Balgreen Primary School

Primary 3, Term 2 - October to December 2026

Dear Parent/Carer,

We hope you all had an enjoyable October break and are looking forward to your child's performance in The Nativity at the end of Term 2! This term our topic will be 'Celebrate Good Times' and we will focus on The Nativity and other religious celebrations from around the world. This will involve many different areas of the curriculum.

Literacy and English

Reading:

In groups, we will read short stories and focus on developing fluency and understanding. We will continue to break down longer words into sounds to help us read them. We will also answer 'why' questions in sentences, to think more deeply about the story.

As a class, we will be reading lots of texts by a particular author (P3A- Chris Van Alsberg, P3B- Julia Donaldson) with a focus on reading for pleasure for increased amounts of time, being able to say why we like or dislike parts of the story and being able to recommend stories to others.

Writing:

Our main genre this term is instructions. We will learn how to follow, read and write a set of instructions. There will be an emphasis on imperative (bossy) verbs and using time adverbials e.g. first, then, next. We will focus on using full stops and capital letters and commas in a list when writing.

We will continue to practise correct lower case letter formation with joins and practise capital letter formation.

In spelling we will learn vowel digraphs and trigraphs (where two or three letters make one sound) e.g, oa, ou, oi or ing and the magic 'e' rule.

Word lists are attached for those who wish to have more practice at home. Your child will know their group colour.

Numeracy and Mathematics

Number:

We will be focusing on non-count-by-one addition and subtraction strategies. These will include doubling and halving, near doubles, the commutative law (46+7= 7+46), compensating and adjusting for addition and subtraction (for example 9+6=15 so 10+6=16 and 16-1=15) and fact families. We also need to know that the symbol = means equivalent so can be used as 10-4=6 or 6=10-4.

Maths:

This term we will be continuing with our data handling unit, learning how to read, interpret and create Caroll and Venn diagrams.

We will also be looking at measurement, with a focus on standardised unit of measurement in length, weight, capacity and area. Children will get the opportunity to use a range of equipment and will learn to read the scales on these. We will learn about estimation and try to make reasonable estimates for how long or heavy items are.

Learning Across the Curriculum

Our topic is Celebrate Good Times where we will be developing an awareness of cultural festivals and the beliefs of some world religions including Christmas, Diwali and Sukkot.

There is a big focus on the Nativity, which will involve performance skills through singing, dancing and acting.

Health and Well-Being:

Our RSHP programme will look at understanding positive things about friendships and relationships but knowing who to talk to if something bothers us. Talk about the need to respect personal space and boundaries. Help us to recognise and respond to verbal and non-verbal communication and understand that all families are different

Our 'Building Resilience' programme will help us to demonstrate resilience and confidence to adapt and cope with change. We will be able to describe ways we've coped with a difficult time and know the tools we used to be resilient.

Admin

PE with Mr Murray is on these days:

- P3a – Tuesdays and Fridays
- P3B - Wednesdays

Children **must** wear trainers/gym shoes and suitable clothing i.e. not shirts, ties. PE will be outside and inside.

Outdoor Learning is on Thursdays. Please ensure your child comes to school prepared wearing appropriate shoes. Children should bring a waterproof coat every day to school. Hats and gloves are recommended for the colder weather – please label these with your child's name.

Home learning has ideas linked to learning in class that children may wish to try at home. We encourage children to read every day at home and for adults to read to their children too.

Information about the Nativity performances coming soon!

If you have any queries or need to inform us of a change at home, please email at admin@balgreen.edin.sch.uk

For a fortnightly snapshot about our learning, please access our school Padlet via the link, our school website or the QR code below. https://padlet.com/BalgreenP/balgreen-primary-2026-27-hxx5ju53a3wrajav

Kind wishes, Catherine Hinchcliffe and Jo Murray (P3A) and Rachel Wyllie P3B