

## Welcome Back!

Dear Parent/Guardian,

Hello! My name is Deborah Dickson and I have been teaching for 33 years, 24 of which have been at Langcraigs. I am delighted to welcome your child into Primary 2 and hope together we can ensure Primary 2 is a happy, stimulating place for your child to learn and grow. For this to happen, any problems or queries need to be dealt with straight away and this can be done by a wee note in their homework/reading diary, a phone call, a message through SeeSaw or by catching me at the school door first or last thing.

SeeSaw has a time limit for notifications as agreed with infant staff in the school, so I will be able to see and answer notifications between the hours of 8am and 4pm.

This letter outlines the expectations for Primary 2 homework. The children will have a reading book, reading wordwall, homework/reading diary, a numeracy workbook on certain days and a jotter for practising writing out numbers and addition and subtraction sums plus a phonic jotter twice weekly. It is their responsibility to put these items in their bag and bring to school when dictated. Homework will be revised throughout the year.

Homework is very important at this stage, and I would encourage you to hear your child reading their book over and over again. I would recommend you actively hear your child reading every night. Pointing out words at random on the page, encouraging your child to think of different words that rhyme with spelling or reading words, asking questions about it to see if they understand it and read lots of other different books. Glenburn Library has an excellent child section, internet sites, like 'Teach your Monster to Read' are also recommended. Please sign your children's homework and the homework/reading diary. Sounds also play a big part of their reading learning. Here is a list of the sounds your child did last year, which they should know. The ones in **BOLD** are the ones we are revising in Term 1.

s a t i p n

cl e h r m d

g o u l f b

ai j oa ie ee or

z w ng v oo

y x ch sh th

qu ou oi ue er ar

### READING.

In class, reading is heard twice or four times a week depending on which group your child is in. This is highlighted in their reading marker. Please remember that although your child may appear to have finished their book to you, they may still have classwork to complete which is why a different book has not been issued.

### PHONICS. (Term 1).

Your child will revise sounds covered in Primary 1. Alternative spellings for sounds will be introduced and this will be twice weekly. These days are Monday **(to be returned Tuesday)** and Wednesday **(to be returned Thursday)**. On Thursday's, we will do an informal test to consolidate the children's learning.

Pupils will be given a jotter and required to:

1. Write the full date. They are doing this in class and need to be shown the spelling of the day and month.
2. Write the sound.
3. Choose four words with this sound and draw a picture of them and write the word underneath.
4. Write the sound on two lines and then write the four words out two times.
5. We have also introduced writing a sentence for the more able. At times I will state what time signpost I would like the children to try to use so a sentence with the sound, 'ai' might be using the time signpost 'finally.' ie. Finally, as promised, it began to rain heavily.

***An example of how to set this out is on the first page of the jotter.***

## **SPELLING. (Term 2).**

Spelling will be issued twice a week. Full instructions can be found on the inside of the homework jotter. Spelling will be tested on Thursday or Friday of each week.

## **NUMERACY.**

Numeracy homework will be issued once a week on a Monday. This will either be a workbook or depending on the maths activity covered in class a jotter. This must be returned latest Wednesday. For example:

$$0+3=3$$

$$1+2=3$$

$$2+1=3$$

$$3+0=3$$

There are great songs on You Tube by Jack Hartman which will help. Also counting backwards is something children find tricky so lots of this at home would be great. If children are looking for a challenge, then try counting in 2's, 5's or 10's both forwards and backwards.

During the year, your child may be given homework from other areas of the curriculum to support learning in topic work. You will be informed of these as, and when, they arise.

**On Wednesday afternoon your child will be taught by Mrs Burns, who will be teaching them health and wellbeing through the PATHS programme and RME.**

**Our PE days are Tuesday afternoon and Thursday morning, so could your child wear a polo shirt instead of a shirt and tie and on these days bring their shorts and sandshoes.**

In advance, thank you for your valued support and I hope we all have a positive, happy year. I will try my best to take photos and send on SeeSaw for you to keep up to date with what, as a class we are all up to!

Yours sincerely,

Deborah Dickson.

### **HOMEWORK TIPS!**

- Write sounds/numbers using a variety of media. (pens, paint, shaving foam, sand, water and a brush, chalk etc)
- Say your sounds/numbers in different character voices. You can dress up too! (robot, witch, cowboy, baby etc).
- Play I Spy.
- Spot sounds/numbers in the environment. (car number plates, posters, tv, magazines, the paper etc).
- Listen to Jolly Phonics/counting songs on You Tube and join in.
- Write with a torch in the dark!
- Use your magic finger to write sounds/numbers in the air.
- Make sounds/numbers using playdough.
- Sing your sounds/numbers.

### **USEFUL WEBSITES.**

**Starfall.**

**Topmarks.**

**Roy the Zebra.**

**TVO Kids.**

**Jack Hartman.**

**Teach your Monster to read.**

**Jolly Phonics.**

**Alphablocks.**

Numberblocks.

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/newsround>