

This term we will be working on consolidating our knowledge of the four main operations. We will also work on place value to help us with number processes and will have access to concrete, pictorial and abstract materials to aid our understanding of complex ideas. Additionally, we will be extending our range of mental strategies for addition and subtraction for an extended range of numbers. We will work on rounding and adjusting and recalling table facts quickly and accurately.

Every day children will be taking part in Number Talks using addition strategies to begin with and practising to select and use the most appropriate strategy to solve a calculation.

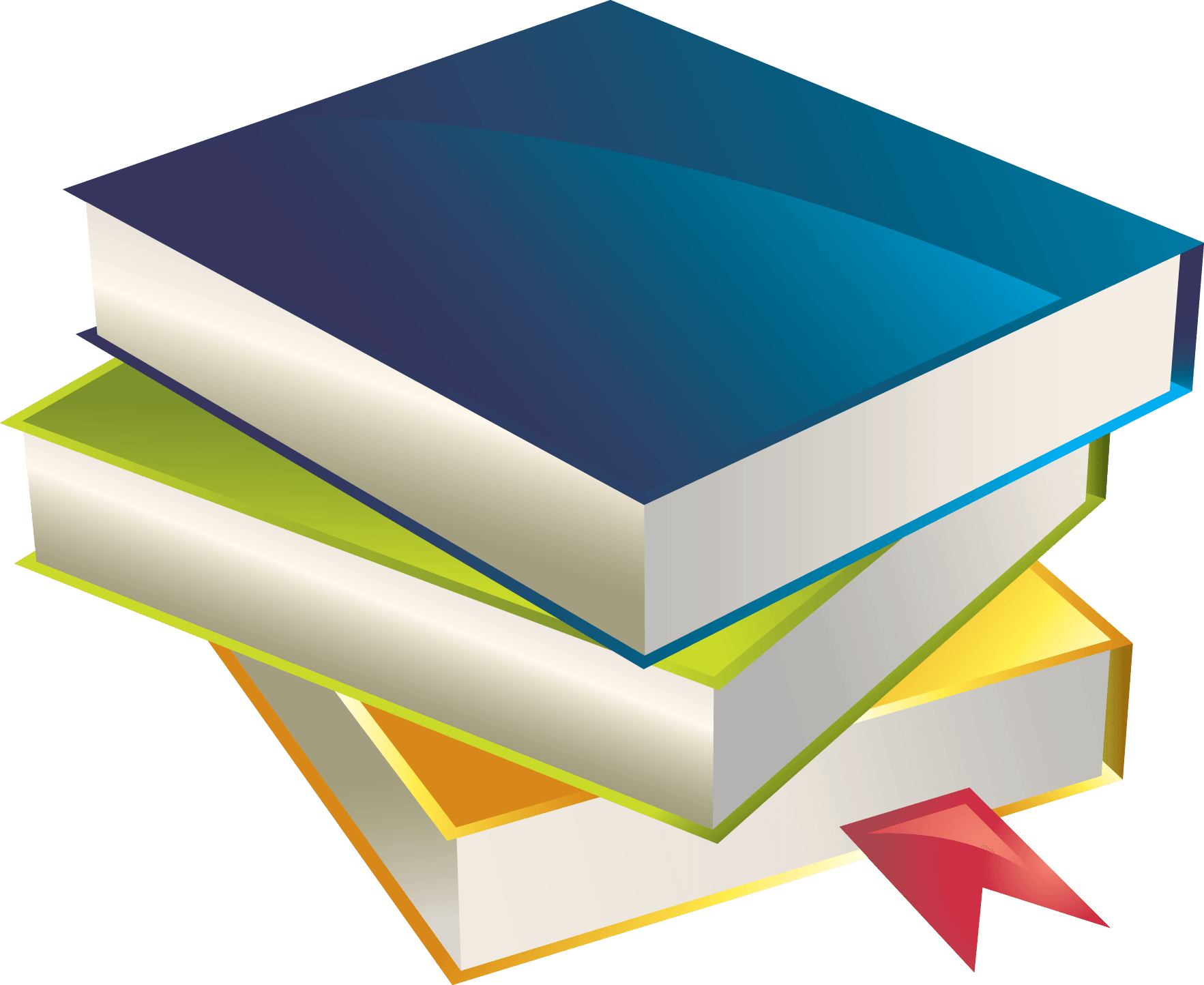
During each maths lessons, we will be using a mix of ICT directed activities, Sum dog games, board games and written tasks each day whilst also investigating links to real life contexts which will help to deepen our understanding.



During writing this term, we will be developing our skills initially with a recount. We will be using our summer holidays and our recent visit to the Edinburgh Book Festival as a stimulus for our recount writing. In our writing lessons we will be investigating the various elements required for recount texts and looking at the structure of these. We continue to reflect on our Core and Genre Targets throughout our literacy lessons whilst self and peer assessing.

Reading books are going home weekly as well as a book from our school library which the children have personally chosen to read for pleasure. This novel should be returned regularly and swapped for another book of choice. Children are also encouraged to read other texts/books daily at home.

We are now working with a new reading scheme in school and the children are working really hard on their reading targets, fluency and comprehension. This term we are reinforcing our reciprocal reading strategies: prediction, questioning, clarifying and summarising to decode the meaning from various texts. Each day we will also be working on a short unfamiliar text and answering questions on these individually, using our strategies.



Term 1 Term Descriptor – P5-7 Miss Dunsmore, Mrs Hider and Mrs Blair

**Music**

The children continue to work really hard with Mrs Keenan on a Wednesday to work on their music skills. Learners will add sounds to film clips/animation and explore sounds from instruments and everyday objects. Children will also explore electronic sounds too.

**French**

This term we will be working on our French speaking of greetings, feelings, introducing ourselves and finding out about others, calendars and weather. The children are very enthusiastic learners and we will continue to use our new furry visitor named “Camembear” who will help to extend our French language knowledge.





**IDL – Our Term Topic**

This term we will be focussing on climate change and the effect on our community. This is part of our Levenseat project where we will look at the weather events and the impact on our village and local towns.

**Forest School Sessions**

Forest school sessions will continue to be on a Monday afternoon with Mrs Hider. The school will provide waterproofs for all children. Forest School is **a long-term outdoor education process that is holistic and learner-led**. It allows children to develop themselves through healthy engagement with risk, problem-solving and self-discovery, all within a natural environment in a hands-on manner.

**P.E.**

This term we will be focussing on football skills, handball and Scottish country dancing within our P.E. times. We will be learning skills such as co-operation and team work, moving safely, learning rules, and increasing our agility and fitness. PE days are **Tuesday and Thursday** afternoons. Remember to send in a water bottle please, which can be refilled often.

**Scottish Book week** - **Library Visit** on Monday 14th November from 11-12 noon. Children will borrow a book of their choice from West Calder Library as well as browse the library and listen to a story.

**The National Youth Choir of Scotland will also be working with us for a 10 week block on a Friday morning.**

**Dates for your diary**

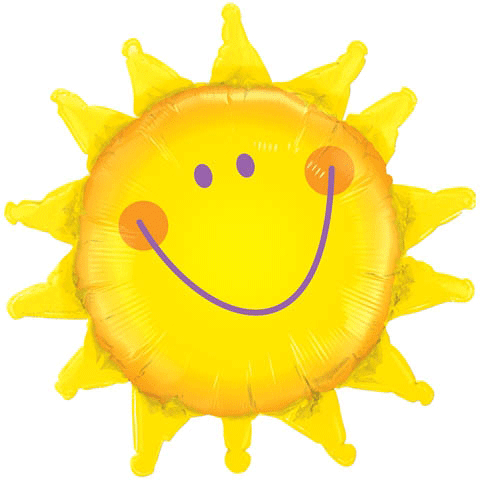
**P.E**. **A reminder to wear indoor shoes in class and during P.E -** Tuesday and Thursday afternoon

**Forest schools sessions**- Monday afternoon for all pupils.

**West Lothian College visits**: **Whole school sessions**-Wednesday 28th September, Wednesday 5th October, Wednesday 19th October and Wednesday 26th October. Morning sessions only and back for lunch.

**Risk Factory** – Thursday 6th October for P6 and P7 pupils only

**Welcome back! I hope you all had a great, relaxing summer break and are ready for the busy term ahead. It has been a delight to welcome all of our children back in to school and thanks once again for your support.**



**Health and Wellbeing**

During HWB this term, the children will be focussing on relationships. We will look at relationships and what makes your child unique, families, and how all our families are different, different adults who might care for children, making and having friends, what makes people alike and what makes us different and respect for others and the importance of being kind. We also learn about making choices and decisions about our interests and the wider world of work. If you would like to share a short video describing a job, interest or hobby you have with the class we will be setting this up so that you can share it on Seesaw to share with the children. 

**Homework**

Children will bring a reading book home every week. This should be brought back in to school every day as we will have follow up activities within our reading lessons. There will be pages to read with your child over the week, written in homework diaries. If you can sign this diary, this would be much appreciated and please also enjoy other books with your child, encouraging them to read every day/evening for at least 20 minutes. A sum dog login has also been sent home so children can enjoy practising their maths each week, through fun games.