



St Joseph's Primary

CURRICULUM NEWSLETTER

Term 1



Primary 5

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Dear Parent/ Guardian,
Welcome to our first P5 newsletter which will give you some key information for this term.
Mrs Fry (P5a) , Mr Sibille and Miss Harvey (P5b)

General



Children have their login information for **Google Classroom** and all children have been able to access this platform confidently in school. All homework is now set on Google Classroom. If you need any support with this, please get in touch or access our school [website](#). Support will also be available during our *Meet the Teacher* event if necessary - bring along your child's login details and your device.

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 will be investigating the importance of bees and will be inviting the beekeepers from St.Ninians to come in to talk to us about their work. 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 foosball 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](#) We have also renewed our licence for Sumdog this year and will be encouraging the children to access this, both at home and at school, to reinforce their learning. [Sumdog](#)

Maths Week Scotland runs from 19th - 27th September. The theme will be *Maths Matters*, highlighting how maths is part of daily life, learning, work and play. Check out the [Maths Week Scotland portal here](#). 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 22nd 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:

Access our live [school calendar here](#).

PE days:

P5a - Friday afternoons. *Please come to school wearing school uniform. We will change into PE kit after lunch.*

P5b - Monday mornings. *Please come to school wearing PE kit. Bring full school uniform (including shoes) to change into afterwards.*

Offgrid:

(Children should arrive wearing clothing suitable for outdoors and all weathers)

P5a Friday 20th November

P5b Friday 11th December

Busby Glen:

(Children should arrive wearing clothing suitable for outdoors and all weathers)

P5a Tuesday 29th September

P5b Tuesday 20th October

Library: P5a & P5b - Thursday

Meet the Teacher: Thursday 27th August 3:15pm

Halloween Spooktacular: Friday 30th October - *children can come to school in costume.*

Parents Night: Thursday 12th November

P5 Advent Service: Friday 4th December, 2pm

Winter Wonderland: Wednesday 16th December (TBC)

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