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Dear Parent/Carer,

Welcome to Term 3 in Primary 5. We hope you have all enjoyed a restful Christmas and New Year break and that the children are ready for the new challenges of the term ahead. Last week saw the beginning of our new IDL context ‘RMS TITANIC’. The children have already engaged really well with this fascinating topic and many of them have been keen to share facts or information they have found with the rest of the class. Throughout this context we will be focusing on life in the Edwardian era, in particular the class system and how this impacted on the disaster. We will also learn about the personal stories of the passengers on board the ship and will consider whether the disaster could have been prevented. Miss Anderson and Mrs Campbell

P5 teachers.

January 2018

**Maths & Numeracy**

This term, our maths work will focus on 2D and 3D shape, using mathematical language to discuss their properties and understanding how and where particular shapes are used in the environment. We will also focus on whole number (4 operations), focusing on links between multiplication and division. We will also continue to use bar modelling and number lines to support number work.

Children will engage in daily Number Talks sessions to help them build strategies, and develop mental agility and quick recall of maths facts.

Please continue to encourage your child to use Sumdog and Purple Mash where possible as these are great ways to engage children in number activities.

**English & Literacy**

Through our Titanic context we will be focusing on personal and functional writing tasks. Planned activities include a biography, diary entry and children have already written newspaper articles recounting the events surrounding the disaster.

This term, we will be developing our knowledge of homophones, similes, metaphors and alliteration, as well as building on our handwriting and spelling skills. Our class reading in term 3 will consist of a whole class novel which will form the basis of our weekly guided reading sessions.

We will also be practising Dictation this term – this helps children to focus on sentence structure, spelling and punctuation.

**Interdisciplinary Learning: RMS Titanic**

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

1. **What was the Titanic?**
2. **What was life like in the 1910s?**
3. **Who were the passengers on the Titanic?**
4. **What caused the Titanic to sink?**

**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 Wednesdays and P5c have P.E. on Tuesdays, Enjoy-a-Ball on Mondays and Futsal on Thursdays. Please ensure your child brings the correct clothing to change into on P.E. days. (This should also include outdoor P.E. clothes).

**P5 Handball**

All primary 5 children have the opportunity to join in Handball sessions this term in preparation for the Cluster Schools Handball Festival on February 7th.

Good luck to all involved!

**Homework**

Following consultation with the children, our spelling homework will now consist of a multiple-choice grid; children can choose a different activity each week to support their spelling. As part of the Enjoyment and Choice strand of the Reading curriculum, children will select a text of their choice to read at home; this can be ANY reading material, eg, magazine, non-fiction text etc.