

Ballykeel Primary School

# Jan/Feb News Sheet 2024

## P2T & P2MR



**Topic this half term:** Long, long ago.....Dinosaurs!

Dear Parents,

The idea of this news sheet is to inform you of the work your child is doing in school. It is also a place where if we need any things for topic work etc that we can keep you easily informed. We hope that this will bridge the gap between the classroom and home.

Please enjoy the poems and songs within this news sheet with your child. We hope you find this useful.

J Thompson, A McWhirter & D Ritchie

## READING

The children have been enjoying their reading books, and I think you'll agree they are all very interested in them.

Encourage your child to try and read with expression, pointing out exclamation marks, question marks and bold lettering.

**Reading is one of the most important ways you can help your child.**



**HAPPY NEW YEAR!**

**Welcome back  
– We hope  
everyone had a  
lovely holiday!**



## Spellings

In a few weeks the children will be getting some simple spellings to practise at home.

Please try to encourage and help your child write these out and learn them as pupils who are supported at home perform better in school.

Please ensure that their spelling book is in their schoolbag every day.

The children are aiming to get their spellings correct for 4 weeks in a row so that they can go to Mrs Sheeran for a special sticker and prize on a Friday after their test.

'4 in a row' is always very popular!

## IMPORTANT DATES

- ❖ Week beginning 5<sup>th</sup> February – Parent / Teacher interview week – details to follow
- ❖ Friday 9<sup>th</sup> February – Staff training
- ❖ 12<sup>th</sup> – 16<sup>th</sup> February – Staff training / Half Term Holiday

January						
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

## **Maths ideas for you at home**

This term we will be working on addition and introducing subtraction within the numbers 1-10/20.

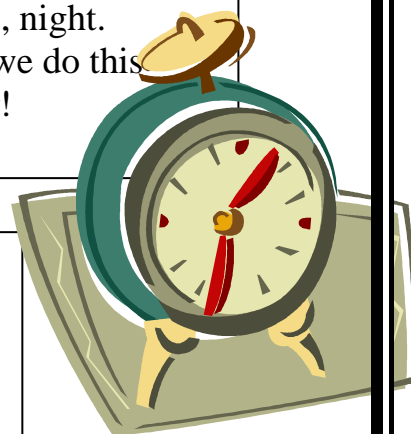
At home if your child is interested in doing sums, don't be tempted to make it too difficult – start with adding/subtracting 1 or 2. It is important that they fully understand this first before moving on to harder sums.

We are going to be focusing on TIME this term. Help your child at home by talking about times of the day e.g. morning, afternoon, evening, night. Ask your child if they know what DAY/MONTH/DATE it is, we do this everyday in school and the children love to follow the calendar!



### **USEFUL LINKS**

- <https://www.topmarks.co.uk/addition/addition-to-10>
- <https://www.topmarks.co.uk/addition/robot-addition>
- <https://www.topmarks.co.uk/subtraction/subtraction-to-10>



## **Writing wizards!**

In class we have been learning our alphabet and how to write our upper and lower case letters. Please encourage your child to practise this at home in any spare minutes.

Also, help them to write simple sentences using any words they know and sound out more difficult words with them. This will all help their story writing in class and make them more confident writers.



### Winter's Here

Winter's here  
Snow's on the ground.  
Children are sledging  
All around.

Frozen icicles,  
Frosty leaves.  
You can feel,  
The winter breeze.

Take your coat off,  
Scarf and hat,  
Wipe your snow boots  
On the mat.

Feeling cosy,  
In our beds  
Now it's time  
To rest our heads.



### Dinosaurs

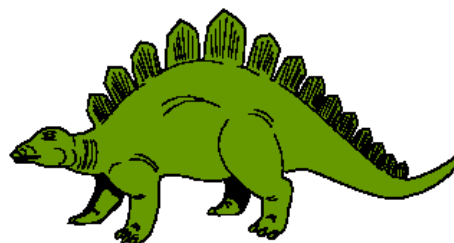
Five enormous dinosaurs  
Letting out a roar.  
One ran away, and  
Then there were four.

Four enormous dinosaurs  
Crashing down a tree.  
One ran away, and  
Then there were three.

Three enormous dinosaurs  
Eating tiger stew.  
One ran away, and  
Then there were two.

Two enormous dinosaurs  
Trying hard to run.  
One ran away, and  
Then there was one.

One enormous dinosaur,  
Afraid to be a hero.  
He ran away and  
Then there was zero!



### Help out...

As part of our "Long, long ago" theme we will be firstly looking at dinosaurs. We will be making a display in the classroom and having fun with role-play during Play Based Learning. If you have any dinosaur toys, books or pictures at home, and you would not mind them being handled during play time, please send them in.

We're also on the lookout for any cereal boxes, egg cartons, kitchen roll tubes, and yogurt pots... etc to make junk dinosaurs! If you have anything you think would be useful, please send it our way!

Your support is greatly appreciated!