

Welcome

Hello everyone, welcome to Primary 3/4! I hope that everyone had a lovely summer break and you are all raring to go this school year. My aim as a teacher this year is to enable every child to achieve their potential in learning and have fun along the way as we do so.—Mr McGaff

General Information

Primary 3/4 will line up in the mornings at the main entrance to the tower block at 8:50am and will be met then by their class teacher. Children will be dismissed at the same point at the end of the school day, which is at 3:20pm.

Please make sure your child brings a suitable jacket for the ever changing weather as we will be outside for break and lunch as much as possible (except on very wet days or in extreme weather conditions.)

Please ensure your child brings a small snack for playtime and a named water bottle for them to drink from throughout the day. Our school is a nut-free zone which means that nuts cannot be permitted in any form (i.e. chocolate hazelnut spreads). Furthermore, due to Natasha's law, we cannot provide snacks for children or allow children to swap foods. If you have any enquiries about these dietary requirements, please contact the school office.

It would be appreciated if you could put names on all belongings to help us return found property to the rightful owner.

Primary 3/4 school day -

Monday- Thursday: 8:50am-3:20pm

Morning break: 10.45-11am

Lunch time: 12:30-1:15pm

Friday: 8:50am-12:05pm

Please note that class teachers cannot meet with parents/carers as we are welcoming classes in the morning.

P.E.

Currently, PE lessons in P3/4 will take place on Thursdays. Most PE lessons will be delivered (weather permitting) outdoors. It would be helpful if children could wear or be sent to school with a change of clothes on Thursdays for this.

The class have been enjoying their weekly swimming lessons on Wednesdays! The class leave school at 8:30am on Wednesdays in order to walk to Newbattle Community Campus in time for lessons, so please make sure that your child is at school for that time with the required swimming costume, towel and goggles. If you are unable to provide any of this equipment, get in touch and we can sort something out!

Topic/IDL

This term our topic will be the tropical rainforest. The class will explore all aspects of the rainforest such as its climate, ecosystem, animal kingdom and deforestation.

Head Teacher:

Mrs L Walker

Depute Head

Teachers:

Mrs A Dingwall

Mr C Wilson

Miss K MacPhie

Mr K McKenzie

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**Newsletter 1
Primary 3/4
September 2022**

Literacy

Pupils will be focussing on their reading during 4 sessions each week. During this time they will either be working towards their targets through Read, Write, Inc activities or Reading Comprehension Strategy tasks.

Writing lessons will take place throughout the week as we aim to improve our descriptive writing this term. The whole school has implemented a new "descriptive bubbles" approach to descriptive writing, where children are asked to describe an image's colour, number, shape, texture, size, position and what they are doing. Why not ask your child to describe something at home to see how it works?

Numeracy and Maths

This term we will be working across the five numeracy domains (number processes, addition & subtraction, multiplication & division, fractions, and algebra). Some of the key skills we will be covering include place value, split strategy for addition and subtraction, times tables, fractions notation and algebraic processes (into number machines).

In maths, we have been and will continue to be learning about shape, including 2D and 3D shapes. These lessons are currently being led by Mr Peacock.

Seesaw

'Seesaw Family' login information has been sent home with the children. If you require another copy of this information please let me know. The aim is to use Seesaw regularly throughout the school year to share your child's learning with you, so keep your eyes peeled for updates on there.

Class Expectations and Rewarding Positive Behaviour

As a class, we discussed what was required from us as individuals in order to be the best we could be. Through a conversation where everyone was given the chance to have their voice heard, we brainstormed the following important P3/4 class rules:

1. Listen to the adult's instructions in order to stay safe in and around school.
2. Help others out who need it and make good choices when playing.
3. Look after food and resources that people need.

Every member of Primary 3/4 signed the class charter, which represents their commitment to the P3/4 expectations and the rights of every individual at Mayfield!

In our classroom, we have several systems in place to reward positive choices in line with our school's positive behaviour policy. Our behaviour chart is a visual indicator of how well a pupil is complying with the school's values and the class expectations. Children who reach the "outstanding" level on the chart will receive a certificate to commemorate them going over and above that day! Children can also receive stickers, certificates and positive phone calls home if they can be the best they can be!

We also have a different mystery target each week, which is one of the Fieldies learning powers and is hidden until Friday afternoons, as well as table points to reward teamwork.

Health and Wellbeing

For Health and Wellbeing, we are continuing with a whole school approach focussed on self-regulating our emotions and identifying strategies which help us to be ready to learn. These are called the Zones of Regulation, and these are referred to frequently with the class in order to develop a consistent vocabulary for understanding and sharing how we feel.

ICT

Primary 3/4 will continue to use Chromebooks, provided via the council-wide digital rollout, to enhance learning and develop further skills in the classroom. We have discussed the rules and expectations when using our Chromebooks, which can be summarised by **Ready, Respectful, Responsible, Safe**. We also developed a digital charter to demonstrate our understanding of these expectations, which every pupil has signed individually and is displayed in the classroom.

Home-School Communication

If you have any queries or concerns about your child please do not hesitate to get in touch. Please contact the school office by telephone or email—they will be happy to answer any queries you may have or if you wish to speak to me on the phone and I will return your call.

Achievements

We are keen to celebrate pupils achievements and successes outside of school, as well as in school. I will be logging pupils wider achievements on Seesaw or privately in class if a child chooses. Pupils are welcome to share their certificates/medals/successes with the class.

Thanks a lot for your continuing support and please don't hesitate with any questions or queries,

Mr McGaff