



Curriculum Newsletter



Year 5 January - Mid-Term

2019

Literacy:

This half term in Literacy the children will be focusing on the following: **Writing genre:** 1. Structure and language features of newspapers (e.g.: *analysis of genre*, writing a newspaper report.) **Language and Grammar:** Appropriate use of the comma and apostrophe (contractions and possession), direct and indirect speech. **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: nouns ending in -f and -fe; words ending in -ight, -tion and -ious; words with the letter V (middle or end)

Tips for parents:

Share topical newspaper reports with your child. Talk about features of a report, eye-witness accounts included, headlines etc. Children's newspapers available include 'The Week Junior' and 'First News'. (Cross-curricular benefits include WAU, PDMU etc.) Websites include: CBBC Newsround website and C2K News desk. Encourage regular shared **reading**, allowing for discussion and questioning around the text. Ensure **spellings** are checked using **LSCWC** accurately.

Numeracy:

This half term the children will explore and apply the following areas through practical investigations, games and mental maths activities: Develop an understanding of tessellation. 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; Discuss prime and square numbers; reinforce the concepts of factors, products and multiples; Revisit and 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. Consolidation through Mangahigh.

Tips for parents:

Revise 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 to explore and experiment topical activities related to **Sound**, including: investigating how sound travels through different media; understanding vibrations in solids, liquids and gases; conducting and recording through investigation and experimentation; making a hydrophone; observing and listening to various instruments; appreciating how instruments create sound; creating their own musical instruments from waste, junk and recyclable materials. Following on from the completion of this topic, the children will begin 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. This topic may continue into the next half term.

Tips for parents:

Continue to discuss properties of materials and states of matter - **Solids/ Liquids/ Gases**. Encourage children to explore making sounds with instruments which may be available to them. If your child has access to Lego kits, encourage them to be creative when building. 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.

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 to use in their project;
- change the appearance of sprites by using different costumes;
- 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

Religion

In RSE this term, the children will begin to appreciate the importance of preparing responsibly for new life. (How a family gets ready for the birth of a new baby.) In Religion lessons, the children will study and learn about Jesus, his teachings and actions. They will make connections between Jesus the healer and the Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick. The children will also focus on the life of St Brigid to celebrate our school's patron Saint.

PDMU

Children will examine the following areas: The risks associated with acting on impulse; Recognise and practise strategies to deal with conflict; 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 a want and a need. During this term, classes will participate in group 'Mindfulness' lessons.

PE

Children will develop and use a number of skills in the area of Basketball. These sessions will be led by a specialised Queen's coach. St. Bride's P.E kit is compulsory - navy/black shorts/tracksuit bottoms and white polo shirt. Raincoat required for walk to the Parish hall.

Dates for your Diary

St Bride's Fitness Fortnight: 14th - 28th January
Catholic Schools' Week: 28th January
St. Brigid's Day Mass: 1st February (2.00pm finish)
Safer Internet Day: 5th February
World Book Day: Thursday 7th March

The Arts

Music - 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. Brigid'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 hymns for mass on St Brigid's day.

Art - Children will explore Tessellation using a variety of 2D shapes. Children will also use chalk and oil pastels to create expressive portraits in the style of Joan Eardley. Children will use a variety of mixed media to create a functioning musical instrument.

Focus

In the build-up to Safer Internet Day, Tuesday 5th February, we will be focusing on keeping our children safe on-line. This year the theme is **"Together for a better Internet"**. Safer Internet Day is celebrated globally in February each year to promote the safe and positive use of digital technology for children and young people.

The UK Safer Internet Centre is a partnership of three leading charities - Childnet International, Internet Watch Foundation (IWF) and the South West Grid for Learning (SWGfL) - with a shared mission to make the internet a better place for children and young people. Globally, Safer Internet Day is a campaign which encourages young people to explore how the internet works, who owns the information that is shared on it, and how they can actively take ownership of digital spaces. It aims to empower young people to take control of their online lives and to feel that they can harness and use the positive power of the internet for good.

Find out more at www.saferinternetday.org.uk.

In school, children will take part in Internet safety quizzes and activities during the month of February, in class and in the ICT Suite.

Please also check out the learning Zones on the School website for further activities and information. You can also find information on Internet Safety and the On-line Safety policy in the Parents' section of the website www.stbridesps.org.uk