

# Calderwood Communicates: Ben Lomond & Ben Lawers Clan Termly Learning Letter Term 3 23/24



Welcome to Term 3 of P7! We continue to offer a mix of shared clan experiences as a stage and opportunities to work in our own clans. As Mrs McGarvey leaves Calderwood to have her baby at the beginning of February, we welcome warmly Mr Allan who is taking over and will be Ben Lomond clan champion for the remainder of the year. As always, this term has lots of leadership opportunities for Primary 7s including leading a Scottish celebration event, working with buddies more regularly as requested by the pupils, Calderwood Careers and various other tours & visits for our chiefs & house/vice captains to be involved in. As always, we appreciate your support as we embark on the final half of Primary 7 – a very exciting but nerve-wracking time for a lot of our pupils. We have no doubt they'll work hard in preparation for S1 approaching shortly.

**This is an overview of all learning experiences offered. These experiences may be differentiated to support and challenge each child.**

## English & Literacy

### Listening and Talking

- **Scottish Poetry** – As part of our whole school IDL topic, pupils will be encouraged to learn a Scottish poem by memory. This will be part of our Calderwood Poetry Competition which will involve a clan competition for willing pupils to recite and then a whole school competition with all clan winners.

During this time in class, we are teaching about different types of poetry, Scots language and its origins as well as performance techniques like pace, tone and volume of voices as well as actions and stage presence to help pupils achieve their goals.

- **Interviews** – Before Christmas, lots of pupils showed a keen interest in newspaper writing and journalism. This term, a literacy focus will be a writing challenge which will involve pupils to work as part of a group to design a newspaper. They will work collaboratively to design the paper and allocate jobs. Part of the journalism role will be to conduct interviews and find local news stories around Calderwood for their papers.

### Writing

- **Reports** – Each pupil will be learning to write a newspaper report that will belong in their own groups newspaper. They will be investigating the structure, features, tone and 'sound' of a non-fiction chronological report, before planning, drafting editing and publishing their own.

### Reading

- Pupils are encouraged to read fiction/non-fiction texts during stag starts and across the day purely for enjoyment. We have a range of books & audiobooks available that all pupils can access during reading times.
- Reading groups – children will be grouped into similar ability groups and a piece of text will be given on a rotation for them to use their reading skills. Pupils will have tasks to complete before and after guided reading sessions which will focus on a specific skill: prediction, questioning, summarising or clarifying.

### One Plus Two

- French revision – we will be using the first 4 weeks of Term 3 to revise and assess the French learning that has taken place so far.
- Spanish – we will be looking to extend our Spanish speaking skills by using Languagenut to support children in recapping Spanish numbers, greetings and describing words.

## Numeracy & Maths

### Numeracy

- Number talks allows all pupils to build their mental agility by talking through number strategies. Through number talks discussions we aim to build confidence, flexibility, accuracy and efficiency in mathematical thinking. This term we will be focusing on topics such as multiplying and dividing by 10, 100 and 1000 and using the 4 operations to solve problems with decimal fractions.
- Short, daily SumDog challenges will help to support numeracy strategies and improve speed & accuracy in mental maths skills.

### Maths

- **Fractions, Decimals & Percentages** (Continuation from Term 2) – Pupils will be learning how to add and subtract fractions with common and uncommon denominators. Children will explore the relationship between mixed numbers and improper fractions and build confidence converting between the two. Children will continue to build on their prior knowledge of simplifying fractions, converting between fractions, decimals and percentages and percentage increase/decrease in a problem solving capacity.
- **Time**- Pupils will explore the following topics: Reading and recording time in both 12 and 24 hour notation and converting between the two, Calculating and comparing durations of activities and Estimating the duration of a journey using knowledge of speed, distance and time. Children will also explore the topic of time through real-life experiences such as using and interpreting timetables/ schedules to plan journeys and events.

## Health and Wellbeing

- DYW skills – A big focus for Primary 7 at this stage is learning about different DYW (Developing the Young Workforce) skills for life, learning & work. They are taught explicitly about each skills and will regularly reflect, assess and set personal targets weekly. The extensive list of skills can be found on Teams but includes examples like: Organising, time management, collaboration, flexibility, emotional regulation, critical thinking, problem solving, taking initiative and patience.

### PE

- **Handball**- Through a voting session, pupils chose to explore handball as our next sport to learn about. We will be learning the rules of the game, improving our skills in:
  - teamwork & communication
  - speed/agility
  - moving with the ball
  - passing skills
  - throwing & catching
  - marking and blocking
- **Scottish Country Dancing** – Linking to our Scottish IDL Topic, children will be taking part in a short block of Scottish country dancing. We will be focusing on four main dances; The Canadian Barn Dance, Dashing White Sargent, Gay Gordons and the Virginia Reel. Through Scottish Country Dance we will develop the following skills:
  - agility
  - balance
  - co-ordination
  - co-operation

## Interdisciplinary Learning T

## Scotland IDL

In relation to our Scottish/ Burns Literacy focus, P7 pupils have spent time exploring topics that interest them and discussing what they would like to learn. From this, we have decided on an overarching theme of **'The History of Scottish..'** to allow everybody to learn about a sub-topic they are interested in.

Our sub topics are:

- Fashion
- Art
- Inventors
- Food/Drink

Pupils have picked a sub-topic of their choice to explore further during research time. During this time pupils will put in practise literacy skills taught within guided reading groups, such as note-taking, skimming and scanning, summarising, clarifying and predicting. Pupils are encouraged to use a variety of sources such as websites, videos and books to find and use information. They are also encouraged to ask questions/ talk about their chosen sub-topic at home with family to deepen their understanding or compare their cultures. Pupils have creative freedom when showing their learning- and can showcase this in any way they choose.

Along with self-guided research, Champions will be conduct mini-lessons throughout the topic which the pupils will use to enhance their understanding of their chosen sub- topics.

The skills we will be focussing on this term will be:

- Collaboration
- Communication
- Presentation
- Initiative

## STEM

- Cooking – through our Scottish IDL topic, children have expressed their interest in learning about Scottish food & drink. They will each have the opportunity to cook or bake some Scottish foods as part of their IDL learning and to sell at our Celebration evening event.
- Temperature – as the weather gets colder, a child-led investigation into the freezing temperature of ice has transpired. We have been conducting some experiments on what happens when water freezes, how the government tries to tackle the issues that we face in our lives when roads/public places become icy or too cold. i.e. insulation, gritting roads and what lowers the freezing temperature of water.

We will be exploring ways in which our environment can put us at risk and what we can do to minimize it.

## Discrete Learning

Digital Technology – Use of Teams in and outside of school helps with digital literacy skills. They will learn how to create documents, upload and download correctly and organise their online jotter appropriately.

Emotion Works – On a regular basis, children are encouraged to reflect and discuss their own emotions by showing awareness of the Emotionworks cogs: emotion words, behaviours, triggers, regulation strategies, body sensations, intensity and influences.

Expressive Arts – Opportunities to engage in pupils own personal projects will be provided moving forward for when the pupils complete their 'must do' tasks. Once these tasks are complete, pupils will be

encouraged to work on skill-building activities of their choice that will be provided by the school. These could be:

- Playing the keyboard
- Playing the guitar
- Jewellery making
- Crocheting/sewing/knitting
- Comic book writing
- Story writing
- Digital skills – movie making/stop motion/coding projects

These will be chosen and influenced by pupils passions and champions will do our best to accommodate any skills pupils feel they want to build in school.

### **Other information**

P.E. Days:

Ben Lomond – Tuesday PE (inside) and Thursday (outdoors)

Ben Lawers - Tuesday PE (inside) and Thursday (outdoors)

Non-contact time:

Ben Lomond – Tuesday

Ben Lawers – Tuesday