



Curriculum Newsletter



Year 5 September - October 2018

Literacy:

This half term in Literacy the children will be focussing on the following:

Writing genre: 1. Structure and language features of narrative writing. **Language and Grammar:** Punctuating sentences, alphabetical ordering, adjectives, verbs and punctuating direct speech. **Comprehension and Reading Skills:** Narrative text focus - Variety of texts working on skimming and scanning, reading for purpose and inference skills. **Talking and Listening:** Group discussions regarding class topics, routines and P5 expectations. **Spelling:** New spelling rules including: double consonants; homophones; WAU Electricity topic words; verb endings.

Tips for parents:

Keep a look out for all forms of narrative writing around the home to familiarise your child with the genre - novels and short stories. Encourage library visits. Try to spot common language features and structures for this genre. Encourage regular shared **reading**, allowing for discussion and questioning around the text. Ensure **spellings** are checked using **LSCWC**.

Numeracy:

The children will explore and apply the following areas through practical investigations, games and mental maths activities:

Mathematical language of place value, covering addition and subtraction of whole numbers to 9999 with/ without exchanges; reading time (digital and analogue) - counting on and counting back; calendar work; use of a calculator to add and subtract whole numbers; measuring length and distance; revising properties of basic 2D and 3D shapes; multiplication by single digit whole numbers; revision of times tables and daily mental maths; approximating whole numbers up to 1000 to the nearest 10 or 100.

Tips for parents:

Provide opportunities for reading calendars, telling the time, estimating length/distance and recognising shapes in the world around them. Promote the use of multiplication clocks to improve quick recall of times tables facts. Recognise appropriate units of measurement for distance and length. Try to ensure weekly corrections from Friday assessments are completed and signed. **Internet suggestions** <https://www.mathsisfun.com/> <http://www.mrcrammond.com/> <http://www.mangahigh.com>

World Around Us

This half term in WAU the children will explore and experiment with topical activities related to **Electricity**, including: recognising the dangers associated with electricity; devising their own safety rules regarding its use; examining and identifying electrical appliances in the world around us; recognising electricity as an energy source; exploring and creating simple circuits using basic electrical components and understanding the effects of adding components; recognising conductors and insulators; understand how to carry out a fair test; write up an experiment; make appropriate predictions; annotate and label diagrams.

Tips for parents:

Discuss electrical safety in the world around us. Identify potential hazards in the home. **Internet suggestions** - *BBC Bitesize website: KS2 Electricity*.

ICT

Over this half term period the children will organise document folders and learn how to save and name files within their personal document space. Children will design an Electrical Safety printable poster using the Microsoft Word application. In addition to this, children will explore aspects of e-safety and improve touch typing skills via the school Year 5 Learning Zone.

Each child has their log on details for Mangahigh and can access this valuable Maths/ICT resource from home.

Religion Children will be introduced to the new Grow in Love scheme. Content will include reading and discussing biblical stories; learning and performing hymns and reciting prayers. Children will attend a number of masses including parish mass and school opening mass.	PDMU Children will examine the following areas: Discussing school rules and developing own class rules with the purpose of creating and sustaining a positive learning environment; recognise and name positive qualities about themselves and others; develop and demonstrate good listening skills; recognise the different attitudes and dispositions that make us unique.
PE (Wednesdays) Children will be participating in: Hurling lessons lead by Ulster Council Development officer Kieran McGraw and St Brigid's Club representative Frank McGurk - Participating in games focussing on striking, blocking, ready position, attacking and defending; Mile-a-Day initiative.	Important Dates: 20 th September - Parents' Curriculum Evening (7.30pm) 20 th September - School Opening Mass (11.00am) 24 th September - Online Safety Week 15 th October - Maths Week 26 th October - Early finish (2.00pm) 19 th November - Parent Teacher Meetings
The Arts <p>Music: Children will participate in learning hymns from new Grow in Love scheme: developing an awareness of singing in parts; exploring rhythms to create short musical patterns; maintaining a steady beat; creating a sound story; developing an awareness of musical terminology.</p> <p>Art: Children will explore a range of portraits from known artists and use simple techniques to compose their own realistic self-portrait. Children will have the opportunity to work with a range of media to develop their creative skills.</p>	
Focus This half term we will be focussing on being good friends. There will be special Assemblies and classroom lessons on Anti-Bullying. Please visit the school website to view/download a copy of the revised Pastoral Care and Positive Behaviour Policy, which has been adopted by the Board of Governors. Children are reminded about using the 'Worry Box' if they are concerned about anything or to seek out the teachers who are here to help: Mrs McNamee & Mrs O'Prey on Derryvolgie site and Mr Doran & Mrs Kennedy on the Ashleigh site.	

The Purpose of Homework

- To provide pupils with further opportunities to consolidate, and reinforce skills, strategies and concepts.
- To help establish self-confidence and self-discipline and encourage the development of independent learning skills.
- To prepare for the child's future education and to establish a pattern of learning beyond the school environment.
- To develop an effective partnership between the school and parents in achieving the aims of the school.

Year 1 - 15-20 minutes

Year 6 (Term 1) - 40-45 minutes

Year 2 - 20-25 minutes

Year 6 (Term 2/3) - 40-50minutes

Year 3 - 20-30 minutes

Year 7 (Term 1) 50-60 minutes

Year 4 - 30-35 minutes

Year 7 (Term 2/3) - 40-50 minutes

Year 5 - 30-40 minutes

(These are approximate times.)