Primary 1B Newsletter – Term 2

Dear Parents/Carers,

It has been wonderful to see how much the children have grown in confidence since starting Primary 1. They are becoming more independent, working well together, and showing real enthusiasm for their learning. Here is a look at what we have planned for Term 2, along with some useful reminders.

Classroom Routine

Mrs Gallacher continues to teach Primary 1B from Monday to Wednesday and Ms McCauley on Thursday and Friday. We work closely together to ensure a consistent approach to learning across the week.

Gym Days

Our gym days remain Thursday and Friday. Please send your child ready for gym on these days: black/blue shorts, leggings or joggers; trainers; a white polo shirt; and a school jumper or cardigan. No earrings, please. Children should wear trainers to school on gym days for health and safety.

This term, we will be developing gymnastics and football skills, including balance, coordination, movement and teamwork.

Literacy

We will continue with our phonics programme. The children have made good progress and particularly enjoy our Active Literacy activities, including daily writing, developing reading skills and using magnet boards to blend sounds and build words for reading and writing. Alongside this, we will focus on hearing and clapping syllables in words and understanding the difference between a letter, a word and a sentence.

We will be sending common words home for regular practice. Many of these words cannot be sounded out using the sounds children have learned so far, so seeing and saying them often helps children recognise them more confidently. A few minutes of practice, little and often, can make a big difference.

We will continue to explore books in class. Our Book of the Week is always a firm favourite: the children thoroughly enjoy sharing a class story that inspires our writing and the play activities throughout the classroom.

If you have any school reading books still at home, please could these be returned? We have a limited supply and need the books back so there are enough for all children to use.

Numeracy and Maths

We will keep strengthening our understanding of numbers to 10 while extending our work on recognising numbers to 20 and forming numerals correctly. The children will build on their addition

skills through our money topic, learning about coins and combining amounts to make totals. Our class shop role play gives them a fun, practical way to use these skills.

We will also explore time and measurement, including comparing and measuring length and weight, through practical activities and games. Number Talks will continue to help children explain their thinking and try different strategies.

Health and Wellbeing

Our Health and Wellbeing learning will link with People Who Help Us. We will think about the people who care for and support us, how to stay safe, when to ask for help and ways we can help others in return.

Music

Primary 1 will continue to enjoy YMI Music every second week, with opportunities to develop listening, rhythm and musical skills through practical activities.

Our IDL Topics

Our first topic is People Who Help Us, exploring the roles of emergency services and other people who support our community. Stories, discussion, small-world play and role play will help children make links to real life.

Later in the term, we will turn our attention to Christmas. We will be preparing for our Nativity and finding out about some of the different ways Christmas is celebrated around the world.

Homework and Seesaw

We will continue using Seesaw to share classroom learning and home learning activities. The homework jotter can still be used for writing or other activities when helpful.

How Can I Help My Child?

- Practise common words regularly by saying them, finding them in stories or playing quick word games.
- Encourage your child to write their name, using a capital letter at the beginning and lower-case letters for the rest.
- Give your child opportunities to put on their own jacket and shoes, and practise fastening their jacket independently.
- Share and talk about stories, asking questions about the characters and what happened.
- Count, recognise and write numbers together, and look out for different values of coins when shopping.

A Little Winter Reminder

As the weather becomes colder and more unpredictable, please make sure your child brings a jacket to school each day, with their name clearly marked inside. Thank you!

Important Dates

- Wednesday 21 October – Immunisations
- Wednesday 28 October – Halloween disco
- Thursday 12 November – Diwali afternoon
- Week beginning Monday 16 November – Book Week Scotland
- Friday 20 November – Dress-down day for Rainbow Hamper donations
- Friday 18 December – School finishes at 2:30 pm

Christmas Events

Our school Winter Wonderland will take place on Thursday 3 December, from 4:00–7:00 pm. The school office will share more information nearer the time.

We will also be getting ready for our Nativity, with further information sent home nearer the time. Our class colour for the Rainbow Hampers will be confirmed ahead of the dress-down day.

Thank you for your continued support. We are looking forward to a busy, exciting and festive term together! If you have any questions or concerns, please speak to us at the school gate or contact the school office.

Thank you,

Mrs Gallacher & Ms McCauley
Primary 1B Class Teachers