

P3/2 Newsletter

Welcome back to a new year! I hope that you had a lovely and relaxing summer holiday. Primary 3/2 have settled back into school quickly and we are looking forward to an exciting year ahead!

Literacy

This year we will be using Active Literacy approaches for our spelling and phonics activities. We will also be developing our reading strategies and comprehension skills. Reading books will come home twice a week. Please ensure your child's book is always in their school bag. We will also be reading for enjoyment daily in the classroom.

We will be writing about personal experiences as well as focusing on character and setting descriptions. We will also be working on using a wider range of vocabulary, punctuation, connectives and sentence openers to make our writing more engaging and detailed. Any opportunities you can provide for your child to write at home would be greatly beneficial. This could include writing birthday cards, creating stories, writing recipes or keeping a diary. These everyday writing experiences are a wonderful way to help develop their confidence and enjoyment of writing.

Numeracy

In Numeracy, we will be consolidating our knowledge of number bonds to improve both speed and accuracy. We will explore different strategies for addition and subtraction and work towards recalling our 10 times table with increasing confidence. We will also develop our estimation skills by estimating and counting objects, as well as ordering numbers and identifying the number that comes before and after a given number. Alongside our number work, we will be exploring 2D shapes, symmetry and data handling.

The children will have regular opportunities to use Sumdog, our numeracy programme, during numeracy time. We would also encourage your child to spend around 20 minutes playing Sumdog each day, as this will help to strengthen their numeracy skills and build confidence. Topmarks also has a range of free, fun maths games that your child can access at home to support their learning.

IDL (Inter-disciplinary learning)

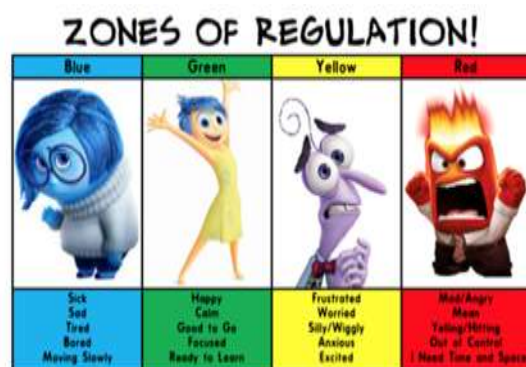
During the first few weeks, our IDL will be 'All about us' to get to know our new class family better. We will take part in a range of fun team-building activities, helping us to develop positive relationships and learn more about one another. We will explore different aspects of our lives, including our cultures, homes and families, celebrating the things that make each of us unique. We will then learn all about our skeletons and muscles! We will discover how our skeletons give our bodies shape and support, protect important organs, and help us move. We will also explore how our muscles work together with our bones to help us run, jump, bend and stretch. The children will enjoy exploring how their bodies work through fun, practical activities and investigations!

Music

Mrs Murdoch will be taking children for a 6 week 'samba' session every Thursday morning where they will take part in fun singing, movement and percussion lessons.

Health and Wellbeing

This term we will be focusing on our emotions using the Zones of Regulation which will give children the opportunity to think about and express their feelings. We would really encourage you to have a look at the Zones of Regulation and use the language at home too. Talking about how we are feeling and which zone we are in can be a great way to help children recognise their emotions and develop strategies to manage them.



Gym Sessions

Our gym sessions will take place on a **Tuesday** and **Friday**. Please can children wear their gym clothes to school on these days. On a **Tuesday** this will be outdoors and therefore the children should have appropriate clothing. Please bring a separate pair of indoor gym shoes on a **Friday**. No jewellery should be worn on gym days, including small earrings. Long hair should be tied back.

Outdoor Learning

Children will be learning outside, whatever the weather! If possible, please send your child to school in appropriate clothing for being outdoors, for example, sturdy shoes and a waterproof jacket. We have some spares in school if required. Mrs Murdoch will also be taking children outside for outdoor sessions. The first one will be on **Tuesday 8th of September**.

Homework

Homework will be uploaded weekly on Seesaw which is the learning app that we are using throughout the school. This will also be a means of communicating what we are doing in school with you at home and vice versa. Please encourage your child to use the app to post any work completed at home. We will have a weekly spelling quiz every Friday. Spelling words will be shared to Seesaw every Monday for children to practise at home. Please try some of the spelling strategies that will be shared to Seesaw. I will also provide reading books and numeracy homework will be uploaded.

How can I help my child?

- Talk to your child about their new words for the week and try to use the words as much as possible.
- Practise reading books and tricky words daily.
- Encourage reading/sounding out words when out and about e.g., bus stops, shop names, menus.

- Complete weekly Sumdog challenges to earn coins!
- Select your child's lunch option each day. This saves us lots of valuable learning time in class.
- Please label all school uniform so we can find any lost items easily!

The children have all settled well into the class and are now familiar with our daily routines. We are holding a **Meet the Teacher** event on **Wednesday 26th August at 3.15** so I'm looking forward to welcoming you all into our classroom.

I would like to thank you for your on-going support and if you have any concerns about your child, please contact me via the school office or the Seesaw app.

Mrs Gillespie 😊

