

Primary 5 Learning Letter: Term 1



Dear Parent/Carer,

September 2017

Welcome to Term 1 in Primary 5. All of the children have settled well into P5 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 class charter and becoming familiar with our new class routines. We also had a mini focus on our school aim of linking home/school/community which we presented at last week's assembly. We have just begun our new IDL context for learning, The Rainforest, and the children have discussed what they already know and have created a set of questions they would like answered; we will be exploring these throughout the topic.

Miss Anderson and Mrs Cambell

English & Literacy

Through our Rainforest IDL context we will be focusing on descriptive and functional writing tasks. Planned activities include a factfile, letter and poster.

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. We currently have a trial with Sumdog Spelling until the end of September; please encourage your child to practise this at home where possible.

Our reading in term 1 will focus on skimming and scanning for key information, identifying the key features of different genres, reading for information and notetaking. Reading homework will be issued each week and will be linked to skills being covered in class.

Maths & Numeracy

This term, our maths work will focus on place value, estimating and rounding, negative numbers, addition and subtraction.

You can support your child's maths development at home by regular number bonds practice, as well as times tables revision 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. 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 password in their homework books.

There will be an extra focus on maths through our upcoming Maths Week and children will also focus on aspects of measure and money through our Rainforest IDL context.

Interdisciplinary Learning: The Rainforest

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

1. Where is the rainforest and what is it?
2. Who and what lives there?
3. How does the rainforest benefit us?
4. Why is it in danger?
5. What can we do to help?

Additional Information

P.E. kits should be kept in school at all times as our P.E. times may change. Currently, P5a have P.E. on Tuesdays and Wednesdays, P5c on Mondays and Tuesdays. 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).

P5 Bowling

All primary 5 children have the opportunity to join in carpet bowls sessions with members of Mid Calder Bowling Club, who will be in school for the next 2 Thursdays. The final session will be held at the bowling club. Children have already enjoyed 1 session and proved to be very quick learners!

Homework

Spelling and maths homework will be given every Monday and should be completed and handed in on Friday. Reading homework should be completed and returned 1 week from the day of issue. We encourage you to log on to www.sumdog.co.uk to practise mental maths and reading skills. Each child has a login and will be set maths and/or reading skill challenges.