

Balmalloch Primary School,  
Kingsway,  
Kilsyth.  
Monday 15th January 2024

Dear Parents,

We hope you have enjoyed a relaxing festive period. We would like to take this opportunity to wish you all a very happy and healthy New Year. We are looking forward to an exciting term with lots of learning taking place and fun activities for your children.

### **Literacy:**

The children will continue to follow the North Lanarkshire Active Literacy programme. Each Friday the children will continue to be given a spelling assessment to monitor their progress. Please encourage your child to learn to spell these words which are uploaded to our Teams page every Monday.

This term children will be learning and revising all initial sounds before being introduced to phonemes as well. There will continue to be regular consolidation weeks; to ensure pupils are reminded of previously taught sounds and spelling words.

Reading books will continue to be issued twice weekly on a Monday and a Thursday. We cannot emphasise enough the importance of ensuring that your child comes to school with their book daily, as it is required for reading and to work on literacy tasks. If your child is absent or forgets their book, please try to return the reading book to school promptly. We appreciate your co-operation with this.

### **Writing**

There will be one taught writing lesson per week, this term we will be focusing on narrative stories.

Children will also have opportunities to write daily for a variety of purposes and for a variety of reasons.

Our grammar focus will be capital letters, full stops and finger spaces.

### **Talking & Listening**

This term we will be learning a Scottish poem of which we will send more details on. We will also be continuing to encourage your child to take turns when they talk and listen.

### **French**

This term for French we will focus is on greeting each other, feelings and the culture.

### **Numeracy:**

#### **Number and Number Processes:**

This term we will learning to combine two quantities and explore addition.

### **Money:**

The children will be learning all of the coins up to £2 and will have the opportunity to pay for items with toy coins that will link to addition.

### **Time:**

We will be learning to tell the time on digital and analogue clocks to o'clock and half past the hour.

### **Information Handling:**

We will have opportunities to collect objects and learn to organise and display findings in different ways.

Pupils will continue to develop mental maths strategies, problem solving skills and revisit previous learning.

### **Social Studies:**

In January, we will begin learning about Scotland.

This term our topics are Katie Morag and Toys. The children will be learning about life on an island and will compare it to life on a mainland. The children will recognise about people in the past living differently and demonstrate the differences between toys today and toys then.

### **Health and Wellbeing:**

We will continue to learn about children's rights and particularly respecting the rights of others, as part of our Rights-respecting school ethos. Our focus for health and well-being will be on being active, being responsible and we will be learning about food & health too. Our school values this term will be perseverance, responsibility, and the school motto 'believe in yourself to achieve your goals'. Primary 1 will also continue to focus on Love and how they show this to others.

Our P.E. days will remain the same as previous terms. Our main topic will be gymnastics indoors and games outdoors. Please ensure that your child comes to school on those days in appropriate clothes including shoes and refrains from wearing jewellery on these days, for health and safety reasons. If your child is wearing ear-rings that cannot be removed, please try to place tape over their ears, **prior** to attending school.

### **RME**

The focus for this term will be on Chinese New Year and the Easter Story.

## Homework

Homework will continue to be issued on our Teams on a Monday. Reading is our main focus for homework.

We would like to thank all parents and carers for your continued support and more importantly, for helping to encourage your children to work hard and enjoy learning.

Kind regards,  
Mrs Emslie and Miss McNeill  
Class teachers