

Calderwood Communicates:

Primary 5 Termly Learning Letter

Term 3 2025/26



Welcome to Term 3! We hope that everyone had a lovely time with their families over the Christmas holidays. The children really enjoyed learning about historic Edinburgh, and developing their mapping skills during our topic last term. This term will bring a focus on Scotland as we celebrate Burns and the rich heritage of Scotland. This will be explored within our literacy and IDL areas of the curriculum this term.

We are also looking forward to taking part in a cluster handball festival, which will be taking place during this term!

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

- Children will become aware of the different aspects of Listening & Talking which include good eye contact, knowing when to speak & when to listen and maintaining focus in a group conversation.
- We will be working on Listening and Talking skills by encouraging pupils to look and listen while others in the class are talking. We will also be using the model of 'Building Thinking Classrooms' to encourage rich learning across different curricular topics.

Writing

- Information report genre: focusing on converting notes we have taken and selecting relevant information to write a text using our own words.
- Information report features: purpose, structure, and language features including adverbial phrases to make our sentences more interesting.
- Poetry – Using Scots language in writing, continue to add similes and metaphors within our poetry to help the reader create an image in their mind. Develop elements of poetry such as structure, emotion, rhyme and rhythm
- For Spelling, we will use a range of active spelling activities to revise and support learning of new vocabulary and spelling patterns.
- Focus on the Second Level core targets of writing – punctuation, connectives, openers and interesting vocabulary, with a particular focus on connectives and openers

Reading

- Clarifying Scots language used in short texts and poetry.
- We will be continuing to develop our reciprocal reading strategies in prediction, clarifying and summarising. We will continue to embed Vocabulary, Connectives, Openers & Punctuation (VCOP) principles in reading.
- When reading in small groups, we will have a focus on reading with fluency and expression to support understanding of the text.
- Skimming and scanning a text to find relevant information

One Plus Two

French

- Revision of previously learned topics: numbers to 50, greetings, classroom objects and colours.
- Food topic: P5 will lead a French cafe for the school. This will include developing their confidence in conversational skills and food items.
- As well as building new vocabulary words, learners will be continuing to develop their ability to read, write and say French sentences.

- Lots of listening and talking means learners will be building confidence at having conversations in French.

-

Spanish

- Basic greetings and how you are feeling
- Classroom instructions

Numeracy & Maths

Numeracy

Our topic for this term is time. We will be planning journeys that are both simple (one event) and more complex (more than one event) - reading, recording and converting time between 12 and 24 hour notation, timing activities and using appropriate units of time for a given task

Maths

For our Maths topic this term we will be looking at addition and subtraction. This will include introducing the children to different strategies that they can use when it comes to calculating addition and subtraction sums. These will include:

- Doubles/near doubles and halving
- Compensation
- Friendly numbers
- Inverse
- Using known facts
- Using rounding to ascertain reasonable answers

Health and Wellbeing

- Relationships with a focus on friendships and how we manage them
- Substance misuse – developing our understanding of how different substances can affect the body
 - How do people stay healthy?
 - The effect of unhealthy choices and substances on the body
 - Peer pressure
 - Emergencies and basic first aid
- “Zones of Regulation” and “Emotion Works” will be used to underpin the learning.

P.E.

- Gymnastics – develop knowledge of basic shapes, rolls and jumps that can be part of a gymnastics routine. We will also work with some of the gymnastics apparatus such as the beam, springboard and vault boxes. We will create and present a small routine at the end of the learning block
- Handball – develop fundamental movement skills across the playing area. We will learn how to pass and shoot, as well as learning the rules of the game, as we work towards a cluster handball festival later in the term.

Interdisciplinary Learning

Scotland – (Social studies – people, past events and society – people, place and environment)

- Each week the clans will research and learn about a different topic area related to Scotland, to create a wide breadth of knowledge around the country they live in. This will include areas such as bridges, climate, castles, inventors, transport, food produce and Lego.

Questions from the Children:

- Why is haggis so popular?
- What countries do we export food to?
- How many inventors are in Scotland?
- Why is it so cold in Scotland?
- How many castles are there?
- What is the longest bridge?
- How long do they take to build?
- Who invented Irn Bru?

Discrete Learning

Art & Design

- Line drawings and collage
- Watercolour painting

Drama

- Developing awareness and recognition of use of facial expressions, movement and voice to portray emotions and different characters.
- Using Scots poetry to discuss performance styles.
- Creating short plays and drama sequences through collaborative group work.

RME

- Exploring religious festivals from around the world.
- P4C – philosophy for children. Develops children's reasoning, thinking and communication skills. Fostering creative and critical thinking.

Other Information

Coats and Jackets

Could we please remind all parents to send their children to school with a jacket, especially on days where their class is scheduled to have PE outside.

Rannoch Clan

PE Days:

- Monday – Outdoors
- Tuesday – Arena

Miss Boden will be out of class on Thursdays 08:45am – 11:30am. Mrs McGarvey will cover the clan during this time.

Leven Clan

PE Days:

- Tuesday – Arena
- Wednesday - Outdoors

Mrs Clarkson will be out of class on Tuesdays from 12:00pm – 3:15pm. Miss McGuire will cover the clan during this time.

Tummel Clan

PE Days:

- Monday – Outdoors
- Thursday - Arena

Mr Allan will be out of class on Wednesdays from 08:45am – 11:30am. Mrs McGarvey will cover the clan during this time.