



## Mid Calder Primary School – PIB Class Newsletter

Dear Parent / Carer,

Welcome to Term 1 of Primary !!

We hope you all had a relaxing summer break, and we have been delighted to welcome all the children into our PIB classrooms. In school we are looking forward to a busy and exciting term. Over the first few weeks we have been working hard to establish a positive and effective classroom ethos and have been working hard to establish our class routines. This has included getting to know each other, and creating our own Class Charter based on the book the "Rainbow Fish", which helps pupils, staff and visitors to understand how the school values and children's rights are respected within our classroom and beyond. In our classroom we strive to be Ready, Respectful and Safe in everything we do. Thank you for your support over the first few weeks, it is much appreciated. Please do not hesitate to get in touch with us via the school office if you have any queries or concerns. We are looking forward to working with your children and meeting you soon.

Mrs Mina & Mrs Walker



### Literacy Learning:

- **Phonics** - We will soon be introducing the class to their first initial sounds, focusing on the "pure sounds". We will be using the "Phonics International" programme's progression to help us develop new sounds and begin to blend sounds together to make CVC words.
- **Writing** - We will be using the 'PM Writing' programme to implement writing across the school. Our first text focus will be 'descriptive writing'. We will be using black pen drawings and working on correct letter formation, beginning to develop the correct letter size and formation across all writing tasks.
- **Reading** - We will be using fiction and non-fiction texts this term to help develop skills in predicting, questioning, and summarising. Reading books will be assigned to children and should be brought to school every day.
- **Listening and Talking** - We have been beginning to use our skills builder skills and enjoy practicing during news time, classroom discussions and when sharing our "Everywhere Bear" transition books.



### Numeracy and Maths Learning:

- **Numeracy** - The focus this term will begin with number structure with number to 10 and beyond as well as counting forwards and backwards. We will also introduce and develop mental strategies and number sense using 'Number Talks'.
- **Maths** - The focus for this term will begin with shape, position and movement.



### Interdisciplinary Learning (IDL)

After consultation with the children, our focus in the first half of this term, will be on "Fairytales". We will explore a range of different stories through various literacy, health & wellbeing, drama, and art activities. Through consolidation and classroom discussions we have discussed lots about different fairytales and established some questions we'd like to explore.

- What can fairytales teach us?
- What contributes to a character being viewed as good or bad?
- Do characters change over time?
- What might happen if the events or actions of a character in a story change?

**P.E and Outdoor Learning** - We will be spending lots of time learning outside wherever possible so please ensure your child always has appropriate footwear and a jacket. We will lead P.E on a Tuesday and Thursday. Please make sure all clothing items are labelled with your child's name.

**Homework** - Homework will start after the September break. More information to follow.

**Adults helping us:** Mrs Smith will be supporting the pupils with literacy and health and wellbeing this term. Miss Clark will be teaching the pupils art this term. We welcome Mrs Butler, who will be joining us from the nursery to help support children in the classroom this year.

**United Nations Rights of a Child:** In December 2024 we successfully achieved our Silver Rights Respecting School Award. As a school we are currently working towards our Gold Award and are engaging in lots of activities to develop our children's understanding of their rights. If you'd like to learn more, then you can use the following link from Parents Club: <https://www.parentclub.scot/articles/childrens-rights>

