

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

Dear Parents,

Welcome to the Term 3 newsletter for Primary 5A. I hope you had a relaxing and fun festive period with your children and I would like to wish you all the best for 2024. Term 2 was such a busy time, and I'm sure the children had a fantastic time with all the amazing activities we had on. Term 3 is our longest term, and I am eager for the children to seize this opportunity to re-focus on their learning and take pride in their work. This term our gym days will remain the same. Mondays will be indoors 2:00 - 3:00 pm and Wednesdays will be outdoors, 2:00 - 3:00 pm. Please encourage your child to come to school with no or minimal jewellery, micropore tape to cover piercings if they cannot be removed (children will not be allowed to take part if they have piercings uncovered, as per North Lanarkshire Council's Policy), appropriate footwear and a jacket. Please could you 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. It would also be helpful if you could label your child's clothing if you have not already done so.

A new homework grid is attached. Any work can be completed in the children's homework jotters and handed in to myself. As reading is a main priority for the pupils of Balmalloch Primary School, I will be encouraging the class to read most days and I would appreciate your support with this at home. Children should continue to try and maintain a period of private reading each night, novels, comics, on-line or even newspapers, and this will help a great deal with their learning in class. It is really important to try different genres to help the children find an author/genre they enjoy. As always, please feel free to write in your child's homework jotter the book that they are reading and the pages they have read if this helps make them more accountable for reading! I have told P5A that they are more than welcome to borrow and take home books from our class library as long as these are returned.

I will continue to give homework out at the start of each week (usually a Monday and Tuesday), children will write their spelling words and/or phoneme focus in their homework jotter to allow practise to be completed at home should you wish to do so. Weekly homework will consist of writing their spelling words out two/three times in a variety of ways - capital letters, rainbow, bubble, dotty, pyramid, and then writing three super sentences that will include at least two of their spelling words. The children can also undertake an activity listed on the homework grid. The method of learning children respond to, along with the rate at which they learn differs, meaning children may be in different groups throughout the year and have different aims. The children will continue to learn the spelling strategies that are listed below.

- Sounding out letters
- Syllabification

- Words within words
- Compound words
- Use of analogy
- Mnemonics
- Applying a spelling rule

I would ask that you continue to encourage your child to explain these strategies to you and show you how these can be used to help with spelling.

Literacy

Phoneme and Spelling Words for Term 3

Below you will see the phonemes and spelling words that your child will focus on throughout term 3.

Sometimes phonemes/words will cross over a term, there are also weeks that count as consolidation weeks, enabling your child to practise specific words, sounds or strategies.

These are some of the words I would recommend you practise with your child at home, your child should be able to talk you through their learning with their sounds and strategies. We will also focus on topic specific words and common tricky homophone words such as their/there and they're, which/witch, where/were etc.

2 weeks are spent on the phoneme family, 2 weeks spent on spelling words alongside a spelling rule	
<u>Phonemes</u>	<u>Spelling Words</u>
Phoneme family - sh, ti, ch (carried over from last term)	Firstly, change, does, goes, changing, shouted, sixteen, slowly, baby, balloon, caught, didn't, can't, evening, off
Phoneme family - ch, tch, t	happy, word, lady, paper, window, floor, shoe, being, coming, jumped, started, used, walked, woke, only
Phoneme family - s, ss, c, se, ce	Shoulder, they, called, round, continue, previous, morning, allow, our, asked, state, weather

Your child's physical and emotional well-being is always at the fore front of my teaching and assessment. Time is always set aside for children to discuss their emotions and concerns and this year the class teachers have lead learning in Health and Wellbeing linked to the SHANARRI indicators.

My NCCT is a **Wednesday morning between 9:00 and 10:30am** and **Thursday afternoon between 1:15 and 2:15 pm**. In the Wednesday session the children will be taught by Miss Paterson and the focus will be on Numeracy and Literacy. On the Thursday afternoon the children will attend a whole school assembly.






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 Wednesdays, 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.

As always, I am very grateful for your support during your child's learning. 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 or send a note in with your child.

Kind regards,

Mrs Kirsty Hamilton
Class Teacher

What I am learning this term:

<p style="text-align: center;">Health and Wellbeing</p>  <p>PE and Sport: Aesthetics - Gymnastics and Dance HWB: SHANARRI Indicators - Active (Physical Activity), Respected (Healthy Lifestyles) and Responsible (Food and Health)</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Expressive Arts</p>  <p>Art & Design: Painting techniques using natural materials, model creations, perspective drawing Drama: Role play, re-imagining of actual events, improvisation and mime Music: Naming different instruments, use of untuned instruments, discussing and picking out sounds</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Mathematics and Numeracy</u></p>  <p>Fractions, Decimals and Percentages: introduce decimal fractions and percentages. Understand that a fraction can be written as a division or a decimal. Use mental and written methods to find a fraction of a given amount. Use mental and written methods to add, subtract, multiply and divide decimal fractions. Identify equivalent fractions and use the equivalent forms of simple fractions and percentages in calculations. Time: tell the time in five minute intervals on an analogue and digital clock, estimate time durations in appropriate units, read and record any time in both 12 and 24 hour clock, and convert between the two, calculate durations that bridge across one hour, interpret a digital or paper timetable and/or calendar Data Analysis: devise ways of collecting data in the most suitable way for the given task. Analyses, interprets and draws conclusions from a variety of data. Displays data appropriately making effective use of technology.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Literacy and Languages</u></p>  <p>Listening and Talking: listen/watch and begin to make notes under given heading, engage respectfully with others in discussion, contribute relevant knowledge and ideas. Reading: find clues in the text to understand the author's style/key messages, group information about a text together, identify important information in a text, restate information from a text, read with fluency using punctuation as a guide, read with appropriate expression and tone, write a summary of the information found, use research notes to create an information report Writing: Focus on Information Report Writing, Explanation and Narrative Grammar: identify and use collective nouns awareness of abstract nouns. Identify and use plurals (words ending in f, fe, y). Modern Languages: French - clothing and food</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Social Studies</u></p>  <p>STEM: SOCIAL STUDIES - People, Past, Events & Societies - Scottish Wars of Independence</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Religious and Moral Education</u></p>  <p>World Religions: Christianity - Easter Story; World Culture - Mardi Gras</p>

Technologies



ICT: Cyber resilience and internet safety - discuss of content of online profiles, identify how to be a responsible online citizen and how to report concerns.

School Values



Primary 5's School Values:
Honesty and Generosity

Balmalloch Primary School and Nursery Class



Home Learning Tasks Term 3

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

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

Below are additional activities that can be completed at home and handed in for me to review should you wish to do so.

Practise telling the time using analogue and digital clocks. Create a family timetable scheduling in activities and mealtimes and discussing the duration of activities.	Research a famous celebrity - it could be a footballer, singer, dancer etc. Write an Information Report about the person. Use subheadings and non-personal language.	Find fractions of items around the house, for example pizzas, tangerines, sweets etc. Convert and record these fractions into decimal fractions.
Write a recount story about your favourite day during the Christmas period. Remember to write in chronological order and in the past tense. Use descriptive language and your core targets.	Create a poster or PPT that explains the importance of being active. Why should people be active? What ways can they be active? Are there any barriers to being physically active?	Calculate durations of time that bridge an hour. Plan an imaginary trip, for example to Newcastle. Decide the time you would leave your home at and ask an adult to help you work out what time you would arrive at. How long would it take to travel there?
Access this BBC Bitesize link: https://www.bbc.co.uk/teach/bring-the-noise/orchestral-families/zfbyy9q - find out about Orchestral families. Which instrument would you like to learn?	Find fun ways to practise your spelling words or phoneme families. You could paint them, create them with shaving foam, spell them on the ground with chalk, or think of your own ways!	Write a review of a book you have read or a film you have watched. What did you like and dislike about it? What were the main themes in the book or film. Would you recommend it to me? Explain why.
Create a timeline about your life. Include significant events and dates, you could even add in photographs and bring it in to show the class.	Write instructions for your favourite game. It could be a board game or sport; imagine you are writing these instructions for someone who has never even heard of the game before.	Research a historical Scottish figure or landmark. Draw or create an art piece showing the person or place and write facts about the person or place.

There are websites that you can access at home that will provide additional resources and challenges:

- <https://www.topmarks.co.uk/> - Hit the Button and Daily 10 are good activities to try
- <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/levels/zgckjxs>
- <https://www.math-salamanders.com/>
- <https://highlandliteracy.com/spelling-and-phonics/>