Reading at Home: please read with your child at home at least three times a week but ideally every night as part of their daily routine and homework. Could you also sign their reading records to show you have listened to them and discussed the text? The emphasis in the new curriculum is to read and reread for fluency, expression and a deeper understanding as well as building a wider vocabulary. Please take your time with the texts so your child really gets to grips with all of the aforementioned. Play with changing the vocabulary used on some pages and thinking of words that would mean the same thing.

Spellings: The children will bring home 3 to 4 tricky spellings that they need to learn by rote. They will also have up to 10 spellings linked to a spelling rule that they will have been taught in school that week. Please encourage your child to practise these spelling more than once a week in readiness for the spelling test every Tuesday. These will be in their red spelling books and must come with them to school every day in their book bags. Only practising their spellings at the weekend will mean that the children will not have transferred them from short term memory to long term memory. For this to happen there must be repetition over time. Children will be given dictation sentences a couple of weeks after they have been given a set of spellings to check that they are retaining their learning.

Learn Its: The yellow Learn It books will help your child gain speed with their mental calculations e.g. times tables. They will initially learn their times tables in order e.g. 1X2, 2X2 etc. and then will be expected to know them off by heart in any order with the corresponding division facts.

Homework: We will give homework out every Friday and ask that it be returned by Wednesday so it can be marked. We like the children to do their homework as much as possible independently, however please make sure you are aware of the homework they are doing and that they are doing it correctly. You don’t need to correct every single mistake, but if there is a misconception please address this in order to avoid any confusion. Please also comment if your child found the work too difficult to do and needed a lot of adult support.

P.E. /Swimming: Brazil class will start swimming at the Willowburn in the Spring term. They will also be participating in an additional activity, wall bouldering or volleyball (TBC). More details to follow at the end of next half term. Please make sure that your child has a full P.E. kit in school every day. Due to the number of children that forget their kits, we are now unable to provide suitable clothing and footwear for children to borrow. Therefore, if children don’t have a P.E. kit, they will be unable to participate.

Class Worship: Our worship will be next half term on Wednesday 14th November.

Communication: We will continue to send out class newsletters as well as school newsletters. Check the website for newsletters too. The P.F.A. also have a board in the outdoor waiting area at the front of school. We still use ParentMail to communicate.

Face to Face: If you need to talk to us, please arrange a time after school since the mornings are very hectic.