



# **St. Francis Primary School**

## **P.5 Newsletter – January / March 2020**

Dear Parent/Carer,

Welcome to P5's newsletter. We have definitely hit the ground running! I am delighted to report that the children have settled down and are fully engaged in their learning.

This is going to be a really busy term with lots of interesting learning opportunities.

Home-learning is given to reinforce what the children are learning in the classroom.

Details can be found in the table in the homework jotters.

**Please hand in by each FRIDAY.**

Please remember to contact the school if you have any questions.

Mrs Jamieson

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### Language

#### Reading



Children will be introduced to the novel "Millions" this term and will continue to use reciprocal strategies and post-it notes to further deepen their understanding of the text. As you know, the children use a ? post-it to identify vocabulary/phrase that they don't understand. The children are now being encouraged to investigate the meaning themselves. This might involve reading the sentences surrounding this word again to aid their understanding.

I would also be delighted for the children to use a dictionary at home to find out the meaning of the word.

Reading is an imperative part of a child's learning and so I would encourage you, as much as possible, to promote reading at home. Please talk to your child about their reading targets (refer Reading Record).

#### Writing

As part of our *Active Literacy Programme*, we are always working to improve our writing skills.

We will focus on **INSTRUCTIONAL** and **PERSUASIVE** writing, using our topic - 'Millions' as inspiration.

### Maths

This term we will be focusing on **DIVISION**. It is imperative that your child continues to practise the 2-10 times tables at home as this will allow them to continue to make progress and will help them have a greater understanding of **DIVISION**. This will lead onto learning about **FRACTIONS**. **Your child will be both supported and challenged during these lessons.**

We also focus on **MENTAL AGILITY** where the children work out solutions in their heads. An important part of this learning is **NUMBER TALKS**, where your child will explain and demonstrate both their working and their thinking. Not only does this facilitate the children to be able to recognise different methods of solving a problem, it also helps them recognise where any errors may have occurred and understand the **GROWTH MINDSET** message that making a mistake is a positive learning opportunity!!!!!!

## Interdisciplinary Learning - 'Millions' by Frank Cottrell Boyce.

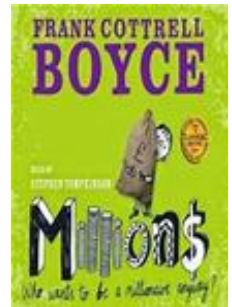
P5 will be working on the novel 'Millions by Frank Cottrell Boyce.

It will provide the context for children to develop a range of skills from a variety of subjects including, Social Subjects, ICT, Literacy, RE, Art & Design etc.

*As the euro is about to replace the pound sterling, Damian and Anthony Cunningham are brothers who have recently suffered the loss of their mother unwittingly come into possession of the proceeds of a train robbery, they find themselves with hundreds of thousands of pounds to spend in the next 17 days. Damian believes the money comes from God and should be used for doing good, but Anthony has different ideas. Meanwhile, the robbers are looking for their money... but will they eventually catch them?*

The children will have many opportunities for discussion, debate and persuasive writing based on the themes and events in the book. The story also looks at many saints and the events in their lives.

This will form much of our RE for this term.



### Health & Wellbeing

We aim to encourage our children to develop healthy attitudes so they can make healthy choices in life. We want them to be confident, successful, responsible and effective contributors in our school and in the community.

They will continue to recognise, learn about and understand their feelings through the PATHs programme.

All children should take part in 2 hours P.E.  
per week: **Tuesday & Wednesday.**



### R.E. - following the Gospel Values

P.5 will continue to follow the '**This Is Our Faith**' syllabus.

The children will participate in celebrating mass and will continue to learn mass responses.

This term children will also focus on **Lent** in preparation for **Easter**. We will explore the events of the passion, death and resurrection of Jesus through the Stations of the Cross.

A number of activities will be based on the Sunday Gospel readings.

We will be revising and learning a variety of new hymns.

