

# Primary 4 Newsletter

Term 2

January 2025

A warm welcome back to Primary 4! It has been lovely hearing all the news from over the festive period - it sounds like everyone had a magical time! Term 2 is already underway, and the children are showing great enthusiasm about their new block of learning.

As you will already know, Mrs McMullen will be teaching at the beginning of the week and Mrs MacKinnon at the end of the week. The class will also receive I.C.T. lessons from Mrs Devlin and R.E. lessons from Mrs Belam. Assembly time has now changed to a Wednesday. During this, your child is welcome to share their successes outside of school so they are able to bring in certificates, trophies or medals on this day.

Glow Teams will be our primary means of communication but if you have a personal issue, a note brought in by your child, phone call or e-mail to the school, is also welcomed. Appointments for meetings can be made by phoning the school office.

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



## Homework

Details of homework will continue to be carried out digitally using the children's P.4 Class Glow Team. You will now be more familiar with logging into Teams. Please let us know if you are still experiencing difficulty getting into this.

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, Topmarks games or Times Tables), which is in line with the new St. Michael's Homework Policy. 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 or playing a maths game, 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.**

### Literacy

Over the next few weeks, we will be completing a block of Poetry. The children have already shown great enjoyment of this! During this, we will focus on reading and understanding poems by looking at different devices used. This will then help the children create their own poems.

As no books will be going home during this block of learning, we ask that children read at home for enjoyment. Ideally 10 - 15 minutes each night. This does not have to be poetry (although we have many eager to do so!). It can include reading from fiction or non-fiction texts e.g. atlases, cooking books, comics, instruction manuals. Anything which interests your child and builds their confidence of reading.

### Maths

In Maths we are continuing to build our mental agility. We practise our times tables daily and work in adding, subtracting and dividing using our mental strategies. We will focus on learning some life skills using money - recognising coins and notes and calculating change. We will also learn about fractions, decimals and percentages.

### First Holy Communion

Over the next few months we will be helping our children prepare for their First Holy Communion in May. An information night has been arranged for parents on Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> February during which you will hear how you can support your child in this special time.

### P.E.

Our P.E. sessions continue to take place on a **Monday and Thursday**.

The children should bring a bag in on the Monday and keep it on their peg for the rest of the week, taking it back home on the Friday to be washed. Please remind children to bring in soft shoes or trainers for P.E. as many



are wearing their school shoes which are uncomfortable when running around and exercising.

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.

### Topics

This term we are learning about the 'Vikings' and 'All Around the World'.



During our history topic of Vikings, children will learn all about the aspects of Viking's lives - who they were and where they came from.

Health and Wellbeing and Modern Languages will be taught through our 'All Around the World' topic. During this, we will be using atlases to find out where different countries are in the world. We will learn about the culture, food and languages spoken in selected countries. All of this will culminate in a buffet where children will taste some food from different countries as well as socialise using some of the words and phrases they have learned

If you have any resources for either topic that you would be willing to share, we will take great care of them. We would also be very grateful if you have any special knowledge on these subjects and would like to come in and share it with our children, who absolutely love to see and hear from a new face!

### 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.

Please also let us know of any food allergies which we should be aware of for our big buffet!

