

# St Joseph's Primary

## CURRICULUM NEWSLETTER

Term 1



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## Primary 4

### Term 1

Dear Parent/ Guardian,  
Welcome to our first P4 newsletter which will give you some key information for this term.

*Miss Muirhead (P4a)*

*Mrs Downs and Mrs McLaughlin (P4b)*

### General



Children have their login information for **Google Classroom** and all children have set a new password and been able to access this in ICT lessons. Most 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 focus on STEM subjects. In Science, we are developing our skills in identifying and classifying living things, focusing on 'Minibeasts', to help appreciate their diversity. The children have created some 'burning questions' at home which we will use to inform our next steps in learning and to plan together what we will explore in the 'Science Area' in our classrooms. We will also be investigating 'Changing States,' and 'Electrical Circuits' later in the term. We are very excited to use our STEM Room again and will be developing skills in design, engineering and technology using wood work and sewing materials.

### Literacy



In Literacy, we are continuing to develop our knowledge of phonics using the Jolly Spelling Programme. Please continue to practice reading and writing words with the new spelling rules, which will be posted on Google Classroom each week. In Writing, we are exploring various types of instructions, including recipes, games and craft instructions, to identify their features and use them in our own writing. In Reading, we will be reading non fiction texts, using features of the text (including contents, index pages and glossaries) to help us locate information. At home, pupils could select a non-fiction book from the library so that they can search for information on topics which specifically follow their own interests.

### Numeracy and Maths



In Numeracy, we are using Number Talks to help us use different strategies to solve problems, such as 'Making Landmarks' and 'Friendly Numbers'. We have been enjoying sharing our strategies with our peers. Ask your child to share some of the strategies they have been learning at home! We are also continuing to improve our rapid recall of multiplication facts and use games such as '[Hit the Button](#)' to set new targets for ourselves. In Maths we are exploring grid references by plotting locations on a grid and constructing grids to locate and describe positions.

## Health and Wellbeing



PE Lessons are on a Monday (P4a) and a Tuesday (P4b). We are developing skills in football and hockey and have also started our Daily Mile round the school grounds, which we have especially enjoyed in the sunny weather! With our Term 1 focus on Mental Health and Emotional Wellbeing, we will continue to use the '[Cool in School](#)' programme. Children have created a 'worry box', or have access to the worry monster for our classrooms and will be discussing who they can ask for help and also how they can assert themselves in potentially challenging situations by talking calmly and using confident body language. Please continue to encourage your child to share with one of their *three named people* or use our *worry box* or our *emotional check ins* if they have something on their mind.

## Religious Education



This term P4 will have a class retreat in school followed by Mass on Tuesday 23rd September. The children will be preparing readings, prayers and hymns. There is also a Sacramental Information Evening for P4 Parents at St Joseph's Church on Monday 25th August at 6pm. You can find some additional information here: [Sacramental Information | St Joseph's Primary School](#) In our R.E. curriculum, we have been exploring the Mind, Body and Soul and will be discussing free will and how we can make good choices. We are exploring stories from the Gospel where Jesus showed love and compassion as He healed and helped others. Later in the term, we will begin preparing for our Advent Service which will be held on Friday 12th December at 2pm.

## Modern Languages



This term French will be taught by Mrs Redmond (P4a) and Mrs Greene (P4b). We will continue to learn classroom instructions and familiar vocabulary for conversations including the day and month, the weather and numbers from 0-40. We have been learning vocabulary for the family and will learn vocabulary for Months of the Year and birthdays. We will be using [these French activities](#) to practice our new vocabulary.

## Notes:

Please remember to come to school with a filled water bottle and homework folder every day. All homework must be brought into school on Friday. Any questions please use the pink communication jotter.

P4 will have access to the MUGA to play games on Tuesday. They can have fun on the trim trail on a Monday.

### Dates for the Diary:

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

**Off-Grid P4a:** *Tuesday 2nd September and Tuesday 11th November*

**Off-Grid P4b:** *Tuesday 9th September and Tuesday 18th November*

**P4 Retreat and Stage Mass (in school):** *Tuesday 23rd September*

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

**Parents Night:** *Thursday 6th November*

**P4 Advent Service:** *Friday 12th December at 2pm*

**Winter Wonderland:** *Wednesday 17th December*

*Please log in and follow your child's learning here:* Instagram: [@Stjosephspserc](#)