Primary 5 Learning Overview January – April 2026

LITERACY AND LANGUAGES
What your child is learning in school

Reading: Learning to Recognise How Texts Can Influence the Reader

Your child is continuing their journey as a reader. They will focus on:

- Learning to read smoothly and with expression, using clues and punctuation to understand new texts while spotting the 'tricky' words and words and techniques authors use, such as rhetorical questions, to influence the reader's feelings.
- Developing their critical thinking by learning to distinguish between fact and opinion and identifying which sources are the most reliable.

Writing: Using Their Voice to Influence

Your child will be focusing on the skills of persuasive writing. They will focus on:

- Using emotive language, repetition, and rhetorical questions to influence their audience.
- Writing using paragraphs, correct punctuation, and words/phrases and techniques which help to persuade or influence their reader.
- Organise their ideas in a logical way and develop skills in review and edit their writing.

Listening & Talking: Developing Communication Skills

Your child is learning how to communicate with others. They will focus on:

- Learning how to plan and deliver organised talks, practising how to use a clear voice, eye contact, and body language to capture an audience's attention and share their ideas effectively.
- Recognising some techniques used to engage or influence the listener, for example, vocabulary, emphasis, tone and/or rhetorical questions.

Languages: Scots

Your child will have opportunities to develop their understanding and use of other languages. They will focus on:

- Participating in songs and rhymes in Scots language and will decode unfamiliar words using patterns and similarities to English.
- Using tools like dictionaries and word banks to help them write and summarise simple texts in the new language.

How you can help at home

- When reading together ask your child to find words the author has used to try to make them develop an opinion on a topic or character.
- Ask them to practise mini talks about their hobbies/interests to build confidence and a clear speaking voice.
- Ask your child to write a persuasive note or email, using paragraphs and punctuation, to persuade them to get involved with their hobbies/interests.
- Check your child's Community Group (previously called Communication Group) weekly for their new sound, their 'I See You See and for texts that they can practice their reading skills with which match and consolidate the sounds they have been introduced to and taught.

MATHS AND NUMERACY

What your child is learning in school

Your child is continuing to build a strong foundation in number, time, and measurement through practical and real-life situations and hands on learning. They will focus on:

Multiplication & Division: Working with larger numbers

- Using multiplication and division facts to the 10th multiplication table and practise multiplying or dividing by 10, 100, and 1,000.
- Practice solving multi-step problems using larger whole numbers and decimals.

Fractions, Decimals & Percentages: Understanding parts of a whole

- Learning how to swap between fractions, decimals, and percentages (like knowing 50% is the same as 1/2).
- Practising calculating 'sale prices' (discounts) and finding fractions of an amount.

Time & Timetables: Planning and calculating

- Learning to read and record analogue and digital 12-hour time, convert hours into minutes.
- Using calendars or bus/train timetables to plan trips.
- Working out how long an event lasts using real life situations.

Measurement & Perimeter: Measuring the world around them

- Accurately measure length, weight, and volume using units like cm, kg, and ml.
- Learning how to calculate the perimeter (the distance all the way around) of shapes like squares and rectangles.

How you can help at home

- Practise times tables during car journeys, walks or mealtimes.
- Use cooking and baking to practise fractions – 'We need 125ml of milk', etc.
- Involve your child in reading the family calendar and planning upcoming events.
- Support your child in learning to tell the time by asking them what time it is at different points in the day.
- Challenge your child with practical time conversion questions such as 'We are leaving in an hour and a half – how many minutes is that?'

HEALTH AND WELLBEING

PE & Movement

Your child is developing control over their body and learning how to move safely and confidently. They will focus on:

- Gymnastics: Creating smooth gymnastics routines, learning complex rolls and cartwheels, and understanding how to make a balance more stable.
- Basketball: Practicing moving efficiently on the court, focusing on footwork, controlling the ball, and adapting their speed to the game.

Building Resilience

- Learning that effort and choices shape who they are and what they can achieve.
- Learning to set realistic personal goals and understand that overcoming setbacks makes them stronger and that their brain grows stronger with practice and challenge. They will also practice celebrating their own and others' successes.

INTERDISCIPLINARY LEARNING

Art & Design

- Your child will develop advanced art skills by using different materials to create depth and texture and learn how artists use shape and colour in their work.

Religious & Moral Education (RME)

- Your child will learn about religious and world traditions for major life events and develop skills in explaining their own views on these customs.

Social Studies

- Your child will learn how rights belong to everyone and how we can support each other to uphold these rights.
- Your child will share their ideas on why people and events from history are still important today.

Science (Forces and Microorganisms)

- Your child will be investigating how friction, air resistance, and streamlining affect how objects move through the world.
- Your child will find out how bacteria and yeast help us make food like bread and yogurt, support digestion but can also spoil food and make it inedible through nature's decomposition process.
- Additionally, your child will research famous scientists to see how their creative discoveries in medicine and technology continue to impact our daily lives.

Technologies

- Your child will learn to recognise characteristics of different materials—like wood, plastic, and metal—and choose the best one for a specific task, explaining their choices.