

Primary 4 Learning Letter: Term 1



Dear Parent/Carer,

September 2017

Welcome to Term 1 in Primary 4. All of the children have settled well into P4 and we are looking forward to a busy and fun term. So far, the children have participated in a community building fortnight where we have been getting to know each other, creating our community contract and becoming familiar with our new class routines. We also had a mini focus on our school aim of developing our skills and celebrating achievements. We have begun our new IDL context for learning, Dinosaurs, and are looking forward to our class trip to the National Museum of Scotland.

Miss Clark

English & Literacy

Through the IDL context of Dinosaurs, our writing will focus on a variety of genres including letters, fact files, imaginative stories and advertisement posters.

This term, we will be developing our knowledge of Vocabulary, Connectives, Openers and Punctuation (VCOP), as well as building on our handwriting and spelling abilities. The children will use up-levelling techniques to improve the standard of their writing. This process also involves self and peer assessment.

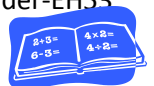
Our reading in term 1 will focus on non-fiction texts and skimming and scanning. To support with this at home, please encourage your child to read a range of non-fiction texts on subjects that interest them. They should pay particular attention to the contents page, layout and headings.



Maths & Numeracy

This term, our maths work will focus on Stages of Early Arithmetical Learning (SEAL) strategies and we will explore a range of learning across aspects of number. Through our IDL context, we will also explore data handling and measure.

You can support your child's maths development at home by regular number bonds practise and links to maths in real life contexts. Sumdog is also a fantastic resource to develop children's mental agility and quick recall of maths facts. This can be found at: www.sumdog.co.uk Purple Mash also has a wide variety of maths games along with a variety of activities to support reading, spelling and writing. Each child has their Purple Mash password in their homework jotters. The site can be accessed at: <https://www.purplemash.com/sch/midcalder-EH53>



Interdisciplinary Learning: Dinosaurs

This term our context for learning is Dinosaurs. We will be exploring this through the curriculum areas of science, expressive arts and maths. The key questions we will look at are:

1. What is a dinosaur and what are their key features?
2. What habitats did they live in and what did they eat?
3. How can we collect and present data about dinosaurs?
4. What is a Palaeontologist and why are they important?
5. What is the role of a Curator in a museum?



Additional Information

P4 will have P.E. on a Tuesday and Thursday. Please ensure your child brings the correct clothing to change into school on P.E. days. This includes clothing suitable for taking part in P.E outdoors (i.e. jogging bottoms and trainers).

National Museum of Scotland Trip

P4 will be visiting the National Museum of Scotland on Wednesday 13th of September. We will be attending a dinosaur focused workshop and will have a tour of the museum to support our IDL context. The trip costs £4 and pupils should bring a packed lunch.

Homework

Spelling, reading and maths homework will be given out on a Monday and Tuesday and should be completed and handed in on Friday. Homework should be completed in your child's homework jotter with an emphasis on neat presentation and accuracy.