



Primary 3, Term 1: August to October 2025

Dear Families of P3 children,

Welcome back! We hope you all had a fabulous summer break.

We are loving getting to know your children and helping them settle into Primary 3! We are aware that they are unused to a longer day, more structured jotter-based learning, and less play than in previous years. So, for now, we're including a higher level of play opportunities through our learning to help them adjust.

Here's our plan for learning this term.

Literacy and English

Reading:

We want the children to love books as much as we do, so we're reading to them every day and talking about books and authors a lot. Reading opens doors to new worlds, ideas and develops us as people – fact!

We'll be collecting words from our reading too because we are always aiming to improve our vocabulary when we talk and write.

In life we need to be able to follow instructions, so listen out for our work making things, learning new games and using recipes!

Writing:

Some of us are pretty good at telling others what to do already(!) but we'll be learning to write instructions to make it clear exactly how to do something.

Accurate sentences that make sense are a basic for all writing so there will be lots of sentence practice with full stops, capital letters but also interesting words. In P3 we start to join our letters but first we need to start and finish letters in the right places on the lines, so right now our big focus is on that.

As always, we are learning new spelling sounds too. Ask us how to finger spell and if we know that two letters can make one sound!

(Your child should know what colour lists to practice their spellings with you – verbal and/or written all helps so have some word fun!)

Numeracy and Mathematics

Number:

Numbers have just got bigger! We're working up to 1000, reading, writing and spelling them. If we talk about numbers we should know about hundreds, tens and ones, and what each digit means – 2 in 324 is quite different to 2 in 234, but how?

Counting up and back in 1s from any 3-digit number is a new skill and we'll be doing this in 10s too.

Can we spot patterns, like what pattern can be seen in 234, 244, 254, 264, 274 etc?

We'll be experts at odd and even numbers by October break and be able to spot them in 2-digit numbers.

Our brains can cope with more adding up too, on paper and in our heads. And with larger numbers, adding tens and ones to 2 and 3-digits! We'll learn some new tricks and strategies for this – prepare to be amazed!

Maths:

2D shapes are all around us – we'll be hunting for them! If we can name a shape, we need to be able to say how we know by using new and clever knowledge of sides and vertices. We should be able to sort them into groups too and explain what the group rules are. Plus, do you have tiles in your house? How come they all fit together to cover the surface without gaps? We'll be looking at shapes that can tessellate and make our own patterns. Be ready to be asked to take part in a survey! We'll be asking questions and gathering information for block graphs that can show data and tell us information.

Learning Across the Curriculum – Farming Focus

Farms are busy places, and we all need them for our food. But how do they work and what do farmers do? We'll find out about farms here in Scotland and in other countries. We'll see that the climate makes a difference about what we grow and eat in different countries.

Food! Glorious Food! Trying new foods will be very exciting – we're happy for food to be set in for us all to try! We'll be preparing food too, safely and hygienically, for us all to try, and working out how we can eat a healthier diet. How do plants grow? We'll find out, do some experiments and look at food chains. We should be able to sort living and non-living things after this topic and describe their characteristics. We're going to study landscapes by certain artists and then create our own beautiful artwork. And we'll be singing, learning fun songs and controlling our voices with rhythm and volume (we can only hope!)

Knowing new words for our feelings will help us to talk about them when we need to and we'll think about how different feelings make our bodies and brains react. This should really help us spot when our friends are feeling out of balance and we'll have some tips how to support each other.

Other important information

Children should bring a coat EVERY day. We live in Scotland!

PE Days – outside

- P3A – Mondays and Thursdays
- P3B – Wednesdays and Fridays

Wearing the right clothing makes a difference to how we move: children really must wear trainers and suitable clothing on PE days i.e. not shirts, dresses or skirts.

Outdoor Learning is on Thursdays, but we do go out other days too. We go out even if it's wet and we might do messy things – clothing and footwear may get dirty!

Visits/Visitors We hope to have visits from people who can talk about farming – if you can help us with this please let us know.

If you can offer us a taste of home cuisine, we'd be very happy to try the children's favourite family foods – please be aware of nut allergies though.

Balgreen Library can't wait for our fortnightly visits. Our buddies are P7s – we'll be having fun with them too.



We use the Zones of Regulation to explore feelings. We might be in more than one zone over a short period of time. Which colour zone were you in this morning, at work, on the bus, at bedtime?

Best wishes, Elizabeth Harris and Jemma Jeffrey P3B, Jo Murray and Catherine Hinchcliffe P3A

Check us out on Padlet! <https://padlet.com/9080072/balgreen-primary-school-apjbbb5edkryt4v>

