P5 Learning Letter – November 2026

Dear Parent/Carer,
We have had an excellent first term in P5. The children have settled in well to their classroom environment, using both learning areas to their full potential. We have blended well as a new class and the children are working hard to learn together. We have had a dodgeball tournament, tasted pomegranates and to kick off our new IDL topic, we visited Dynamic Earth. The children proved themselves as excellent role models and represented Mid Calder Primary school brilliantly. We have an exciting few weeks ahead with preparations for our class assembly, a parent pop-in and a Handball Tournament at West Calder High School!
Please don't hesitate to get in touch with any questions.
Mrs Murray

English & Literacy

Spelling: Weekly differentiated spelling words issued, linked to our Phonics International sounds. Activities completed daily in class.
Class focus on doubling the consonant when adding on a suffix – skip – skipping

Reading: Our Guided Reading sessions are now well established. This term, we will focus on developing our higher-order questioning skills, both answering and creating questions about texts. We will also explore inference skills, learning how to use clues from the text and our own knowledge to make predictions and deepen our understanding of what we read.

Reading for Writing – look closely at recount texts identifying the structure and features.

Writing: PM writing – Recount focus

Listening and Talking: Children will focus on talking to an audience this term. Our class assembly gives them the perfect opportunity to become confident when projecting their voice and using expression and eye contact to engage with the audience.

Maths & Numeracy

Times Tables Practise – Daily practise on the quick and accurate recall of times tables – please take time to practise at home

Decimals and Percentages (linked to Fractions)

- Read, write and represent decimals to two decimal places using practical materials and pictures.
- Understand tenths and hundredths and link these to fractions (1/10 = 0.1)
- Compare an order simple decimal numbers
- Recognise simple percentages 10%, 25%, 50% and link to fractions
- Explore links between common fractions, decimals and percentages (1/2 = 0.5 = 50%)

Place Value

- Read, write, compare and order whole numbers up to 100,000.
- Identify the value of each digit in 4-, 5- and 6-digit numbers.
- Round whole numbers to the nearest 10, 100 and 1,000.
- Use place value knowledge to solve problems and explain strategies used.

Measure (Mrs Redmond)

- Estimate and measure length and capacity using
- Convert between familiar units, such as metres and centimetres
- Read and interpret scales on measuring equipment
- Calculate the perimeter and area of simple shapes

Interdisciplinary Learning: Natural Disasters

We will explore:

- The causes of natural disasters and how and why they occur.
- The impact of natural disasters on people, wildlife and the environment.
- Examples of significant natural disasters from around the world.
- Safety measures and how emergency services and aid organisations support affected communities.
- Comparisons between natural disasters around the world and those that can affect Scotland and the UK.

P.E. Days – Monday and Wednesday
Please ensure your child wears suitable clothing and footwear

Outdoor – children will be in the playground in all weathers so please ensure your child has a coat every day.

Homework – Homework will be given out on a Tuesday and should be returned on a Monday

Important Dates:

- Class Assembly – Friday 13th November
- Residential Meeting for Parents – Wed 18th November
- Handball Tournament (WCHS) – Thurs 26th November (am)
- Parent Pop-in – Thurs 26th November (pm)

Adults supporting learning in our class:

- Mrs Redmond will be teaching the children P.E and Maths – Beyond Number

"**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. "