

**Primary 5**  
Term 1  
September 2024

Dear Parents/Guardians,

You'll all be delighted to hear that the children have settled well into their new classroom, already working hard, and showing great enthusiasm for Primary 5. Miss Hamill and I are both looking forward to teaching the children throughout this year and making sure it is both enjoyable and successful for them all.

We thought it would be useful to add the school email addresses for both teachers should you wish to get in touch. If you prefer, a note brought in by your child is also welcomed and can at times be dealt with quicker if we do not have access to our emails until outside of the teaching day. You can also add a note on our Primary 5 Team, but personal issues are better dealt with through letter, email or meetings. We have also included the days that we work so you know which teacher to contact. Appointments can be made by phoning the school office. We hope this helps.

**Monday - Wednesday:** Mrs McLennan      [nlmclennanj@northlan.org.uk](mailto:nlmclennanj@northlan.org.uk)  
**Thursday-Friday:** Miss Hamill      [nlhamille@northlan.org.uk](mailto:nlhamille@northlan.org.uk)

The following information will give you an idea of the routines of the class, and will help give you an insight into some of what your child will be doing this term:



**Homework**

Details of homework will continue to be carried out digitally using the children's P.5 Class Glow Team. You will now be more familiar with logging into Teams. An email will have been sent to you by the school reminding you of how to log into Teams and will also include the P.5 Class Team Code.

The code to join our Team is: **ui5tfp1**

**Should you require a reminder of your child's Glow login details, please check the label at the back of their homework jotter.**

You will be able to continue to find details of the children's homework each week under 'Files' in the class Team. I will also go over it on a Monday to ensure that the children are clear in what is being asked of them for their tasks.

The homework itself will mainly focus on: Spelling, Reading and Maths (Sumdog and Times Tables), which is in line with the new St. Michael's Homework Policy (recently emailed to parents). Homework will now be posted each Friday but does not need to be started until the Monday when the words will have been taught in class. As always, you should choose when it best suits your family's needs to when it is to be carried out. In most of what is set, the children should be able to complete it independently; however, your continued support with hearing them read is very much appreciated and is incredibly beneficial to their progress.

The children will always need the jotter for their Friday Spelling Test, so please ensure that it is returned to school by that day at the latest. When the jotter comes home on the Monday, you will be able to check how well the children have done in their test. **We would be very grateful if the homework and test results could be signed/initialled on a weekly basis.**

We have included a few guide sheets in your child's homework jotter which will prove useful, such as: Suggestions for Spelling Activities, Spelling Strategies used in class and a copy of the Times Tables. A massive benefit to the children is for them to continue to practise their Spelling and Tables when they get the chance, to help reinforce the learning and to ensure they are retaining what they have learned. It will also allow them to be confident and well-prepared for their tests on a Friday.

### Literacy

In Primary 5, the children will continue to develop their skills using North Lanarkshire's Active Literacy Programme. The strategies they were introduced to in Primary 4 are continued until the end of Primary 7 and have proved to be extremely effective in children's learning of spelling and reading at school and beyond. As mentioned before, there is a copy of the strategies in your child's homework jotter and you will also find them within the 'Homework' file in our class Team.

A reminder that on Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> September the school is offering a 'Parents' Curriculum Workshop Evening' at 6pm. I will be delivering a session based on the NLC Active Literacy Spelling Strategies and Comprehension Strategies to parents of the whole school if you wish to attend and develop your understanding of how it works.

We begin each school year using the NLC Active Literacy Programme Modelling Block for reading, and you will find more information about this in the letter from Mrs Greechan (this can also be located within the 'Letters to Parents' folder in the P.5 Class Team).

### P.E.

Our P.E. sessions will take place on a **Thursday** and **Friday**.

The children should continue to be encouraged to take more responsibility for packing their school bags the night before, ensuring that they always remember their kit. Mrs Greechan has asked that the children bring a bag in on the Monday and keep it on their peg for the rest of week, taking it back home on the Friday to be washed. Can you please remind your child to make sure they have soft shoes for P.E.?



**Please could you ensure that all items of clothing have the children's names on them** as we are then able to quickly identify who they belong to when things get lost. There will also be a lost property box in the cloakroom containing any items that are found at the end of the school day without a name. It would also be beneficial to ensure that no jewellery is worn on gym days for Health and Safety reasons. If earrings can't be taken out, please ensure that your child has plasters to cover these.

### Outdoor Learning

Outdoor Learning will take place each Friday.



### Topic

In the first term the whole school studies 'People and Place'. Our class topic will focus on 'Planet Earth', allowing the children to study the planet; how and what it is made up of; the countries and continents of the world; different terrains; time zones; seasons etc. If you have any resources that you would be willing to share, we would take great care of them. We would also be very grateful if you have any special knowledge on this subject and would like to come in and share it with our children, who absolutely love to see and hear from a new face!

### Other Curricular Areas

**Assembly:** Monday (please bring in any awards/certificates/achievements to show to the school)

**I.C.T.:** Monday and Tuesday

**Library:** Tuesday

**Expressive Arts:** Friday

### Allergies!

Please remember that we are a **nut free school**. We have children in our class and throughout the school with nut allergies, **therefore snacks or lunches containing nuts are not permitted within the school** for their safety. Many thanks for your co-operation with this.

Finally, if you ever have any worries, concerns or questions about your child and school, please do not hesitate to get in touch.

We both look forward to working in partnership with you, in helping to create what we hope will be a fabulous year that is both memorable and successful for your child.

With kind regards,

Joanne McLennan and Emily Hamill