**Year 2 and 3 Class Newsletter - Autumn Term 2017**

Welcome back! We hope you have had a relaxing time over the holidays and are ready to get stuck into the new term.

This year, Miss Hodkin will be teaching on Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays with Mrs Bird teaching year 2 and 3 every Wednesday. Miss Tubb will be our teaching assistant three mornings a week and on Tuesday afternoons she will be teaching history/topic with the class. Mrs Carter will be our teaching assistant every Monday and Mrs Bell will be teaching the class French once a fortnight.

This newsletter gives a brief outline of what we will be up to this term. If there is anything else you need to know, please do not hesitate to ask! Emailing the school office to make an appointment with either teacher is preferred for longer discussions.

**What will we be learning about this term?**

Our topic for this term is **“Super Scotland”**. We will be learning about all things Scottish across all subjects and relating this to aspects of the national curriculum. Attached to this newsletter is a brief topic web and also the writing mats we use in school, which may be useful additions when completing writing activities with your child at home.

**P.E.**

Our P.E. days are **Thursdays** and **Fridays** each week. Our new sports coach Mathew will teach P.E. on Thursdays and Miss Hodkin will teach P.E. every Friday. Children should keep their P.E. kit in school at all times, just in case we have extra P.E. sessions or we have to change our P.E. day. Please ensure that your child’s kit is clearly labelled and that they have shoes and clothing suitable for indoor and outdoor use.

**Homework and spellings**

Spellings will be given out and tested **every Wednesday** with Mrs Bird, starting from next week. Homework grids will be sent out each half term and children will be asked to complete the purple shaded boxes as a minimum, but are free to complete as many or as few as the other activities as they wish.

There is a shiny new homework tray for children to put their completed homework in for marking on the left side of the classroom. We would prefer all homework to be completed in the children’s homework books or stuck into the books so it doesn’t get lost or misplaced! Please ensure that all children’s homework is clearly labelled if it is completed outside of a homework book.

**Reading**

The children have been placed into book bands according to the levels which they were give at the end of the last academic year. The children can change their own reading book for another one of the same level/band once they have read it at home or in class. Staff continuously assess reading ability and will hear children read as part of guided reading sessions, reading aloud in lesson time, reading comprehensions and individual reading with children.

Every child has a reading record and this will be used to record any reading they have completed in school, but it would also be hugely beneficial if you could write in their reading record whenever they read at home too.

**Mathletics and times tables**

The wonderful Mathletics system will soon be up and running for the new school year and children can get started on Mathletics activities and Live Mathletics challenges! The children can gain bronze, silver and gold certificates through regular use of the website and their achievements will be celebrated during celebration assembly each week.

We recommend your child should go onto Mathletics during the week to complete games and activities and we have found a strong link between those children who use Mathletics regularly and their maths learning in class..

Times tables are practised through maths lessons and mental maths sessions each week. Though practising at home and through Mathletics is essential to consolidate this knowledge. Year 2’s should focus on learning their 2s, 5s, 10s and 3s, Year 3’s should be moving onto learning their 3s, 4s, 6s and 8s by heart.

Many thanks for all your support,

Miss Hodkin and Mrs Bird

Literacy – stories by the same author, myths and legends, information texts, letter writing

Computing – safe searching, researching, photography

French – Moi and Les Couleurs

Science – Everyday materials

P.E. – invasion games and ball skills

Art – portraiture and celebration art

R.E. – Signs and symbols and Advent/Christmas around the world

Geography – maps and islands

History – Inventors and local history

D.T. – structures

Super Scotland

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