

P5M Term 3 Newsletter

Hello! I can hardly believe we are at this point already but – welcome to term 3!

May I wish you all a very Happy New Year and I hope you all enjoyed your winter break. This is your newsletter for all the important information you will require for this term.

The purpose of this newsletter is to inform you of all important information you will need for this term. However, if there is anything else you would like to discuss, please don't hesitate to contact me with any questions.

Microsoft Teams & Seesaw

As you are aware, at Elrick, each class has a Microsoft Teams page, which will be used to share learning and information, including homework. To access the Teams page, you will need to log in with your Glow login details. If you have forgotten or misplaced these details, please just let me know and I can retrieve these details or reset passwords very easily.

Once logged in, you will see channels along the left hand side of the page. Click on the Homework channel to see the homework, which is uploaded weekly. There is also a General channel, where you will see announcements and uploads; this is also where you can post any questions you have.

Each child also has their own Seesaw account where they can upload various learning activities they are proud of. This is also a useful tool for communication between myself and parents, so please feel free to message me through the messaging function on Seesaw with any private questions.

Literacy

- Reading – P5 will be reading a class novel this term named The Accidental Prime Minister by Tom McLaughlin. We will be focussing on developing our grammar and vocabulary skills as we read through the chapter, which will also help with our Democracy and Politics topic this term
- Writing – as we read through our class novel this term, we will focus on various forms of writing such as speech writing, persuasive writing and recounts

Tips for at home

- Ask your child about their spelling sound and words for this week and ask them how many ways they can make that sound with some examples.
- While we will be focussing on various skills formed through reading in class, **it is very important** that children are encouraged to read at home too. Only this way can we see further progression from each individual for the remainder of P5. Try to encourage your child to access as many different genre as they can at home or in a local library or they could access various non-fiction texts such as newspapers, recipe books and encyclopaedias (online and paper copies).
- Whilst reading, ask your child what features of the language they can recognise (VCOP) and ask them to form their own questions, summaries, predictions and encourage them to clarify any words or parts that they are unfamiliar with.

Numeracy

This will be a very busy term for P5 in numeracy; we will look at information handling, money, fractions and decimal numbers as well as further exploring the main four functions of numeracy (addition, subtraction, multiplication and division).

Therefore, I would ask that again you are encouraging your children to explore these areas of numeracy with adults in their lives. Below are a few things that you can do at home to help reinforce classroom learning.

Tips for at home

- [Topmarks](#) is an excellent online tool that is used throughout the school to engage learners in various areas of maths. In class, we have been playing games with the 'Hit the Button' and 'Fact Families' games. These are excellent tools for expanding knowledge of times tables and mental maths strategies and children should be encouraged to access these resources at home during their technology time if possible.
- Look at fractions around the environment, perhaps when cooking or serving food would be a good time to ask your child how much is a half etc.
- Look at decimal numbers in the environment and ask them to calculate various different problems using decimals to one place for now.

Health and Wellbeing and Other Curricular Areas

RMPS – we will start this term with a focus on Exploring Space; examining the planets and their properties and the layout of the solar system.

Social Studies – this term, we will look at the various branches of Government from a local to a national level. We will look at the job profiles of councillors, MSPs and MPs and what their roles are as well as the process of democratically voting systems.

Children should be encouraged to watch the news and see what some of the top political stories of the moment are and try to discuss these stories with children.

Parents' Meetings

Parents' meetings will be held later this term, I will be in touch with confirmations nearer the time.

If there is ever anything you wish to discuss further, I am always open to any questions and conversations so please don't hesitate. Your child's development is always of the highest importance to me.

Thank you for all of your support thus far and I look forward to working with all of you!

Mr MacKenzie