

Dear Parents/Carers,

A big welcome to all our new Primary 1 children at Banff Primary. We hope you all enjoyed the holidays. The children have had a good start and are settling well in the routines of Primary 1, we are all so proud of them. It's been a busy 2 weeks and there has been a lot to take in - so everyone is tired!

Literacy

Phonics – children will soon begin learning sounds through our Phonic lessons. We will introduce letter sounds along with an action and the correct way of writing this. Over a two week period, the children will learn 6 new sounds in a row, followed by a few days of revision and 'blending' where we begin to look at making words with the sounds. You can use the pink sounds book that comes home to discuss and practise the letter sounds with your child. If your child is keen to write the sound, then this is great! The correct way to write the letter is given as an example.

As we progress through the term, we will begin to use picture books to discuss story structure, illustrations, characters, sequencing as a lead up to individual readers which as yet will remain at school.

Numeracy

Children will be involved in all aspects of maths. We will be counting, working with numbers, looking at patterns and shapes and beginning to look at ways of gathering and recording information in simple graphs or pictograms. To make maths interesting at home, encourage your child to look for numbers in everyday situations, sing songs and say counting rhymes, spot shapes in the home or when you are out and about. Try to help them to share and discuss what they have been learning in school that week.

Other Curricular Areas

Our Learning context this term will be 'Houses and Homes' - It will provide the children with opportunities to explore and discuss both the structure of their home and who lives with them.

The children will have regular PE sessions indoors. While we are lucky to be able to use the Gym Hall this term, we do not require a PE Kit from home as yet, although on our PE day, we would ask that in order to protect the gym floor, the children wear trainers.

P1A – Thursday 10:45 – 11:30

P1B - Friday 10:45 – 11:30

Outdoor Learning and Activity Based Learning

We are really lucky to be able to include in our timetable daily play/learning activities outdoors.

P1's time allocation is in the afternoon... please be mindful of the weather as we will be doing our best to take our learning outdoors as much as we can.

How to help at home

Encourage your child to talk about what they have been 'learning' at school rather than what they have been doing. Ask if they can explain tasks that they may have done that day.

Please remember to name all of your child's clothing. Thank you to those who are already doing this as it makes it much easier at the end of the session when sorting through jumpers etc.

Also, I have noticed some children have brought 'indoor' shoes but there is no need unless the child has worn wellie boots in the wet weather.

With the COVID restrictions, we are lucky to be able to continue communications through the Learning Journals. We will be uploading photos and stories a couple of times weekly. Please feel free to ask any questions or queries you might have through the Journal.

Thank you,
Looking forward to a great year...

Mrs Jackson (P1A) & Mr Anderson (P1B)