Welcome
Happy New Year and welcome to the third P1B newsletter of the year. I hope you have all had a lovely holiday and that the children are enjoying being back in school. The children did a fantastic job performing in our Nativity before the holidays; I hope all parents/carers who were able to attend enjoyed watching it as much as we enjoyed performing it. We are now looking forward to another busy term of learning; as always, I am delighted to answer any questions about your child’s progress, please do not hesitate to get in touch if this is the case.

Kind regards,
Sharon Balfour
Class Teacher

Literacy and English
We have now finished learning our first set of initial sounds and are revising these on a daily basis, alongside the first set of tricky words we have learned. We are also continuing to practise blending sounds to read three letter words and using our knowledge of sounds to build CVC words (for example: cat, pig, fox). Once children are confident reading their tricky words and blending sounds to read CVC words, they will begin learning digraphs such as sh, ch and th, as well as expanding the range of tricky words they know. They will also work on applying their knowledge of sounds and tricky words to read and write sentences. In writing we will continue to follow the Talk 4 Writing scheme, using story maps and actions to learn and retell stories. This term our story will be ‘Whatever Next’. You can support your child’s learning in this area by regularly sharing stories together and encouraging them to retell the stories in their own words.

Numeracy
In numeracy we will continue to work on recognising, forming and sequencing numbers to 20 and beyond, as well as counting forwards and backwards starting from different numbers. We will also practise counting items in 2 collections to find the total, and will begin learning our number bonds to 10. We will continue developing our understanding of mathematical language, talking about numbers using the words ‘larger/smaller’ and ‘before/after/between’.

Maths
In maths we are continuing to learn to tell the time and learn about seasons, timetables and calendars. We will also be starting our new maths topic of measure, beginning with length and moving onto weight and volume.

Play
Throughout each day we will continue to have opportunities to learn through play. Our play activities are often linked to our literacy, numeracy or topic learning. We also have more open ended/free play activities in the week and this includes our Atrium Play on a Wednesday and Thursday, and Fun 31 on a Friday.

IDL (Interdisciplinary Learning)
Our topic this term is a Science focus on space and weather. We will be learning about the sun, moon and stars and also about the weather, linking this to our knowledge of seasons and time. After the February holiday we will move onto a Technology topic.
**Specialists/PE**

Music: We have music on a Monday with Mrs McInroy.

Art: We have art on a Monday with Ms Welsh.

PE: We have PE on a Tuesday with Mrs Power and on a Wednesday with Mrs Balfour.

On PE days please make sure your child is wearing uniform that is easy to get on and off. Please ensure their clothing is labelled with their name and remember to have water only in their water bottles.

**Homework**

Homework will now be given out on a Tuesday and returned to school the following Monday; this change is to allow children the chance to complete homework over the weekend, as I know this suits some families better. This term’s first homework tasks will be given out on Tuesday 21st January. If you have any questions please don’t hesitate to ask.

**General Notes**

Please help to support your child by ensuring they have a coat with them everyday; this will enable us to complete our Daily Mile in the afternoons whatever the weather. Please also note that any water bottles coming to school should contain water only.

**Upcoming Events**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mon 20th Jan</td>
<td>Parent Workshop - SeeSaw</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tues 28th and Wed 29th Jan</td>
<td>Parent Consultations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fri 8th - Sun 16th Feb</td>
<td>February Holiday</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fri 3rd Apr</td>
<td>Easter Holidays commence</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Communication**

Feel free to catch me at the end of the day if you have any queries. My door is always open so please don’t hesitate to get in touch.

You can also keep up with what we have been learning on our school Twitter account.

@woodbumps