



Curriculum Newsletter



Year 2 February - Easter 2019

Literacy:

Children will continue to write recounts, procedures and reports. They will retell stories including St Patrick. They will practise their letter writing skills by writing to the vet. We will begin to look at the final sound in words including *ll, ss, ff, zz, ck and sh*. Children will continue to read a range of fiction and non-fiction books. We will focus on both literal and inferential questions. The children will enjoy celebrating World Book Day by dressing up as their favourite character.

Tips for parents:

The focus for this half term will be secretarial skills. This means encouraging the children to use capital letter and full stops for sentences and the names of people and places. Children should also spell words correctly that are written in the book or on the page. When reading, encourage the children to use appropriate expression and attend to exclamation marks.

Numeracy:

Children will consolidate their knowledge of time in particular half past times. They will be introduced to function machines as a way of revising addition and subtraction facts; a quick recall is essential. The children will continue to measure the length of objects using informal units including body parts, e.g feet and hand spans. The children will use balance scales to order objects by mass. They will explore the 2D shapes of pentagons and hexagons. The children will continue to practise making amounts to 20p and beyond and find change from 20p. They will continue to draw and interpret graphs and use the associated language.

Tips for parents:

Look at the analogue clock regularly and encourage your child to have a go at telling the time. Discuss the relationship between the digital and analogue clock. In the good weather get outside and measure things around the garden using feet and paces. Always ensure that your child estimates (has a guess) before measuring. Set up a toy shop and practise making amounts and giving correct change.

World Around Us Topic

This term we will continue with the topic of 'Pets and the vet.' The highlight of this topic will be our visit from the vet. We continue our focus on the natural world with our 'Spring' topic. We will look at living and non-living things and plants and animals. We will do a range of experiments, planting seeds and investigating what is needed for a plant to grow. They will also begin to give reasons for what animals make good and bad pets. As we move towards Easter we will begin our topic on 'Materials'. The children will investigate what different things are made of in preparation for their trip to W5.

Tips for parents:

Now that the weather is getting warmer it is a great time to get into nature. Why not go for a nature walk and look for signs of new life. We would love photographs or drawings of your discoveries. It might be nice to plant some seeds and watch them grow. Encourage the children to observe the seasonal changes and look at the beauties of nature around them and bring things into class for the nature table.

ICT

The children have been introduced to a range of programs. Fresco is an Art program that helps develop fine motor skills. All About Number Level 1 and 2 give the children opportunities to reinforce the concepts of estimating, halving, doubling and counting on and back.

<p>Religion</p> <p>Through <i>Grow in Love</i> the children will explore Jesus' life through bible stories. They will look at the beauty of nature of Spring and thank God for his wonder. The children are preparing for their Bible stories prayer service which will take place in their classroom at the beginning of April.</p>	<p>PDMU</p> <p>The children will explore the feelings of anger, happiness, sadness and fear. They will identify times they have felt this way and how best to deal with negative emotions. They will also become aware of how feelings can be conveyed through facial expressions and body language.</p>
<p>PE</p> <p>The children will begin <i>Gymnastics</i> this half term. They will move in a variety of ways, both along the ground and using mats and benches. They will use equipment and move in a variety of ways.</p>	<p>Dates for your diary: 7th March- World Book Day Friday 8th March is International Women's Day 18th March- School closure Tuesday 2nd April - P2 O' Prey Class Prayer Service. Wednesday 3rd April - P2 Meehan Class Prayer Service. Thursday 4th April - P2 McDermott Class Prayer Service. Friday 5th April - P2 Toal Class Prayer Service. Wednesday 10th April (P2 Toal & P2 Meehan) & Thursday 11th April (P2 McDermott & P2 O'Prey) - Trip to W5</p>
<p>The Arts</p> <p>The children will paint pictures of pets and animals. They will use a variety of materials to make Spring collages and pictures. The children will make a variety of cards to celebrate St Patrick's Day, Spring and Easter.</p> <p>The children will sing a selection of songs and use percussion instruments and body percussion. The children will continue to use tuned percussion instruments.</p> <p>The children will enjoy watching the older children at the St Patrick's Day concert.</p>	
<p>Focus</p> <p>Ash Wednesday marks the beginning of 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>' program 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>	