

St Joseph's Primary

CURRICULUM NEWSLETTER

Term 1



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Primary 5

Term 1

Dear Parent/ Guardian,
Welcome to our first P5 newsletter which will give you some key information for this term.
Mrs Fry & Miss Harvey

General



Children have their login information for **Google Classroom** and all children have been able to access this platform confidently in computing lessons. All homework is now set on Google Classroom. If you need any support with this, please get in touch or access our school [website](#).

Curriculum Learning

STEM



This term we have a major focus in STEM. The children have been very engaged with their **Science** topics. These include **food chains and food webs**. We are investigating bees with the intention that we will invite beekeepers from St.Ninians to talk to us. We are currently studying **forces**, in particular floating and sinking. Your child should gain an understanding of buoyancy, density and shape and the impact these have on floating and sinking. We will then study magnetism, gravitational and electrostatic forces. We will also carry out a range of **STEM engineering challenges**, such as designing a hole for a crazy golf course and designing a football game.

In **ICT** we will be learning about AI and exploring the benefits and issues of using AI applications.

[A Parent's Guide to Introducing STEM at Home](#)

Literacy



In Reading we are focusing on asking and responding to questions about a text. We will be using a variety of fiction and non-fiction texts to support the development of our higher order thinking skills.

In Writing, we will be using the context of our STEM topic, Forces, to develop our note making skills. We will be promoting Learner Agency, allowing the children to choose which type of text they create with their notes, to demonstrate their learning.

Numeracy and Maths



Children have been focusing on rapid recall of the multiplication tables and how they link to division. We have been using Number Talks and the Numeracy Blueprints to focus on mental strategies for addition & subtraction. [Numeracy and Mathematics | St Joseph's Primary School](#)

Maths Week Scotland runs from 22nd - 28th September. The theme will be *Wild Maths*, looking at Maths in the natural world. Check out the Maths Week website: <https://www.mathsweek.scot/> If you would like to come in and talk to P5 about any maths skills you use in your job, we would love to have you!

Health and Wellbeing



This term we have a focus on Emotional health. The children are working through the 'I Can...' programme which helps them recognise when they feel nervous and then noticing what happens to their bodies. We are developing skills to help change 'negative' thoughts into 'powerful' thoughts and how to use these when we are in challenging situations or we feel worried. We will be exploring positive role models and support networks we have at school and at home.

In PE, we are developing our skills in rebound games, such as football, golf, basketball & hockey. In our Daily Mile we are focusing on developing our stamina and perseverance.

Religious Education



P5 will be celebrating their stage Mass on Tuesday 16th September. The children will reflect upon the up and coming school year, along with our school and Gospel values.

In our R.E. curriculum, we have been exploring Jesus' role as King, Prophet and Priest. This term, we will also be learning about Christian Imagery, looking at examples of carvings on Celtic crosses and Pictish stones and reflecting upon their strong links with the natural world. We will read from the Book of Genesis and we will study Psalm 148: the Canticle of Creation, giving thanks to God for the Mystery of Creation.

Modern Languages



In French, we are continuing to develop our talking, listening, reading and writing skills. We are consolidating our knowledge of vocabulary associated with parts of the body through playing 'Simon Says' and listening to songs. We are learning to describe our own and others' eye colour, hair colour and hairstyles. Soon we hope to be able to play the 'Guess Who?' boardgame in French.

[BBC Bitesize French - Talking about Ourselves](#)

[BBC Bitesize French - Parts of the Body](#)

Notes:

PE days: P5a & P5b- Thursday *Please ensure that children have their P.E. kits (including shoes) on P.E. days.*

Offgrid: P5a Friday 5th September & Friday 21st November

P5b Friday 12th September & Friday 28th November

Library: P5a Tuesday

P5b Friday

Meet the Teacher: Thursday 28th August 3:15pm

Halloween Spooktacular: Friday 31st October - *children can come to school in costume.*

Parents Night: Thursday 6th November

P5 Advent Service: Friday 5th December

Winter Wonderland: Wednesday 17th December