

**Calderwood Communicates:
Primary 7 Termly Learning Letter
Term 1 2024/25**



Welcome to Term 1! A huge thank you goes to all our amazing Primary Seven children in Muir and Mackintosh for settling in so well to their Primary Seven year. We have already had such a busy start to our year and we can't wait to share with you the learning we will be exploring throughout the course of this term below.

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

As part of our Listening and Talking learning for this term we will be creating personal presentations to share with our Clans, across the P7 stage and with the whole school through Calderwood Chief interviews, House and Vice-Captain manifestos and our Calderwood Career applications. We will also continue to explore how to respectfully and positively support communication and engage with younger children through our Calderwood Chums initiative and Primary Seven Fundraiser.

Writing

Our writing focus for this term is description. We will be building on our prior knowledge of figurative language, developing more complex sentence structures and expanding our descriptive lexicon through our teaching of descriptive writing. We aim to explore photographs, media and develop our own characters and settings to fully support our learning in this area.

Reading

Our learning in Reading this term will focus on the skills of summarising and clarifying. We will be exploring verbal and written comprehension to develop these skills as whole clans, in smaller groups and with individual readers. Whilst working in groups we will also explore our fluency and expression when reading aloud.

One Plus Two

This term we will be revising our knowledge of French greetings and classroom instructions and then building on these by exploring how to respond to these instructions in conversation. We will also be exploring accurate spelling of French words including numbers to 100.

Numeracy & Maths

Numeracy – Four Operations

Through our Numeracy learning this term we will be building on our knowledge of whole numbers, decimals (to greater decimal places) and embedding this in the real-life context of the Olympic and Paralympic Games. We will also be increasing our speed and accuracy of working when using the four operations through teaching more complex and efficient strategies for solving equations. We aim to build on prior knowledge of strategies through our 'Number Talks' and mathematical discourse lessons.

Maths

We will be focusing on maths in our IDL this term, please see below for further insights.

Health and Wellbeing

P.E.

We will be measuring personal fitness markers as part of our P.E. learning this term. We will then focus on specific actions we can explore to develop our fitness and other key wellbeing markers. Following this we will look to measure the same personal fitness markers in order to ascertain the progress we have made in movement, aerobic fitness and flexibility. We will be linking this learning to our Maths IDL topic and use the Paralympics and Olympics to inspire our learning.

Outdoor Learning

We will be taking opportunities to go outdoors to aid regulation and develop our fitness this term as much as we can. We will be exploring skills and teamwork during our Hockey learning with Mr Gannon – we will be doing so outside on our school field and MUGA.

Health and Wellbeing

Raising awareness of what substances could be dangerous or harmful to the body. Developing an understanding of the different types of substances: socially acceptable drugs, prescribed drugs, over the counter medicine, controlled (illegal) substances. Developing an awareness of the influence of peer pressure and how social media can affect decision making.

Discrete Learning

Music

This term in our Expressive Arts learning we will be exploring music. We will be learning about how musical instruments and music technology can be used to experiment with sounds, pitch, melody, rhythm, timbre and dynamics. We will look to respond to musical stimuli by discussing our thoughts, and giving and accepting constructive comment on our own and others' work.

Interdisciplinary Learning

Maths – Time

We are excited to be using time as a context for our IDL learning this term. We will explore 12 and 24-hour notations, use various different types of timetables (online and physical) to investigate how long a journey will take and bridge across hours within different time zones. We will also ascertain the most appropriate and relevant units to use when recording time. Building on this learning, we will explore how to apply time into simple formula such as $\text{speed} = \text{distance} / \text{time}$ and ascertain miles per hours, kilometres per hour and even meters per second. We will be linking this to our fitness targets in P.E. and use the Paralympic and Olympic athletes and the Paralympic/Olympic Games in Paris (and Tahiti!) to inspire this learning.

Here are questions developed by the children which inspired our IDL focus on speed, distance and time:

How fast do athletes using wheelchairs travel in wheelchair basketball and other sports?

Which set distances do Athletes swim in during the Olympics and Paralympics?

How long is a marathon?

Social Studies and RME

We will be using the children's interest in the history and origins of the Olympic and Paralympic Games to compare current day Games with those which took place in the past. We will also look at what beliefs and values the societies which took part in the Games had in the past and compare this to our ideas around fairness, equality and Human Rights.

Here are questions developed by the children which inspired our IDL focus on the History of the Olympics and Paralympics:

How do countries decide who hosts the Olympics and Paralympics and which countries have hosted the Games in the past?

Have the Olympics been every four years since Ancient Greek times or was this four-year cycle more recent? Was a person involved in re-starting the Olympics every four years and if so, who are they?

Has anyone ever cheated in the Olympics/Paralympics?

We have received a huge number of questions to inspire our IDL topic and cannot wait to further explore these questions during this term.

Other Information

Outdoor Learning and P.E.

We aim to go outdoors daily, weather permitting. To ensure your child can fully engage in this please help them to bring a weather-proof coat and sturdy footwear each day. With this in mind, we will also aim to change any muddy, wet and/or dirty shoes when inside to keep our school beautiful and shiny. Please do send in an old pair of trainers, plimsolls or comfy slip on shoes they are able to wear indoors for this eventuality.

Our indoor P.E. day is Monday if your child is in Mackintosh Clan and Tuesday if your child is in Muir Clan. Please ensure your child wears clothing which allows them to move freely and not get too hot in the Arena on their respective day.

Please ensure your child has a water bottle in school every day – they are most welcome to use the water stations situated throughout our school to refill any water bottles or cups they have.