT lessons from NL Digital Literacy. The children are developing many new skills throughout these lessons. To help with this we would greatly appreciate it if you could send in any cardboard tubes or large plastic bottles; 2 litres would be ideal.

H.W.B

Our P.E. sessions will be outdoor on a Tuesday and indoor on a Friday.

Any jewellery should be removed or covered for P.E. lessons. Our focus this term will be fitness and athletics.

R.M.E.

Our religious education programme this term will look at Christianity; the main focus will be on the Wise Men and their impact on the Christmas story.

Expressive Arts

We will be working hard to create a performance for our Christmas concert. Our art this term will include looking at the artists Salvador Dali (The Persistence of Memory) and Edvard Munch (The Scream).

I am looking forward to a fantastic year. If you have any queries or concerns please don't hesitate to contact me at enquires-at-balmalloch@northlan.org.uk

Regards

Lorna Grant



Balmalloch Primary School

Home Learning Tasks P7/6 - Term 2

Every child **MUST DO** reading homework every night for 15-20 minutes, record this on your Reading Record. Include: reading on your own, with a brother or sister, or being read to by an adult. Below are additional activities that you can discuss with your parents and complete if you choose to do so. Please hand in any additional homework on completion.

Research a famous scientist or inventor. Record 5 facts about what they have discovered and their life.	Analyse you and your family's fingerprints using Sellotape. Have a look at the pattern and identify what style you have.	Become a scientist or inventor and design a new product to help you around your house. Think about its purpose and presentation.
Try to find prime numbers around you; in the house, on TV or in the shops. Can you explain to a family member what a prime number is? What rules do you notice about prime numbers? Make a poster explaining what a prime number is.	Practise your skills multiplying and dividing by 10,100 and 1000. Can you explain the rules? Do you need a different rule for decimals?	Can you make a symmetrical picture? Where can you see symmetry? Have a look at Xmas wrapping paper; is the pattern symmetrical? Can you design your own symmetrical wrapping paper?
What invention in your house has helped make life easier? Can you find out who invented it and when?	Create a new warm up activity for P.E. What equipment do you need? Could you explain/demonstrate it to someone?	Write an acrostic Christmas poem. Draw a picture to match it.
Write a scary short story. Try to use as much descriptive language as possible. Can you include alliteration, metaphors or onomatopoeia?	Create a piece of art of your own choosing from materials you have at home e.g. drawing, painting, collage, sculpture, make a Christmas Card etc.	Produce a poster on the value of respect. Include what it means to show respect to others.

Websites that provide further ideas for Literacy and Numeracy tasks:

- Studyladder (use your own login details) - Maths, Literacy and Cross Curricular Activities available
- Active Learn (Use your own login)
- BBC Bitesize KS2 - good for revision
- Education City
- IDL (For those with logins for spelling)