



Curriculum Newsletter



Year 5 February - Easter 2019

Literacy:

This half term in Literacy the children will be focusing on the following: **Writing genre:** 1. Structure and language features of persuasive writing (e.g.: *analysis of genre*, writing a persuasive writing piece.) **Language and Grammar:** Appropriate use of paragraphs using the strategy 'TIPTOP'; knowledge of suffixes. **Comprehension and Reading Skills:** Variety of texts working on skimming and scanning, reading for purpose and inference skills. **Talking and Listening:** Activities to include developing drama and expressive skills through specific activities (e.g.: *Hot-seating and role play*) and Lego Challenge - group work roles. **Spelling:** New spelling rules including: words with the letter 'K' and the letters string 'wa' and 'wo'; ear and ough; revision of homophones and suffixes.

Tips for parents:

Share and discuss persuasive adverts with your child. Talk about features of persuasive texts including language, layout, use of colour and images. Encourage children to express their points of view in a persuasive manner. (Cross-curricular benefits include WAU, PDMU etc.) Encourage regular shared **reading**, allowing for discussion and questioning around the text. Ensure **spellings** are checked using **LSCWC** accurately. To celebrate World Book Day (7th March 2019) P5s will be creating a book character using potatoes and craft materials - keep an eye out for ideas!

Numeracy:

This half term the children will explore and apply the following areas through practical investigations, games and mental maths activities: Consolidate their understanding of the inverse relationship between multiplication and division; Explore the concept of division through sharing and grouping; Develop quick recall of division facts; extend the concept of fractions to a wider range of fractions, through sharing and grouping whole shapes, sets of objects and numbers; Emphasis on concept of time - reading time to the minute in AM, PM, digital and analogue formats. Develop an appreciation of directional language (angles and degrees of turn).

Tips for parents:

Encourage revision of tables through games, activities and rote learning - Practise these daily and question children to develop quick recall. Remind children of relationship between multiplication and division through discussion and questioning. Use opportunities in the home to develop confidence in telling the time - E.g: reading digital/ analogue clocks in the home.

World Around Us

This half term in WAU the children will continue their new STEM based technology topic 'Lego Challenge'. In this unit, children will begin by comparing technology from the past with technology in the present. They will work with a Lego kit that can be linked to a computer to program models that the children will make in groups. Children will assume roles within their group and begin the process of designing, building and programming a working, operational, mechanical model of a fairground attraction.

Tips for parents:

As the children will be doing some simple programming in this topic, there are several free 'apps' available to develop these skills, such as 'Scratch'. If possible, familiarise the children with vocabulary such as 'sensor' and 'motor' and discuss how this technology is used in everyday life. Observe and discuss mechanical and electronic technology in the home and encourage children to appreciate the importance and prevalence of technology in the modern world.

ICT - UICT Task Time to Scratch

Create a simple Scratch project based on a topic the children have been doing in class (drawing 2D shapes). The children will:

- choose and import backgrounds and sprites and change their appearance;
- use Scratch functions such as Events Control and Looks to create a script to make the sprite perform; import and use sounds;
- save the project in ICT Tasks Folder and display and tag Scratch project on the Scratch website

<p>Religion</p> <p>In RSE this term, the children will begin to appreciate the stages of development between birth and two years. In Religion lessons, the children will come to an awareness of the Lenten period: Children will learn about the season of Lent as a time of reflection and self-examination. Children will continue to explore a number of Bible stories. Children will think of ways to raise money for Trocaire.</p>	<p>PDMU</p> <p>Children will examine the following areas:</p> <p>The risks associated with acting on impulse; Recognise and practise strategies to deal with conflicts; Take part in a class council meeting to discuss sanctions and rewards included on our school behaviour and discipline policy; To know the difference between an essential need and a want.</p>
<p>PE</p> <p>Children will develop and use a number of skills in Basketball and swimming. These sessions will be led by specialised coaches. The children should wear warm clothing as PE lessons may be outside. St. Bride's P.E kit is compulsory - navy/black tracksuit bottoms and white polo shirt. Children will be starting swimming lessons on 27th March. Swimming kit to include: bag, towel, swimming attire, goggles and cap.</p>	<p><u>Dates for your Diary</u></p> <p>Distribution of Ashes - Wednesday 6th March World Book Day 2019 - Thursday 7th March</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Children to come to school dressed as their favourite book character. - Book Swap Shop - Design a book character out of potatoes <p>Swimming - Starts 27th March World Women's Day - Friday 8th March St. Patrick's Day concert - Wednesday 13th March National No Smoking Day- 13th March The Big Pedal 25th March - 5th April 2019. P5 Belfast City Bus Tour - 4th April 2019 Young Enterprise Workshops - Tuesday 9th or Thursday 11th April</p>
<p>The Arts</p> <p><u>Music</u> - The children will explore the following: Maintain a steady pulse by moving a beanbag on the floor; discuss the music they create and perform; become increasingly aware of their own heritage through music and singing for the celebration of St. Patrick's day; sing in parts; gain an increasing awareness of the elements of music - longer/shorter notes, higher/lower notes, dynamics including increasing and decreasing levels of sound and silence; play simple accompaniments to a song on tuned percussion instruments. At home, practise songs for St. Patrick's Day celebrations.</p> <p><u>Art</u> - Children will explore the works of a number of famous artists such as Lundeberg. Lessons will be led, this half term by artist, Mrs Ann Harrigan. Children will also study Celtic art patterns and use a variety of mixed media to create artwork for St. Patrick's Day celebrations.</p>	
<p>Focus</p> <p>Ash Wednesday will mark the beginning of a new liturgical season - Lent. This is a time to turn back to God and to look forward to Easter. Through the <i>Grow In Love</i> programme the children reflect on the important things in their lives, including God's love for each of us. Lent is also a time to share, especially with those less fortunate than ourselves. During this half term the children will be thinking of ways to raise money to help the poor around the world through supporting Trocaire. Perhaps as a family you can "give up" a luxury and pop the money saved in the Trocaire box.</p>	