



**Toronto Primary Curricular
Information**



**A Year in
P3**

**With
Mrs Sampson**

This booklet is designed to provide information about the curriculum your child will experience this year in Primary 3 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

The children have settled in very well to Primary 3 and we are looking forward to the coming year. We are hoping for a challenging, creative, fun and successful year and would like to inform you of the plans and expectations for the children.

Reading

Throughout the year we will continue to develop reading skills through Guided Reading. 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.

During Guided Reading, most children will not bring home a core reader but will be encouraged to choose a book to develop greater personalisation and choice. This will be an opportunity for you and your child to share a range of literature.

Spelling

All pupils have been assessed through the Single Word Spelling Test to ensure that we have an accurate spelling age for each child. This informs the words that pupils get home each week for spelling homework. In class, pupils complete a variety of spelling activities each day which help them to learn their spelling patterns and common words.

Writing

Building on from Primary 1 and 2 experiences, our pupils are given regular opportunities to write for a variety of purposes. Your child will experience a wide range of writing activities (functional, personal and imaginative) which at times will be linked to the class topic.

The school will be using the Berol Cursive Hand Writing Scheme encouraging children to begin each letter on the 'line'. As your child gains confidence with this scheme all written tasks should be completed in this form.

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, as well as ongoing assessment, we assess talking and listening skills through activities such as informal weekly show and tell, class talks and learning and reciting Scottish poetry.

Numeracy & Mathematics

Developing a solid understanding of mathematical and numeracy concepts in 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 Primary 3 pupils can continue to explore and learn about a range of concepts and pupils are encouraged to discuss the methods they used to find their answers and question the processes used. In Primary 3, the focus of learning includes areas such as basic computation: addition and subtraction, multiplication and division, place value: numbers to 1000, Shape: 2D shape and 3D objects, Measure: Length, Weight & Time. Problem solving skills are embedded throughout the experiences we plan.

Health & Wellbeing

Health and Wellbeing is evident throughout the curriculum with pupils being encouraged to become confident individuals, successful learners, effective contributors and responsible citizens. This year Primary 3 will be learning about the following:

- Personal Safety: UThinkUKnow (Internet/ social media safety); Road Safety; Personal Hygiene.
- Thinking of others: Global Education, Children-in-Need etc.
- Physical Education on a weekly basis.
- Class charter: as part of our work on Rights Respecting Schools we have devised a class charter which teaches about children's rights as well as models rights and respect in all relationships, for example; between teachers/adults and pupils, between adults and between pupils.

Social Studies (Topic Work)

This session we will be looking at a variety of different topics in Primary 3. Building on our Social Studies improvement work last session, we have revised our interdisciplinary topics to ensure that they are relevant and meaningful to the children and that children have a bigger voice in planning their learning. This session the Primary 3 topics will be –Martin Luther King, Earth and Space, Endangered Species, Egyptians and The Puppet Factory.

Learning Logs and Profiling Jotters

This session, as a school, we are continuing to develop our approaches to profiling. For two weeks over the course of the year all work that is completed by the children will be put into a profiling jotter. Profiling jotters will be available to see at parent's night. This gives parents/carers the opportunity to see how children are getting on. The profiling jotters will be passed on to your child's next teacher and will travel with your child as they move up the school showing progression over the course of the years.

Classroom Organisation/Routines

Please encourage your child to come to school prepared for the day:

- A pencil case with appropriate writing tools e.g. writing & colouring pencils, rubber & ruler.
- Gym shoes: Health and Safety means that rubber soles are essential. All children should have a pair of indoor shoes.
- Please ensure all items of clothing and personal belongings are labelled/ named.
- Water Bottle (Sport's cap) for hydration in the class – WATER ONLY PLEASE (not flavoured water or juice). Studies show that drinking water during the day can result in: increased concentration, good energy levels and an ability to sustain activity.
- P.E. Kit, consisting of shorts, t-shirt and change of shoes, is needed on Tuesdays and Wednesdays. In case of loss or injury, jewellery, especially earrings, should be left at home on PE days; otherwise, it must be removed before lessons.

Communication

Throughout the year newsletters are issued (by email, if the school has your address) and include important information. Please read these and respond where appropriate.

- Children may at times be asked to pass on information from school. This may be in the form of a verbal message or a letter.
- School lunches are free for all children in Primary 3.
- An old shirt brought from home to cover and protect your child's school uniform would be appreciated for art & craft activities (optional).
- 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 assembly will be on Thursday 16th March 2017.

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, class responsibilities and many other experiences.

Promoting Positive Behaviour

Golden Time is a 30 minute fun activity. Each week, the children are able to earn Golden Time as recognition of hard work and good behaviour. Golden Time can also be lost (in 5 minute increments) if behaviour does not meet expectations. In this event, the reason for loss of time will be explained and suggestions for improvement made.

Homework

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

- Spelling – new words (Look, Say, Cover, Write, Check.)/ sentences/ activities
- Numeracy/ Topic related activity.

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

Thank you for your continued support.
Mrs Sampson