



# Curriculum Newsletter



## Year 6 November - Christmas 2018

### **Literacy: Children will...**

**Talking & Listening:** Participate in a 'Hot Seating' question and answer session, learn about Anti bullying strategies and Advent/Christmas.

**Grammar:** Learn to correctly use and recognise apostrophes, prepositions, pronouns, suffixes, speech marks and homophones.

**Writing:** Read and write a variety of playscripts, read and compose poetry including winter-themed cinquains, write independent procedures and plan, edit and evaluate reports. Self and peer evaluations, drafting, editing and redrafting will be an ongoing focus throughout the year.

**Comprehension:** Use skimming and scanning skills, retrieve information from a text whilst writing in full sentences with correct punctuation and generating open-ended questions through 'Hot Seating' tasks focusing on inferential responses.

### **Tips for parents:**

Grammar and spelling homework is reflective of learning in class and can be used to assist with rule reinforcement at home. Read and discuss your child's reading books asking inferential questions and encouraging clear diction and expression. (See bookmarks sent home to assist you with this.)

### **Numeracy: Children will...**

Investigate equivalence within fractions, find fraction quantities of a number, appreciate decimal notation (tenths and hundredths), read, write and order decimals to 2 places, examine patterns and sequences further to include square and triangular numbers, recognise relationship between km, m and cm, investigate and measure right, acute, obtuse and straight angles and define the properties of 2D and 3D shapes.

**Mathematical Language:** Use an Illustrated Maths Dictionary to record key mathematical vocabulary (relates to topics covered).

### **Tips for parents:**

Revise and discuss the analogue clock and durations of time (encourage your child to wear their watch to school), assist in converting one measurement to another e.g. m to km, mm to cm and help your child learn the properties of key 3D shapes. Continue to practise times tables and utilise online maths games e.g. [www.mathsisfun.com](http://www.mathsisfun.com) and [www.mangahigh.com](http://www.mangahigh.com)

### **World Around Us: Children will...**

Discuss and record temporary and permanent changes in materials, complete thinking skills frameworks including comparing and contrasting a Viking Merchant ship and a Longship, research Viking Gods and explore Viking settlements, clothing, jobs, weapons and homes.

### **Tips for parents:**

Read non-fiction Viking topic books, visit your local library and access our school library online to reserve books. Visit the Viking exhibition at the Ulster Museum. If you feel you have expertise in any of our topics, please contact us, as this may provide a good learning opportunity for the children.

### **ICT: Children will...**

Select suitable software to produce a tri-fold leaflet, choose appropriate images and texts from a range of sources, work independently to search for relevant information, use interactive whiteboard and in-class computers to support all areas of the curriculum and develop their general ICT skills.

**Reference point:** Access the **Learning Zone** on the School Website for relevant resources to support learning.

<p><b><u>Religion:</u> Children will...</b>          Know that the New Testament contains the four Gospels, the Acts of the Apostles, letters and the Book of Revelation. Discuss the Parables of Jesus. Identify the season of advent as the beginning of the Church's liturgical year. Attend the Carol Service.</p>	<p><b><u>PDMU:</u> Children will...</b>          Identify and discuss things that are important to them, set personal targets, recognise the achievements they accomplish, discuss the issue of bullying and healthy habits related to smoking and alcohol. Role play activities (including class assemblies) and taking on the role of a character in 'Hot Seating' activities. Discuss ways how the environment can be impacted by plastic and how they can help reduce the problem.</p>
<p><b><u>PE:</u> Children will...</b>          Participate in Hurling lessons with Ulster Council GAA Coach.</p>	<p><b><u>Date of Carol Service:</u></b>          KS2 Carol Service - Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> December</p>
<p><b><u>The Arts:</u> Children will...</b>  <u>ART:</u> Use cardboard, straws, glue and tape to create a Viking Longship, review another group's model and provide positive feedback, respond to the story of 'The Snowman' using drawing and painting techniques to create an imaginary Christmas cityscape and recreate 'The Nativity' scene using oil pastels and create a piece of Viking clothing using the technique of weaving.  <u>MUSIC:</u> Sing with increasing control and confidence, explore sounds of tuned percussion instruments, create a sound grid to reflect a 'Viking Raid' and prepare for Carol Service.</p>	
<p><b>Focus</b>          This half term we will be focusing 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 recently 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 &amp; Mrs O'Prey on Derryvolgie site and Mr Doran &amp; Mrs Kennedy on the Ashleigh site.</p>	

### School Website:

Don't forget to visit the school website [www.stbridesps.org.uk](http://www.stbridesps.org.uk) where you can read articles & view galleries of our pupils at work & play and view our range of After School activities. There are Learning Zones for each year group, important information for parents, including Key Policies, Newsletters and the Board of Governors' Annual Report to Parents. The Calendar is also available to download.

### Car Park on the Ashleigh Site:

Parents are not permitted to use the car park on the Ashleigh Site for parking or as a Drop Off Area in the morning or afternoon. Early Learners' staff have informed me of a number of 'close calls' where parents have driven through the car park when children are being escorted to school from their premises. Parking is strictly for Staff only. Thank you for your cooperation.