

Niddrie Mill Primary School
Friday 3rd September

Dear Parent/ Guardian,

Welcome back after the summer break. I do hope that you had an enjoyable time. We have a very exciting term planned and I hope that the following information will be useful.

PE - PE days are Tuesday and Wednesday. Your child should have a PE kit (shorts and a T-shirt) together with gym shoes or indoor trainers (ie not the trainers that they have worn to school) Kit can be kept in a named bag in the class cloakroom. All pupils have their own personal shelf for this.

ART - We have now begun building our models of Gulliver and I would like to thank you for all the collecting of boxes and tubes that you have done through the holidays.

PROJECT -Our first project this term is centred around our class novel 'Gulliver's Travels' and will include visits to the sculpture at the Jack Kane centre. To enable pupils to be taken out into the community it would be helpful if you could return the trip consent form as soon as possible.
Our second project will be a science study - Solids, Liquids and Gases.

HOMEWORK (Home Learning) There will be homework issued each week in Maths setting. As a school we are reviewing our approach to other written homework, but this certainly will be different from previous years. More details of this will be given as it is introduced. Your suggestions however would be greatly appreciated.

READING - The school is continuing with the Core Reading approach where reading skills are taught in school and the core reader kept in class. Pupils will bring home their accelerated readers for home reading. When pupils have completed a book they then take a quiz on this to establish if they have understood what they have read. You can support your child's reading by asking questions about the text and hearing them read aloud. As books become more detailed it would be more beneficial to hear a paragraph or two aloud (perhaps a favourite bit) and spend time talking about what has happened before and what happens next, how characters might be feeling, unusual words etc. Pupils are also encouraged to read their own books, magazines, comics and should aim to read for 15-20 minutes each day.

SWIMMING - The class will have swimming lessons at Gracemount Leisure Centre later in the session. More details will be given closer to the time.

As always we aim to help your child learn in a variety of ways with a range of learning and teaching strategies used to help your child achieve their own personal targets, set out in their PLP. You will have an opportunity to share these at the first parents' evenings where you will also see how the new Curriculum for Excellence levels are recorded.

However if you wish to discuss any aspects of your child's schooling before this, please feel free to phone the office to arrange an appointment

Kind Regards,

Kathryn Foley
Class Teacher