

Learning together
in the Lower Unit at
Tibberton C.E. First School
September 2020 - July 2021

Our Curriculum

Over the year we will cover a number of different topics. More details will follow on the school website each term.

Reception

During your child's time in Reception, the curriculum is based upon the Early Years Foundation Stage. This curriculum aims to foster and extend physical, intellectual, emotional and social development in your child.

Year One

In Year One the children work from the National Curriculum.

English

All children will have the opportunity to experience a wide range of Literacy activities. The children develop and practice skills in reading, writing, speaking and listening through teacher led focused activities and child initiated play.

Maths

Through the Reception year, skills and methods are taught primarily through practical activities. In Year One children begin to record their working out more thoroughly and begin working with larger numbers and new concepts.

Phonics

Phonic knowledge plays an important role in the skills needed for reading, writing and spelling. We have a structured approach to the teaching of phonics with a short daily session.

The children will also learn to spell irregular, high frequency words. Year One children will be tested on these spellings each week. Spellings will be sent home each **Tuesday** and tested the following **Tuesday**. Please remember to send your child's spelling book in each week.

Reading Books

Due to Covid 19, we will only be changing books twice a week to start with on a Monday and a Thursday. This is so that we can put them out of use for 72 hours.

When we are able, we will begin to change the children's reading book on a Tuesday, Thursday and Friday. Each child can then have up to three books a week, but as the books get longer, you may wish to keep a book for a few nights. All our books build up the early reading skills of discussion, prediction etc. Some of the books may have been read, or partially read at school, while others may be sent unseen to read with you. In either case your comments in their reading diaries would be much appreciated.

Please make a comment in their reading diary each time you read together. These comments help us to monitor your child's progress.

In order that we have the opportunity to read and if necessary respond to comments, please return your child's book(s) and reading diary each day in their red book bag, even if you haven't had chance to read with them. We will listen to each child read at least once a week.

Reception children begin by bringing home books that don't have any words. These books are really important to help your child recognise the main characters and talk about the pictures in the book. As soon as the children are ready, they will begin bringing home books with words. Each week we will change the books on a Tuesday, Thursday and Friday.

Year One children will continue to take home books, up to three times a week. Over the course of the year, children will begin to read more fluently and with expression. They will also discuss the books they read and make more detailed predictions.

High Frequency Words will be sent out with all children until they learn the first 100 high frequency words by sight. These will start coming home in a plastic wallet, over the first few weeks of Reception. A more detailed letter will be sent out with the high frequency words, explaining all the details.

Main Library Books - Yellow bar: Send in by Thursday

These books are chosen by children themselves and may vary widely in reading level. They are identified by a yellow bar on the spine. Most of these books will not be books that the children can read themselves. They are to share and enjoy together at home.

PE and Drama / Movement Sessions

Please would you return pump bags on the first day of each half term. If your child has earrings they will need to be removed or covered for PE lessons.

In addition to the standard school sports kit, girls need to keep:

- Socks in their P.E bags (if they wear tights)
- A hair elastic (for long hair)

The busy day is really helped along if all items are clearly named. This also avoids potential upsets for your child.

Woodland Work

Each week Lower Unit will go to the woodland area. This will be on a Tuesday afternoon.

Please send a pair of wellies to school. We will keep these in school. You will receive a leaflet with more information about what to wear and what kind of things we might do.

Rewards

The Zone Board

In your child's class we have a zone board. All children start the day on the green zone. If they complete a good piece of work, show kindness or just somehow show an adult they are making the right choices, they will move onto the gold zone. If they land on gold they will come home with a sticker. The children can also move onto the orange and red zone of the board if they make a bad choice. They will miss short amounts of playtime as a consequence. If your child is consistently moving down the zone board, you will be informed.

Headteacher Awards

- **this will look slightly different whilst we are not having whole school assemblies.**

We hold weekly headteacher awards assemblies. In these, individual children are praised for outstanding work or attitude to learning. We acknowledge and praise effort or achievement and endorse self esteem and positive traits in front of the whole school. Children receive a special sticker and have a certificate to take home. They also have their photo in the newsletter.

Miss Breakell's Star of the Day

At the end of each day, I will pick a child who has worked particularly hard or really impressed me. They will get a special 'Miss Breakell' sticker and a small certificate.

Friday Assembly

- **this will look slightly different whilst we are not having whole school assemblies.**

On a Friday, we celebrate children who have had a birthday during the week.

On a Friday, your child can also bring any awards or certificates they would like to share with the school. This might be a swimming certificate, football trophy, Brownie badge or any other special achievement.

Other needs:

It would be really helpful if your child could have the following items:

- A pair of pants to stay in their bag.
- A small packet of tissues to keep in their drawer.
- A coat every day.

And finally.....

If you have any problems or queries,
please feel free to make an appointment with the office and I will be happy to catch up with
you.