



Head Teacher : Mrs D Reynolds - BSc Hons QTS NPQH

Aim High

Never Give Up

Follow Your Dream

Lead By Example

September 2013

Dear Parents/Carers,

We hope you had an enjoyable and restful summer holiday and look forward to beginning the new academic year.

MAIN LEARNING THEME – ‘Down on the Farm’ and Children around the world.

We will begin the new school term with the theme ‘Down on the farm’ until half term. This theme is both Science and Geography based and will include practical and kinaesthetic activities for the children to participate in. We will provide the children with an opportunity for first- hand experience by visiting a nearby farm. We will provide you with the information and cost of this trip in good time.

Following on from half term, we will begin learning our second theme Children around the world which is both Geography and DT based. Children will be delving into various cultural worlds by embracing difference and comparing the worlds of various children from around the globe. Furthermore, we hope to set the children up with Pen pals from a different country.

We will look forward to celebrating our learning with you during our parents/carers assembly.

Dress up day:

As part of our ‘down on the farm’ learning theme, we will hold a **dress up day on Friday 13th of September 2013.** Where children can come dressed in any farm themed clothes for the duration of the day.

KEY VOCABULARY FOR LEARNING THEMES:

Down on the Farm: Farm, yard, animals; sheep, pig, cow, calves, donkeys, horse, ducks, foxes, dog, farmer, tractor, machinery, harvest, food chain, life cycles, materials, crops, hay, barley, silage and scarecrow.

Children around the world: Children, globe, countries, differences, similarities, culture, customs and celebrations.

LEARNING SKILLS – Learning with Others

The main focus will be based on these statements:

- I can use a variety of phrases to promote cooperation in the group, "Please", "Thank you", "Excuse me", "Can I".
- I can put objects and materials away when I finish an activity without being asked.
- I can say what some of the class rules are and what I have to do to keep to them.
- I can take turns fairly and share materials, waiting patiently if needed.



NUMERACY

The main objectives taken from the Numeracy framework which will be taught are as follows: number work, calculations, problem solving, shape, measures and data handling. We will be working on Block A1 – Counting, partitioning and calculating, Block B1 – Securing number facts, understanding shape, Block C1 – Handling data and measures, Block D1 – Calculating, measuring and understanding shape, and E1 Securing number facts, calculating, identifying relationships. We will also be focussing on developing mental maths strategies.

LITERACY

We will continue to study Literacy using the National Literacy Framework. During this half-term we will be covering the literacy area of Traditional stories in which children will immerse themselves in exciting yet familiar story plots to help develop their creativity and assist with improving their writing skills. We will also embark upon non-fiction writing in the form of following, carrying out and writing up instructions following a hands on activity by the children. After Mid- term, we will look at the fiction unit of stories with a familiar setting, again allowing children to extend and experience different writing opportunities. We will end the first term by re-visiting non-fiction texts where children will investigate a variety of information texts and produce their own information leaflet.

PE

Children will continue to partake in two hours of PE each week. Please remind your child that they should bring their PE kit into school on a Monday, **leave it in school all week** then take it home to be washed on a Friday. This way, if we choose to do extra PE, the children will have their kit in school. Can we remind you that school rules state that for the safety of your child, earrings need to be removed for PE (which needs to be done independently) or plasters (provided by home) need to cover the earrings. Children with long hair will also be asked to ensure that it is tied back. Children who do not have their kit in school on PE days will not be able to participate in the activities.

Please ensure your child has the proper kit with them in school all week.

READING

Please continue to encourage your child to read at home, it is crucial to support their progression with reading comprehension later on in year two and has a vital impact on their own writing across the curriculum. Children will be given one reading book and one library book at the beginning of the term which they can change once a week. The children will have the opportunity to visit the library with an adult to change their library books.

HOME LEARNING

Your child will receive a weekly activity in their Learning Logs, this will be given out on a Wednesday and should be returned on a Tuesday. Every Tuesday, one Learning Log per class is chosen to be shared in the whole school assembly on Thursday. Your child will also be awarded House Points for the work produced in their Learning Logs. The way in which the work is presented is entirely up to the child. In addition, there will be key skills literacy and/or numeracy homework set.

Home learning is expected to be completed each week at home and handed in on time by Tuesday. If children do not meet this requirement then they will complete the home learning during break time. Can you please ensure that your child completes their home learning each week. If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact the class teacher.

In addition to this, your child can choose to undertake a half –term home learning project, which could be the focus of their homework for the beginning of the term.



This project is not compulsory, but is a fantastic way to involve family and friends in their learning. This can involve the whole family and should be linked to our topic theme; the more creative the better!

End of the day

Please feel free to use this time to talk to me about any concerns you may have, however if you need more than a few minutes then you can always make an appointment for a more convenient time. Should you need to collect your child at other times during the school day then you will need to inform the Main Office.

The adults that will be working in Year 2 Miss Thornburn, Miss Odain and myself are looking forward to an exciting, successful and happy start to the new school year.

Yours sincerely

Miss Mulligan
Class Teacher

Mrs Thornburn
Teaching Assistant

Miss Odain
HLTA

Mrs Reynolds
Head Teacher

