



Mid Calder Primary School – P2 Learning Letter



Dear Parents/Carers

Welcome to Term two! As you may be aware P2 received a very exciting letter from 'Captain Blue' who is looking for some curious and creative pupils to help him find out about the exciting things which go on in our Oceans. P2 will become Ocean Explorers and use this as a context for our learning.

As well as our core learning subjects we know the value of learning essential skills. We try to develop these 8 essential skills across all areas where appropriate:



Maths

We are building confidence with numbers up to 100. Children will:

- Count forwards and backwards from different starting points to strengthen number sequences.
- Develop addition and subtraction skills using mental strategies and grouping numbers into tens and ones to understand place value.
- Estimate quantities and check by counting to make sensible guesses and verify answers.
- Order and compare numbers to 100, deciding which numbers are greater or smaller and explaining their thinking.

How you can help at home: Practise counting forwards and backwards when walking or driving. Play simple games like "What number comes next?" or "Which is bigger?" Encourage your child to group objects into tens and ones (e.g., coins, Lego). Card games and board games can help counting and simple adding and subtraction as well as turn taking and problem solving.



Literacy

Our focus is on building confidence and fluency in reading. Children will: Read and recognise tricky words to improve word recognition and spelling. Begin the Action Words programme to link words to meaning and use them in sentences. Explore characters and make predictions about what might happen next in a story, developing comprehension and thinking skills. Be introduced to the **Vowel House**, a fun and visual way to learn vowel sounds, helping with decoding, blending, and spelling.

Our writing focus will be on **procedure writing**, where children will look at examples of instructions and create their own. This helps develop clear sequencing, use of time-order words, and writing for a specific purpose. We will also work on **letter formation**, ensuring letters are correctly shaped and sized to improve handwriting fluency and presentation.

In Listening and Talking we are focussing on

- Listening carefully and following instructions.
- Speaking clearly and using appropriate vocabulary.
- Respecting others' views and contributing to group discussions.



Interdisciplinary Learning (IDL) Context for Learning – Under the Sea – Ocean Explorers

This term our interdisciplinary learning will focus on 'Under the Sea'. Through this topic, children will explore a range of subjects and investigate key questions such as:

- How many oceans are there and where are they?
- What animals live in the sea and what do they eat?
- Why do some things float and others sink?
- Why is the sea salty?
- How can we look after the ocean?

We will link learning across **Social Studies, Science, Literacy, Numeracy, and Expressive Arts**, encouraging curiosity, research, and creativity.

Skills we're building:

Listening, Speaking, Problem-solving, Teamwork and Staying Positive



P.E.

P.E. days

Wednesday and Friday

Pupils can come to school in suitable P.E. clothing on those days.



Important Dates:

School Photographs – Monday 17th November

Book Week Scotland Parent Pop-In: Thursday 20th November

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>

