



**Toronto Primary Curricular
Information**



**A Year in
P3/2**

**With
Mrs Lumsden
and
Mrs Richmond**

This booklet is designed to provide information about the curriculum your child will experience this year in Primary 3/2 as well as providing information about classroom routines and expectations.

Curriculum for Excellence establishes clear values, purposes and principles for education from 3-18 in Scotland. It sets out to enable children and young people to develop their capacities as successful learners, confident individuals, responsible citizens and effective contributors.

The key methods by which we will develop these capacities are through:

- ❖ active learning
- ❖ interdisciplinary learning
- ❖ outdoor learning
- ❖ co-operative learning

We will be using a range of Assessment is for Learning techniques including:

- ❖ sharing learning intentions and success criteria
- ❖ high quality interactions and feedback
- ❖ learner involvement in reflection, setting learning goals and next steps
- ❖ self and peer assessment

The curriculum is divided as following:

Curriculum Level	Stage
Early	Pre-school and P1 or later for some
First	To end of P4 but earlier or later for some
Second	To end of P7 but earlier or later for some
Third and Fourth	S1-S3 but earlier for some The fourth level broadly equates to SCQF Level 4
Senior Phase	S4-6 and college or other means of study

Welcome to Primary 3/2

We are delighted with the way the pupils have settled in to Primary 3/2 and we are looking forward to the coming year. We are hoping for a challenging, creative, fun and successful year and we would like to inform you of our plans and expectations for the children.

English and Literacy

In Primary 1, 2 and Primary 3 we use the North Lanarkshire Literacy programme for many aspects of literacy work. Our English and Literacy work in class consists of reading, writing, listening & talking and French. Each week, children are introduced to new 'sounds' or 'blends' and then children learn how to use them when reading and writing by 'segmenting', 'blending' and 'word building'. You can help your child by practising the sounds and common words that are sent home on a daily basis.

Writing

Building on from Primary 1 and 2 experiences, our pupils are given regular opportunities to write for a variety of purposes. As the children develop their writing skills, learning experiences will be linked to their work across the curriculum and through short story writing challenges; they will consistently build on skills and experiences gained in Primary 1 and Primary 2. In class, we also teach 'tools' for writing such as punctuation (capital letters, commas, full stops and finger spaces, question marks, exclamation marks and speech marks), accurately spelling common words and words which can be 'sounded out'. Across the school children are taught to write using a 'cursive' script. This approach will be taught as children become more confident with their pencil grip at a later stage in the year.

Reading

We will develop reading skills through Guided Reading sessions. This is a most enjoyable way of teaching reading and allows the pupils the opportunity to study a book in great detail. It encompasses all aspects of English and Literacy: comprehension; grammar/punctuation; dictionary/ thesaurus skills; writing; spelling; listening and discussion. Children will be taking part in activities based on their book to help develop reading skills as well as reading their book out loud. We use fiction and non-fiction books to teach the children a range of reading skills. Assessment is ongoing and builds on your child's progress from previous years, allowing us to work to the children's pace. Reading books will be sent home with a reading record to be signed by a parent/carer.

Spelling

We will be using active spelling approaches to teach spelling. The children will be building on their spelling covered in Primary 1 and Primary 2 last session using the North Lanarkshire Literacy approach. All children will be given words with the sounds/blends/high frequency words they are learning for homework and will be tested on these words on a Friday.

Listening & Talking

Good listening and talking skills are taught and reinforced in an ongoing way every day in our classrooms and school. In addition to this listening and talking skills are taught through different curricular areas. In Primary 3/2, as well as ongoing assessment, we assess talking and listening skills through activities such as informal weekly news time on a Friday, class talks, group discussions and reciting Scottish poetry.

Modern Languages

The modern language we learn in school is French. Over the course of this year we will be introducing some French vocabulary in an informal way, for example saying good morning, good bye.

Numeracy & Mathematics

Developing a solid understanding of mathematical and numeracy concepts in Primary 2 and Primary 3 is very important as it provides strong building blocks for later learning. In Toronto Primary we aim to provide rich, active learning experiences where our children can continue to explore and learn about a range of concepts such as numbers 0-100/1000 (what comes before, after and between a given number), addition and subtraction within 20, counting in 2's, 3's, 4's, 5's and 10's, introducing and extending knowledge of the concepts of multiplication and division and fractions – $\frac{1}{2}$ and $\frac{1}{4}$. Children will also further develop their knowledge and understanding of Money – recognising coins and addition of notes and coins, symmetry, Information Handling (e.g. bar charts, pictograms, tally charts), Time – o'clock and half past.

Health and Wellbeing

Our class has Physical Education on a ***Monday and Wednesday***. P.E. Kit, consisting of shorts, t-shirt and change of shoes, is needed on these days. In case of loss or injury, jewellery, especially earrings, should be left at home on PE days; otherwise, it must be removed before lessons. Please ensure that all individual items of clothing are named. P.E. kit may be kept in class and will be sent home at the end of each term to be washed.

Everyday Essentials

Water: It is important for your child to stay hydrated so please try to send them to school with a *water* bottle every day. (Please ensure that only water is provided instead of juice or flavoured water.) Studies show that drinking water during the day can result in increased concentration, good energy levels and an ability to sustain activity.

Gym Rubbers: To keep the classroom clean, every child should have a pair of gym rubbers to change into at school.

Internet Safety

We will be learning about aspects of keeping safe when using technology throughout the course of this year.

Social Studies (Topic Work)

This term our class will be learning about Woodlands through our Interdisciplinary topic. Our other topics this session will be 'Eddie the Penguin' which covers ecological and environmental issues, Shops-old and new, and a comparative study between living in a city/town to living on an island based around the Katie Morag stories.

Communication

Parent's Evenings are scheduled for term 1 and term 3. However, if you have any concerns, please contact the office to make an appointment.

Our class learning assembly will be on **Thursday 8th December 2016**. More information will be shared nearer the time.

An old shirt brought from home to cover and protect your child's school uniform would be appreciated for art & craft activities (this is optional).

Leadership Opportunities

We will be encouraging the children to become increasingly independent and responsible for organising themselves throughout this year and hope this will be reinforced at home. There will be many opportunities for your child to develop these skills, such as contributing to the Pupil Council, taking on class responsibilities, Star of the week, Achievement Awards, Class Assemblies and many other experiences.

Promoting Positive Behaviour

Golden Time will usually take place on a Friday morning. This is a chance for positive behaviour and hard work to be rewarded. Children can choose from a range of activities which will run for a 4 week block.

Homework

Throughout the year homework will be issued on a Monday to be returned by Thursday (unless otherwise stated) and will include:

- Reading – please support your child by reading with them and discussing the storyline, predicting what is going to happen next, practising key words and encouraging fluent and expressive reading.
- Spelling – new words (practise using Look, Say, Cover, Write, Check method)/ sentences/ activities
- Numeracy/ Topic related activity.

Please could you check and sign completed homework tasks, thank you.

Thank you for your continued support.

Mrs Lumsden and Mrs Richmond 😊