



Primary 1Y Term 3 Newsletter



It has been a delight welcoming our lovely children back into school after the Christmas holidays. I hope you had a wonderful Christmas and New Year spent with loved ones and I can't wait to begin the exciting learning opportunities planned for the class. I thought it might be helpful to give you some information about the various experiences that we will be taking part in during Term 3 as well as the important dates for you to take a note off.



Important Dates

January 2025

24th -Burns Poetry Assembly and Themed Lunch

27th -Holocaust Memorial Day

29th -Chinese New Year

February 2025

3rd -Children's Mental Health Week

4th -Sharing the Learning 2:00pm - 3:00pm

6th -Safer Internet Day

10th -Schools off

11th -In-service day

12th -Pupils return to school

14th -Parent Voice Meeting 2:00pm-3:00pm

19th -Parent Council Meeting 6:30pm-8:00pm

March 2025

4th -Shrove Tuesday

6th -World Book Day

8th -International Women's Day

14th -Red Nose Day

14th -Park Run

26th -Parents Evening

27th -Parents Evening

30th -Eid El Fitr

April 2025

2nd -School Discos

3rd – P5 Sharing the Learning Event

4th -School Close

22nd -Pupils Return

Literacy and English

Listening and Talking: We will be encouraging the children to participate in weekly show and tell inputs on a Monday morning. Each child will have the opportunity to either present pictures from home that are shared on Learning Journal or an activity that they completed in class the previous week. Show and tell has amazing benefits such as giving the children a sense of accomplishment and pride while also promoting good focus, turn taking and listening from their peers. We will also be encouraging the use of the Makaton signs 'toilet' and 'snack'.

Reading: Last term the class showed great enthusiasm for our weekly stories and were becoming more confident at accessing our class library independently. We have added some new stories to enjoy and will begin giving the children opportunities to choose a book to be shared every day during social snack. Our class topic this term will be 'Traditional Tales' and some of the stories they will be listening to are Hansel and Gretel, Little Red Riding Hood, The Enormous Turnip and Jack and the Beanstalk.

Phonics: For phonics we will continue to use 'Sunnybank Sounds' and look at both the yellow and black sounds. Our yellow sounds are 'g, h, c, k, and y', which are made at the back of your mouth. Our black sounds are vowels.

Writing: This term the children will be encouraged to start copying letters rather than over-writing them when practicing written formation. Last term the class were introduced to using boardmaker symbols and choice charts to change aspects of stories/characters to create their own. This term we are challenging the children to use boardmaker symbols within a variety of writing contexts where they also have to accurately choose symbols to describe a character/event. For example, designing a food basket for Little Red Riding Hood and then writing a shopping list with the specific food items chosen.



Numeracy and Mathematics

In numeracy the children will have a weekly number input exploring numbers up to 15. We will be looking at number recognition, representing numbers in various ways, ordering and sequencing, missing numbers, counting, and matching etc. We will also be exploring some simple addition and subtraction with lots of opportunities to use concrete materials. Some other concepts we will cover are:

Revision of previous concepts - pattern, fractions, tall and short, heavy, and light, full and empty.

Time - recognising day and night, following a simple timetable, awareness of days of the week, seasons, and special events.

Positional Language - recognising and following instructions involving positions including in, on, under, up and down.

Health and Wellbeing

This term we will be looking at ball skills during PE. The children will participate in a series of lessons to develop their gross motor control when pushing, rolling, throwing, and kicking a ball. We are also very lucky to have a gymnastics block at Whitlett's Activity Centre later in the term. More information about this will be sent out closer to the time.

In class we will be continuing all our hard work on recognise our emotions and being able to utilize the Zones of Regulation. Now that the children have had experience of using their personal toolkit strategies, they will now be encouraged to choose their own strategies when necessary.



Topic

Our topic this term is 'Traditional Tales'. We will be learning about the key themes through sensory play experiences to further develop our understanding of the world. Here are some examples of the activities we will be completing:

- Three Billy Goats Gruff - designing bridges out of Duplo blocks.
- Hansel and Gretel - baking wholemeal bread to leave a breadcrumb trail in the playground.
- The Enormous Turnip - searching for seeds in different food.
- Alice and Wonderland - planning and preparing a tea party.



Guidance for Parents

We respect the unique set of circumstances and values each family has and home learning is parental choice. Please do as many or as few suggestions listed below.

Home learning should never be stressful for a family. If you wish to discuss any aspect of your child's learning, please do not hesitate to get in touch with Miss Young (class teacher), Mrs Iannotti (school assistant), Miss Coull (additional teacher) or Miss Cameron (Principal teacher).



Home Learning Grid

<p><u>Listening and Talking</u></p> <p>If you would like to upload any pictures on Learning Journal of activities your child has completed at home or in the community for our Monday morning 'show and tell' then please do. Photo ideas that your child could then present to the class are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • watching their favourite programme/movie • practicing a life skill at home • an event - going to the shops, visiting the park, a family birthday • playing - hide and seek, jumping on a trampoline, cars, dinosaurs, dolls etc. 	<p><u>Writing</u></p> <p>This term we are going to be looking at different genres of writing during our Traditional Tales topic. You could join in with this at home by exposing your child to newspapers, shopping lists, menus, recipes, invitations etc. If you have a highlighter, you could write your child's name and encourage them to trace over it or try to copy it underneath it.</p>	<p><u>Phonics</u></p> <p>During our phonics inputs we will continue to develop our vocabulary of the world around us by linking our sounds to objects we are familiar with i.e., n for nose, nest, night.</p> <p>In class we are going to be doing a lot of revision of previous sounds and being able to match magnetic letters to written letters. You could write some sounds on post-it notes and practice matching them to the corresponding sound on paper.</p>
<p><u>Numeracy and Mathematics</u></p> <p>Our numeracy concepts this term can fit well into your everyday life. As part of your morning routine, you could share with your child what day it is and give them a simple timetable to follow i.e., breakfast, school, play, dinner, bath, bed. We could make you up a boardmaker timetable to use at home if you wish. You could emphasise positional language when engaging in tasks and instruction such as asking your child to put their toys 'in' the box when tidying or to put their 'cup' on the table for dinner. It is very easy to add number work into daily tasks. When out shopping you could work together to count and collect objects to put into the trolley/basket. When out for a walk you could point out different numbers on road signs, on the front of buses and on houses.</p>	<p><u>Nursery Rhyme of the Week</u></p> <p>Here is a copy of our nursery rhymes of the week if you would like to join in at home.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 06.01 - 'The Animals Went in 2 by 2' • 13.01 - 'Sing a Song of 6 Pence' • 20.01 - 'I'm a Little Teapot' • 27.01 - '5 Little Monkeys Swinging Through the Trees' • 03.02 - '5 Little Men in a Flying Saucer' • 10.02 - 'Humpty Dumpty Sat on a Wall' • 17.02 - 'One Elephant Went Out to Play' • 24.02 - 'Ring-a-Ring a Roses' • 03.03 - 'London Bridge is Falling Down' • 10.03 - 'Sleeping Bunnies' • 17.03 - '5 Monkeys Jumping on the Bed' • 24.03 - 'Wind the Bobbin Up' • 31.03 - 'Little Bo Peep' 	<p><u>Life Skills</u></p> <p>As part of Health and Wellbeing the children will have lots of opportunities to develop life skills for independence. We have tried to tie in the life-skills with our Traditional Tales topic to tie in with some of the themes within the weekly stories. Your child may already be doing some of these activities however the areas we will be focusing on this term are <u>using a knife to cut up food, making healthy eating choices, brushing hair, planting a seed, looking after a plant, setting a table for a tea party, putting on shoes, crossing the road safely, looking after someone when they are unwell and being able to dress up in a costume.</u></p>

