

St Cyrus School – Term 3, 2023/24
Primary 3/4 Newsletter

Happy New Year!!! We hope you have all had a lovely time off school and are looking forwards to the New Year ahead. Please see below details about what we will be learning in Term 3.

Literacy & Language (including French)

We will continue to look at different sounds and letter formations within our weekly spelling routines. Words will be posted on the class Teams page which can be found online to allow you to further support your child's learning.

Our writing this term will be focussing on 'recount' writing, specifically diary writing and then we will move on to 'persuasive' writing. We will be discussing the purpose, audience, language, and structure used for these types of writing. We will be comparing different diary examples to identify what makes a good one (W.A.G.O.L.L.) and creating a success criterion which we will use when writing our own pieces of writing. We will continue to use our personal word book/dictionaries to aid us when writing. We will also have short sessions of 'Big Writing' which will provide us with tools and strategies to improve our writing. These will include VCOP tasks (V: vocabulary; C: connective; O: openers; P: punctuation).

Reading will continue to be sent home this term.

In French we will be learning to name the different rooms and spaces in a school as well as naming the people who work there. We will be giving direction, such as turn left/ right/ go straight ahead etc.

Preview Homework / Ways to support your child at home this term in literacy

- Sound out words with our given weekly sounds – Use the class Teams page to stay up to date with the current sounds. Write them in different forms – typing, capitals, using other hand.
- Ask a family member or friend to help you keep a weekend diary- this can be for just one weekend or for several weekends.
- Share some quick 'VCOP' active tasks done in class with a family member or friend.
- Play 'charades' with the French names for people who work at school. Copy in your diary the French names for people who work at a school (found in your classroom wall display). Then write these onto separate flashcards. Take turns to pick up a card and act out the individual on the card. Family or friends need to guess the person.

Numeracy & Maths

In Numeracy this term, we will be looking at Addition and Subtraction working within 50, 100 and extending some of our knowledge up to 1000. We will be learning a variety of mental approaches as well as looking at the more traditional written approach. There will be a strong focus on fact families and how to use known number bonds to help us i.e., $3 + 7 = 10$ therefore $30 + 70 = 100$ and $300 + 700 = 1000$. We will also be looking at the links between addition and subtraction i.e., $3 + 7 = 10$, $7 + 3 = 10$, $10 - 3 = 7$ and $10 - 7 = 3$.

Our practical Maths topic will be 'fractions'. We will be exploring how groups of items can be shared equally by finding a fraction of an amount. We will be learning to understand and use fraction notation. Some of us will be focussing on $\frac{1}{2}$ s and $\frac{1}{4}$ s whilst others will challenge themselves with $\frac{1}{3}$ s and $\frac{1}{8}$ s. We will also be working to identify and mark fractions of a specific shape or object.

Preview Homework/ways to support your child at home this term in numeracy

- Ask a friend or family member to test you on your number bonds to 20 – this could be written or verbal.
- Write your own addition or subtraction sums for a friend or family member to complete – mark them – did they get them all correct?
- Explore these online games for some more practise:
 - <https://www.topmarks.co.uk/maths-games/7-11-years/addition-and-subtraction>
 - <https://www.topmarks.co.uk/maths-games/5-7-years/addition-and-subtraction>
- Draw examples of how fractions are being used at home or in the real world. Example: you might have bought a pizza and need to split it equally amongst 4 family members or a chocolate bar that needs to be shared equally with a brother or sister. Remember to write a sentence to explain how fractions are being used.

Health and Wellbeing

We will be learning about food and nutrition; naming the food groups and identifying examples of foods that are healthy and unhealthy. We will be having a go at designing a meal that is balanced. We will be getting together within our year groups on Tuesday afternoon and exploring some of the 'Social' outcomes from the curriculum this term.

In P.E., we will be working on our gymnastics skills. The first half of the term will be looking at movement within gymnastics and the second half will be moving onto shape work. P.E. will be on a Wednesday afternoon.

Our Topic (Social Subjects and Science)

We will be completing our 'Human Body' topic by focussing on our senses. This will be achieved through more fact finding missions, experiments and supported by some episodes of the CBBC series Operation Ouch.

Preview Homework/ Ways to support your child at home in Topic work

- Write a list or draw the different foods you and your family have had over 1 day or several days. Have a go at categorising them into 'Healthy' vs 'unhealthy' foods and write down which food group they belong to.
- Take a senses walk - make a list of everything you can see, hear, smell, taste and feel.
- Work with a partner and take away one of their senses - use ear defenders or a blind fold – how does this affect everyday tasks?

Staffing

This term children will have Miss Massie/Ms Miller for Drama on a Monday and Mrs Gatherum for Art on a Friday. P.E. will be on a Wednesday. The class will continue to be supported by Mrs Carmichael.

General Information

- Please ensure that all clothing is **named**.
- PE will be on a Wednesday – **Please ensure that your child attends school wearing clothes appropriate for outdoor sports.**
- Water bottles should be brought to school filled with **water** for drinking in class, if spilt, juice can create a sticky mess on resources and carpets.
- Toys should not be brought into school or the classroom in case they are lost or damaged.
- For any further enquiries, please contact Mrs Jamieson (gw09abbeykerri@glow.sch.uk) and Mrs Greig (gw10greigsandy@glow.sch.uk) using the e-mail addresses provided.