

Head Teacher:  
**Mrs L Walker**

Depute Head  
Teacher:  
**Mrs A Dingwall**

Depute Head  
Teacher:  
**Mr C Wilson**

**Mayfield Primary School**

Stone Avenue  
Mayfield  
Dalkeith  
Midlothian  
EH22 5PB

Tel: (0131) 663 0546  
[mayfield.mgfl.net](http://mayfield.mgfl.net)

[mayfield\\_ps@midlothian.gov.uk](mailto:mayfield_ps@midlothian.gov.uk)

Be the best we  
can be!



**Primary 5 Newsletter 2**

**November 2021**

**Be the best we can be!**

# Welcome to Newsletter 2 from Mr Wood!

Term 1 flew by and this term feels like it will do the same. We only have 4 weeks until the Christmas Holidays and they will be filled with lots of learning and much excitement, I am sure. P5 have settled well into Term 2 enjoying the learning experiences related to Halloween, COP26, Remembrance Day and then Children in Need. We ended our Scottish Heroes topic with pupils advising they'll miss these lessons, which is a good indication of their success. We will now focus on a new topic of 'Welcoming People to Midlothian'. The literacy slots in our week have gone



from strength to strength with steady progress for all pupils on Fresh Start and those on the Reading Comprehension Programme. The engagement from P5 in their numeracy lessons has been outstanding, which has enabled them to improve on their termly assessments. I am proud to be the P5 Teacher and I have no doubt they will continue this progress being the best they can be.

## General Information and Routines

We continue to use our positive behaviour chart in P5 and pupils are very keen to reach 'outstanding' in order to share this achievement with their parents/carers at home. We had a recent day where every P5 pupil made it to the top of the chart for their respectful noise level during lessons, their attitude and effort throughout PE and the high standard of work they produced. I am sure there will be many more days like this to come as P5 are now well aware of the expectations and the high standards we have in school.

P5's school day is as follows:

**Start:** 08.40am      **Break:** 10.15-10.30am      **Lunch:** 12.00-12.45pm  
**End of Day:** 3.10pm      **Fridays:** End at 11.55am.

Please note, we are now unable to provide snacks for children who may have forgot their snack. We are also not able to allow children to bring in food items to share, such as, birthday cakes. Finally, we are also a total nut-free school.

## **Literacy**

Our VCOP learning is more and more impressive each morning with pupils able to up-level their writing of sentences and paragraphs. We are using more exciting vocabulary in our writing thanks to Word Boost and more sophisticated connectives when joining our sentences together. We are now focusing on using description when opening sentences and the use of synonyms to ensure our vocabulary is more mature and at P5 level.

Free Writing Friday continues to be popular in class and the imagination of the pupils in P5 has been terrific to hear. We now have pupils writing chapters for their stories with clear character and plot development.

For P5 pupils on the Reading Comprehension Programme, we have covered many comprehension strategies. We have had success in applying a range of reading skills and strategies to read and understand texts, such as, skimming, scanning, predicting, questioning, clarifying and summarising. The focus now moves on to inferring, concluding and cause and effect.

Our Fresh Start pupils continue to improve their abilities to blend consonants together to read words, develop their phonic strategies to read new words and read common words correctly.

## **Seasonal Information**

To get in the festive spirit we will be encouraging pupils and staff to wear Christmas jumpers on Fridays in December. If your child has outgrown their Christmas jumper we would be very keen for any donations so that we can recycle these and make jumpers available to families. Please hand in any donations to the school office.

Even with the colder weather, PE will continue to be outside for 1 hour per week. Please ensure your child has suitable PE kit for Tuesday afternoons.

## **Celebrating Success**

I will continue to post photos and information of P5's learning experiences on Twitter and on Seesaw. Please follow the school using @MayfieldPS. If you are not connected to your child's Seesaw, please request another QR Code from the school. If your child takes part in any outside clubs or sports, please share their achievements on Seesaw and I can share with the class. Thank you!



P5 have 2 hours of PE per week and these will continue to be on Tuesdays (outdoors) and Thursdays (indoors). P5 have chosen football as their outdoor sport and dodgeball as their indoor sport.

Please ensure your child wears their PE kit on these days

and do not wear smart shoes, as these are not safe to take part in sport with. All pupils must take part in PE and P5 have continued to impress me with their skills and talents during these lessons.



## **Homework**

Homework is now being issued every 4-6 weeks. The choice grid is glued into your child's home learning jotter, along with, spelling words to practise. The choice grid will only contain learning we have covered in class for your child to revise and consolidate their learning. If your child does not understand their homework, please get in touch and I will ensure I revisit this learning with them. You can get in touch by calling or emailing the school office. Your child can complete their homework in their jotter or on Seesaw.

## **Learning Information: Maths and Numeracy**



We continue with our numeracy domains covering a different area of numeracy each day. P5 have worked on number structure consistently since the session began. Many are now secure in their understanding of place value being able to partition numbers and use this learning to support them using mental strategies. We used place value partitioning in our learning of addition and then used this skill

to multiply numbers using partial products. We are now focusing on using formal written methods (algorithms) to multiply 2 and 3 digit numbers by a 1 digit number, to subtract using exchanging and to divide 2 and 3 digit numbers by a 1 digit number, with and without remainders. We will focus on the use of the four operations and function machines for their lessons on algebraic thinking and through money, we will learn about fractions and decimal fractions.