

Balmalloch Primary School and Nursery Class



P7 Term 2 Class Newsletter

responsi**B**ility
gr**A**ttitude
BELIEVE IN YOURSELF
hu**M**ility and forgiveness

persever**A**nce
Love

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,

Welcome back after the October Holidays. We hope you all had a wonderful week with your families and are ready to start Term 2. All Primary 7 pupils settled in well during Term 1 and are excited to start Term 2. This is a busy term with lots of exciting seasonal holiday events going to be taking place such as the Halloween Disco and Christmas Concerts. Unfortunately, Mrs Murphy will be going on maternity leave on Friday 10th November. We do not know who will be replacing Mrs Murphy in Primary 7A, however, you will be informed as soon as the school is informed.

Literacy - Reading

The class have completed their novel study, *Carrie's War* and will now begin working in their reading groups. Each group will be given a fiction novel to read and will complete relevant reading tasks linked to each lesson. These tasks will be based on the reading comprehension strategies: Prior Knowledge and Prediction, Visualisation, Summarising, Inference, Metalinguistics, and Main Ideas. Throughout the term, the class will also engage in a variety of non-fiction reading through their Interdisciplinary Learning topic. This reading will be linked to their writing and other class activities. The children will be able to take their novel home with them to read at home, however, can you please ensure that they bring this with them daily to allow them to complete their own in-class reading.

Literacy - Writing

The genre focuses for Term 2 will be Narrative. This genre will link well to the seasonal holidays coming soon which will inspire some of the pupil's writing pieces.

Literacy - Listening and Talking

Listening and Talking will be integrated throughout the curriculum with a particular focus on building confidence in communicating with others around school and the wider community. Pupils will also work on creating and answering a literal, inferential and evaluative questions.

Literacy - Grammar and Punctuation

Throughout reading and writing, we will be introducing new grammar concepts as well as consolidating our learning of familiar concepts. The class will focus on learning about common nouns - singular/plural, proper nouns and adjectives.

Literacy - Phonics and Spelling

Primary 7 will continue to follow the North Lanarkshire's Active Literacy Spelling Program. Within the class we are encouraging the children to use affixes, prefixes, and suffixes appropriately. They will also be learning about homophones such as write and right. We will also be dedicating some time to learning topic specific vocabulary which will help the children increase their accuracy during Taught Writing. Pupils will continue to apply their spelling strategies to their weekly spelling words to help learn their words and apply them to their written tasks.

Modern Languages- French

This term, we will be revising the children's prior knowledge of the French language. From this the children will move on to learn greetings and phrases that can be used within the classroom.

Homework

Homework will continue to be distributed weekly to pupils with the exception of personal projects or tasks as instructed by the teacher. The class will be given their homework on a Tuesday and it should be returned on Fridays. Each pupil will copy their weekly spelling words into their homework jotter before they come home. This term instead of sentences pupils will complete Read, Cover, Write and Check (x3). This is where the pupils will read their spelling word, cover it up, have a go at writing it and then check to see if they spelled it correctly. This should be completed three times in their homework jotter. In addition to spelling, pupils should also read 15 minutes a day. This can be in any context. For example, a fiction novel, non-fiction text (newspaper article, report etc.) The title of their text and pages read should be recorded in their homework jotter alongside the date and signed by a parent or carer. The Termly Homework Grid will be emailed to you and can be used for personalisation and choice for homework tasks.

Interdisciplinary Learning (IDL) - Electricity

IDL is very active and engaging this term with a science focus on electricity. The class will be exploring and designing different experiments as well as drawing circuits. We will be encouraging the children to think about how electricity is used today and its application in the future.

Mathematics

Primary 7 will be continuing to learn Number and Number Processes before starting Multiples, Factors and Primes. The class will then move on to Fractions, Decimals and Percentages, before moving on to Measurement which lends itself to lots of active maths activities. All subjects will be taught through Heinemann Active Maths and the class will continue to develop their mental maths knowledge and strategies.

Health and Well-Being

This term the class will be focusing on skills and techniques for Target and Possession Games. This will take place on a Wednesday and Thursday. 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 the class will be exploring Christianity and Advent, learning about the traditions and customs during the festive period and will be linked to the school values where relevant.

Expressive Arts

Art and Design

We will be working with different mediums this term such as clay, paint and pastel.

Music

The class will be learning all about the power of music and researching the effect of music on the brain. We will also be taking part in ABC rhythm activities. Primary 7 will also be developing their music skills and knowledge through holiday songs linked to their school concert performance.

Technology

Technology will be interlinked with IDL. This term, the class will also be learning the basics of coding as well as developing their existing coding skills to add challenge.

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 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. Snapshot Jotters were unavailable in Term 1 but will be sent home at the end of Term 2.

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. Our Positive Relationships and Behaviour policy has been devised to reflect the views of all stakeholders and ensure our school values are reflected in all aspects of school life.

As always if you have any questions or concerns please do not hesitate to get in touch with me directly on enquires-at-balmalloch@northlan.org.uk or alternatively phone the school on 01236 632058.

Kind regards,

Mrs R. Murphy

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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.

Research the importance of Remembrance Sunday. How does this link to your learning so far? Can you say what the red poppy symbolises?	Practise your maths skills online by logging on to Education City.	Find 5 new facts about your new topic of electricity. Display these in a way that would be interesting to others. You could use technology to do this such as pic collage or type this in a word document.
Find some statistical facts on the internet about electricity.	Research Christmas around the world. Compare and contrast different traditions with your own. You may wish to select one country to compare with.	Write an acrostic Christmas poem. You could also include a visualiser with this.
Design and create a Christmas card for someone you care for. Write a meaningful message wishing them a Merry Christmas.	Create a new warm up activity for P.E. Do you require equipment such as stopwatch, cones etc. What are the rules for your activity?	Chart your five a day consumption for one full week. Are you able to reach your target every day?
Create your own interpretation of a famous artists work such as Picasso, Da Vinci or Van Gogh. Discuss why you have chosen this particular piece. What do you like / dislike?	Produce a poster on the value of respect. Include what it means to show respect to others.	Be an effective contributor by volunteering to help others within your home or community such as helping out at a club or local charity.