

Primary 5 Learning Letter: Term 3



Dear Parent/Carer,

January 2017

Welcome to Term 3 in Primary 5. We are looking forward to a busy and fun term. The highlights of last term included our George's Marvellous Medicine topic and our trip to the cinema. We were also excited to start this term off with our Dragons' Den pitches to a guest panel of exclusive Dragons. We have now begun our new IDL context for learning, Natural Disasters, and all of the children in P5 will be involved in the West Calder High School cluster handball festival on 15th February.

Miss Sherlow and Mrs Campbell

English & Literacy

This term, through the IDL context of 'Natural Disasters', we will be focusing on developing reading for information using ICT, as well as notetaking skills. We will be learning how to select and organise relevant facts and information about a variety of natural disasters.

Our writing will focus on various genres that will allow us to apply what we have learned through our IDL. This term, we will explore news articles, instructions, emails, interviews and imaginative stories.

This term, we will also be continuing to develop our knowledge of Vocabulary, Connectives, Openers and Punctuation (VCOP), as well as our handwriting and spelling. The children also be using up-levelling techniques to improve the standard of their writing.

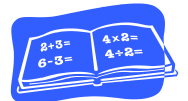


Maths & Numeracy

This term, our numeracy work will focus on fractions decimals and percentages. We will also continue to develop our mental agility through Number Talks, mental maths games and verbal recall. In our wider maths this term, the focus will be on data handling and time.

You can support your child's maths development at home by regular times tables revision and links to maths in real life contexts. Please encourage your child to read the time in both analogue and digital forms regularly, manage their own time and calculate time durations.

Sumdog is also a fantastic resource to develop children's mental agility and quick recall of maths facts. Purple Mash also has a wide variety of maths games, including Table Toons which is a fun way to learn your times tables. Each child has their Purple Mash and Sumdog passwords in their homework diary.



Interdisciplinary Learning: Natural Disasters

This term our IDL context for learning is Natural Disasters. We will be exploring this through the curriculum areas of social studies, maths and technologies. The key questions we will look at are:

1. What causes each type of natural disaster and how often do they occur?
2. Can we predict natural disasters occurring and can we stop them?
3. How do natural disasters affect landscape and population?
4. How do countries recover from a significant natural disaster?
5. Has Scotland ever had any natural disasters?

Additional Information

This term, our outdoor PE days will be Tuesdays and Thursday.

Please ensure your child brings clothing suitable for being outdoors in colder weather (i.e. jogging bottoms and trainers). Spelling and Maths homework will be given every Monday and should be completed and handed in on Friday.

Reading homework will be given on a Tuesday and is to be completed for the following Tuesday. Please sign when completed.

A Note from Mrs Campbell

I am delighted to have joined the team here at Mid Calder and have had a busy 2 weeks getting to know the P5a children. Both children and staff have made me feel very welcome and I am looking forward to meeting parents and carers in the coming months.