

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 4 newsletter for Primary 7. I hope you had a relaxing and fun time over the Easter holidays and you're ready for your child's last term at primary school. Term 3 was just as busy as term 2 and I hope all of the children had the best time at Dalguise. It was an amazing experience and the children certainly appeared to love it! Term 4 will be an extremely busy one too, especially with the visits to the high school, preparing for the school show, and engaging in as much learning as possible to help support their transition to high school.

The children have already had a few visits to the high school, accompanied by both Miss Luxton and myself, and the feedback they gave was that they were excited to go. Their next visit will be their 3-day visit, and will take place on 27th, 28th and 29th May.

PE times have changed, as Miss Luxton will be taking a session. Wednesdays will be outdoors, 2:00 - 3:00 pm and Thursday will be indoors 2:00 - 3:00 pm. As always please encourage your child to come to school with no or minimal jewellery and 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.

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.

Miss Luxton will continue to give homework out at the start of each week, children will write their spelling words 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. There will also be a class Sumdog competition on, that is tailored to the children's learning and stage. 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.

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.

Balmalloch Primary School is a Health Promoting School, therefore I would appreciate it if you could 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 Wednesdays and Thursdays, 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 you are aware, I am off on a Monday, this will continue to be covered by Miss Luxton, who will cover Numeracy, Literacy and RME, coupled with a whole class assembly. My NCCT is a Thursday afternoon, and this will also be covered by Miss Luxton. In the Thursday afternoon Miss Luxton will focus on French and PE.

The children will have a very busy term preparing their leaver's assembly and auditions have already started. The title of the show this year is 'I'm a Primary 7, Get Me Out of Here'. Your child will be given a copy of all the words for the songs, and I would appreciate it if you could encourage them to practise them. We will get time in school, however there is such a lot to do for the show, practising at home would really help. The children have been provided with the details to allow them to access the songs online. All the music is free to access on YouTube. The show will take place for the school on Friday 20th June and for the parents and grandparents Monday 23rd and Tuesday 24th June. The children are all extremely excited and can't wait to perform in front of you.

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: Aesthetics - Net Games

HWB: SHANARRI Indicators - Active (Physical Activity), Respected (Healthy Lifestyles) and Responsible (Food and Health). Value of the month - perseverance.

Expressive Arts



Art & Design: World Geography - landscapes

Drama: School show

Music: School show

Mathematics and Numeracy



Time (Mrs Hamilton): calculate durations that cross several hours and parts of hours in both 12- and 24-hour times, calculate the approximation of a journey, use timetables, use stopwatches to measure seconds, tenths and hundredths of seconds, calculate the speed travelled in meters per second and kilometres per hour and solve a variety of problems involving time.

Data and Analysis (Miss Luxton): devises ways of collecting data in the most suitable way, collects, organises and displays data accurately using digital technology, analyses, interprets and draws conclusions from a variety of data.

Literacy and Languages



Listening and Talking: discuss what we are reading, focus on higher order thinking skills (HOTS).

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 discursive and explanation writing.

Writing: Focus on discursive, explanation writing.

Grammar: language of cause and effect, time, and condition.

Modern Languages: French

Social Studies



STEM: STEM Fridays are returning, and the children will have the opportunity to take part in - tinker table, Picasso faces, marble runs, slime, stick catapults, paper rockets, Minecraft Education and circuits.

Religious and Moral Education



World Religions: Islam - Ramadhan and Eid ul Fitr - investigates, describes, explains and expresses an opinion on at least one value from one belief group independent of religion.

Technologies



ICT: Coding - SCRATCH.

School Values



Primary 7's School Values:

Perseverance and Responsibility