

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 2 newsletter for Primary 7. I have been absolutely delighted in Term 1 with the children's attitude to their learning and the excellent progress they have all made. This is always a very busy term, particularly with the run up to Christmas. I am delighted that we can present a Christmas show to parents this year and more details will be forthcoming. We will also be undertaking an enterprise initiative, whereby the children will start a business, make a product and sell it at the Christmas Fayre. Preparations are already underway and all classes in the school are pitted against each other to see which business (class) can make the most profit.

November's homework grid will be given out. Any work should 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 P7 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 spelling rules 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, dotted, pyramid, and then writing three super sentences that will include at least two of their spelling words. The children will also be encouraged to go on Sumdog. 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.

As you know different aspects of Health and Wellbeing education permeates our school day and each day will begin with an 'Emotional Registration' check-in and follow up discussions if the children feel they need to. We have a class 'worry monster' and time is always set aside to discuss children's emotions and concerns. This year the class teachers will lead learning in Health and Wellbeing linked to the SHANARRI indicators. My NCCT (non-class contact time) continues to be a Thursday morning. The children will cover RME and Health and Wellbeing during this time. P7 will also have gym with myself on Wednesday afternoon, which will be indoors and on Friday afternoon, which will be outdoors. Our gym days therefore are **Wednesday and Friday**.

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. Please ensure that all of your child's clothes **are labelled**, as we have managed to accumulate numerous jumpers and cardigan that have no name on. If you think your child has lost their jumper or cardigan, please get in touch with the school office. It is the school policy that all children refrain from wearing jewellery during P.E and I would ask that your child does not wear any jewellery on these days. If your child has earrings which cannot be removed for several weeks, please try and cover them with tape on P.E. days (e.g. Micropore), for health and safety purposes. Although our gym days are Wednesday and Friday, it is also very likely that we will be outside or participating in active learning on other days so if you could please make sure your child has an appropriate jacket each day that would be much appreciated.

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 Wednesday and Friday, 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:

Health and Wellbeing



PE and Sport: Possession Games - netball/football/basketball
HWB: SHANARRI Indicators - Respected and Nurtured - Healthy lifestyles.

Expressive Arts



Art & Design: Halloween Art, Poppy Art, Christmas Decorations, Christmas cards (pop up and collage), Christmas angels, Artist - Kadinsky
Drama: Christmas show
Music: Christmas music/show, school choir

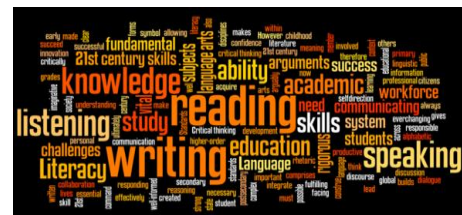
Mathematics and Numeracy



Number: adds and subtracts whole numbers and decimal fractions to 2 decimal places up to 1,000,000. Adds and subtracts multiples of 10, 100 and 1000 to and from whole numbers and decimal fractions to 2 decimal places. Uses multiplication and division facts to the 10th multiplication. Multiplies decimal fractions to 2 decimal places by a single digit.

Money: carries out money calculations using the four operations. Compares costs and determines affordability within a budget. Demonstrates understanding of the benefits and risks of using back cards and digital technologies. Calculates profit and loss.

Literacy and Languages



Listening and Talking: contribute to class discussion about texts read, give opinion on themes read, share previous knowledge

Reading: make appropriate predictions about what will happen in a text, use visualisation to explain my understanding of plot, characters, settings and themes, read between the lines to discover what the author wants the reader to think, understand and value, explore the meaning of tricky or unfamiliar words

Writing: Focus on Narrative and Persuasive.

Grammar: Figurative language, contractions, prefixes and suffixes, use of dictionaries and thesauruses.

Modern Languages: Gaelic.

Social Studies



STEM: Science and Investigation - Forces, electricity and waves.

Religious and Moral Education



World Religions: Christianity - Advent and Christmas

Technologies



School Values



Primary 7's School Values:

ICT: Use search engines to search the internet for specific or relevant information. Access websites and use navigation skills to retrieve specific information.	<u>Perseverance and Responsibility</u>
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Class Charter:

As you know, we are a Rights Respecting School and in our journey to become a School of Character, at the start of the year our class 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. I am pleased to tell you that the children continue to follow their Class Charter, ensuring the classroom is a positive place for all.