



# Curriculum Newsletter



Year 3 Mid-Term - Easter 2019

## Literacy:

This term we are writing an explanation text. We are learning about the parts of an explanation: title, Definition, description, process and application. The children will be introduced to poems and identify features of the poem eg rhyming couplets. The children will have the opportunity to write their own weather poems. In grammar we are continuing with speech marks and also introducing conjunctions and homophones (here and hear). Primary 3 will continue reading a variety of texts; O.R.T, Novels and Non-Fiction. **Phonic Sounds-** ou, ow, ai, ay, ir, ur, ear, wh

## Tips for parents:

- Remind children to read over their work and check for capital letters, full stops and good spellings.
- **Good handwriting needs to be encouraged.**
- Please remember to fill in the **supplementary section** at the back of the reading record book. **'Catch the reading bug'**

## Numeracy:

We are continuing with tens and units and learning how to exchange. The children will use the word 'exchange' when exchanging units for tens. We will explore symmetry in shapes. Time will continue with quarter past and quarter to times, in both analogue and digital. Children will find quick ways to add and subtract using the 100 square (eg 11, 19, 20, 21). We will revise and reinforce fractions (halves and quarters) of both shapes and numbers. In shape we are consolidating 2d and 3d shape properties. We are continuing with counting change up to £1 and measuring water using non-standard units.

**Tips for Parents:** Language for Tens and Units: Tens House, Units House, columns, exchange. Children should show their exchange in the sum. Remind your child to check over their calculation and encourage neat presentation. Plenty of practise is needed with **quarter to times in analogue and digital**. Practise number facts to 20: 12+8, 13-7, 6+8

## World Around Us

The children will be continuing with our Weather topic. We will be reading and sharing a variety of weather poems. We will be comparing weather around the world and looking at extreme weather eg drought, flooding, hurricanes etc. The children will design and make a toy for a windy day. The children will get a chance to test their toy on a windy day. The children will test the properties of various materials and create waterproof clothing for their teddy.

## Tips for parents:

- Encourage the children to look at world and local maps.
- Talk about the weather on the way to school using weather words and adjectives.
- As a family listen to the weather forecast on the television and be able to retell the weather.

## ICT - 'My First Presentation'

Children will;

- Continue with the story of 'The Sun and The Wind' using Microsoft PowerPoint.
- Practise presenting their power point to the class.
- Develop their word processing skills in Word by writing about St. Patrick.
- Cut and paste a picture of St. Patrick into their finished work.
- Use Black Cat Logo to programme a Bee Bot on the computer.
- Complete research on a given topic eg weather forecasts

<p><b>Religion</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Children will be preparing for the Sacrament of Reconciliation and continue to learn the Act of Sorrow.</li> <li>• Children will identify things that they can turn away from during Lent.</li> <li>• Talk about St. Patrick.</li> <li>• Recall the stories from Holy Week.</li> </ul>	<p><b>PDMU</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Explore the concept of reconciliation and making amends through preparations for Sacrament of Reconciliation.</li> <li>• Identify ways in which we can make good and bad decisions and show love.</li> <li>• Making healthy choices about our gums and teeth.</li> </ul>
<p><b>PE</b></p> <p>Begin Gymnastics.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Listening to and following instructions.</li> <li>• Developing awareness of movement into space.</li> <li>• Develop different ways of travelling.</li> <li>• Make shapes using parts of the body, developing control and balance.</li> <li>• Tumbling and rolling on a mat.</li> </ul>	<p><b>P3 dates to note</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• School closure (18<sup>th</sup> March)</li> <li>• Holy Thursday finish @ 12.00 Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> April.</li> <li>• Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> March world book day.</li> <li>• Sacrament of Reconciliation meeting @7.30pm 11<sup>th</sup> March in school.</li> <li>• Sacrament of Reconciliation at Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> March @ 4pm.</li> </ul>
<p><b>The Arts</b></p> <p><b>Music - Sing a calypso</b> Make movements in time with the music, clap at the end of a verse and make up their own actions to this song and keep a steady tempo. Children will experience keeping a rhythm and playing simple instruments to accompany singing. Prepare hymns for Sacrament of Reconciliation at home - practise hymns.</p> <p><b>Art</b> - The children will study how different artists have depicted weather eg Van Gogh. The children will use collage and wax painting techniques to create cards and weather scenes. <b>Drama</b> - In Activity Based Learning the children will act out the stages of the water cycle and present a weather forecast in our television studio!</p>	
<p><b>Focus</b></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 'Grow in Love' 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>	

**N.B. We are looking forward to seeing all the wonderful costumes on World Book Day. A reminder to bring in up to 2 books for the Book Swap Shop.**