

**Toronto Primary
Curricular Information**

**A year in
P 5/4**

**With
Mrs Colville**

This booklet is designed to provide information about the curriculum your child will experience this year in Primary 5/4 as well as providing information about classroom routines and expectations.

Curriculum for Excellence establishes clear values, purposes and principles for education from 3-18 in Scotland. It sets out to enable children and young people to develop their capacities as successful learners, confident individuals, responsible citizens and effective contributors.

The key methods by which we will develop these capacities are through:

- ❖ active learning
- ❖ interdisciplinary learning
- ❖ outdoor learning
- ❖ co-operative learning

We will be using a range of Assessment is for Learning techniques including:

- ❖ sharing learning intentions and success criteria
- ❖ high quality interactions and feedback
- ❖ learner involvement in reflection, setting learning goals and next steps
- ❖ self and peer assessment

The curriculum is divided as following:

Curriculum Level	Stage
Early	Pre-school and P1 or later for some
First	To end of P4 but earlier or later for some
Second	To end of P7 but earlier or later for some
Third and Fourth	S1-S3 but earlier for some The fourth level broadly equates to SCQF Level 4
Senior Phase	S4-6 and college or other means of study

Welcome to Primary 5/4

The children have settled well into the routines of Primary 4. We are looking forward to the learning experiences planned for the coming session and also, in meeting the challenges to become increasingly independent. We hope to have an enjoyable and successful year and would like to take this opportunity to inform you of our plans and expectations for the children.

English and Literacy

Throughout the year, the children will be working on extending skills in reading, writing, listening and talking, spelling, grammar and handwriting.

Reading

Reading will be taught in class using the Guided Reading approach. This is an experience that encompasses all aspects of English and Literacy: comprehension; grammar and punctuation; dictionary and thesaurus skills; writing; spelling; listening and discussion. During Guided Reading, the children will have a core reader, which will remain in class. Those children who read with Ms. Elder will receive a book home for reinforcement.

Writing

Experiences will be aimed at developing skills in personal, functional and imaginative writing. These will include a varied range of activities linked where possible, to the children's own experiences and to other areas of learning. To extend skills and support the children's writing experiences, we will be using a programme of VCOP activities (Vocabulary, Connectives, Openers and Punctuation). To enhance presentation of written work, we will be learning cursive handwriting using the Berol Scheme. It can take time for the children to gain confidence in this area as some "relearning" is involved, for example, starting each letter on the line. As confidence grows, the children will be expected to transfer learning and use the cursive script in all written tasks throughout the curriculum.

Spelling

This session, we will continue to develop our approaches to the teaching and learning of spelling. All children have been assessed using the Single Word Spelling Tests and have been given an accurate spelling age, then grouped accordingly. Children have been introduced to a varied range of activities aimed at engaging the children by accommodating differences in preferred learning styles. Spelling taught in class is reinforced through a weekly homework task.

Listening and Talking

Listening and talking experiences are embedded throughout the curriculum. The children will have daily opportunities to develop confidence in their communication skills during activities including topic work, class discussions, drama, group work, personal presentations and assemblies.

Numeracy & Mathematics

The children will be learning through the Heinemann Active Maths, which is a progressive programme with continual assessment opportunities build in. Your child will work in a group in class, which means, he/she has been grouped to work alongside other children who are working at the same, or similar, stage.

Learning experiences in Primary 5/ 4 will include:

- Number bonding and sequencing to develop mental maths strategies and enhance mental agility
- Addition and Subtraction
- Place Value
- Multiplication and Division – using and applying facts
- Money – recognising and using coin collections
- Shape, position and movement
- Measure – including time and volume
- Problem Solving is embedded throughout
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Health & Wellbeing

Aspects of Health and Wellbeing link with many other curricular areas. This year Primary 5/4 will be learning about some aspects of Personal Safety which include; safe use of the internet and social media, water safety, safe use of medicines, healthy eating and keeping ourselves and our teeth clean and healthy.

Golden Time is a 30 minute fun activity. Each week, the children are able to earn Golden Time as recognition of hard work and good behaviour. Golden Time can also be lost (in 5 minute increments) if behaviour does not meet expectations. In this event, the reason for loss of time will be explained and suggestions for improvement made.

PE

In Primary 5/4 the children will have Physical Education (P.E.) on a Tuesday (Mrs Weatherup) and Thursday (Mrs Colville). It is the children's responsibility to ensure that they are fully equipped for P.E. which requires gym kit and indoor shoes. Mrs Weatherup will provide a variety of learning experiences to enable the children to further develop their skills.

Children should come equipped with a full PE kit i.e. shorts, t-shirt and gym shoes (no football colours please). It is sensible to keep kits in tidy trays in class as this ensures your child is always prepared and also, provides a change of clothes if uniforms get wet in the playground. In case of loss or injury, jewellery, especially earrings, should be left at home on PE days; otherwise, jewellery must be removed before lessons.

Rights Respecting School

Over the year we will be working on Rights Respecting Schools and the children have created their own class charter to show that we are all committed to working well and understanding our rights and expectations.

Interdisciplinary Topic

Our first Interdisciplinary Topic (ID Topic) is Wallace and Bruce. We will be learning about the Wars of Independence and the effect they have had on Scotland today.

Topics for the rest of the session will include; Australia, Bridges – with the focus on the new Queensferry Crossing. Where possible, Science topics will be linked to topic work, otherwise discrete Science lessons will be taught.

Children will learn lots of interesting facts and information through interactive activities (investigations and experiments), independent research, discussions, drama, music and artwork.

Pupil Profiles

Toronto is continuing to develop pupil learning profiles. This term, some of the work your child is completing will be recorded in a pupil profile jotter. This work will be used as their assessment work and should reflect the highest quality work they are able to produce. We will also be increasing opportunities for pupils to reflect on what they have learned and how they learn. Pupils will also be encouraged to engage in deeper discussions about their learning processes and how they can improve.

Classroom Organisation/Routines

All children are aware of and expected to follow school and class rules showing respect for their peers, adults and resources. Now that the children are working in Primary 5/4, we will be encouraging them to become increasingly independent and responsible for organising themselves.

- A pencil case with appropriate writing tools e.g. writing & colouring pencils, rubber & ruler
- Gym shoes: All pupils should have a pair of indoor shoes
- Please ensure all items of clothing and personal belongings are labelled/ named
- Water for hydration in the class – **please ensure that this is water only**
- Reading books that have been taken home should be returned on a weekly basis
- P.E. Kit required on a Monday and Thursday
- **School lunches:** if your child is to have a school lunch it is now paid electronically through **ipayimpact** where you can choose your lunches from home and pay electronically in advance. (Children can still order their own lunches through the smartboard within the class.)
- We have house behaviour points which are rewarded when the children work well together

Every week the children in Primary 5/4 will be allocated different roles for the classroom, such as: lunchbox monitors, milk monitors, messengers and jotter helpers. These jobs will be rotated so all children have the opportunity to have a job throughout the year.

It would also be helpful if you could provide your child with an old (adult) shirt or t-shirt that can be kept in tidy trays. This helps to protect uniforms during messy activities such as art.

Communication

Your child is responsible for passing on information from school. Please check your child's schoolbag each night as they may have been asked to take letters home regarding the school day, the school calendar or your child's progress.

Newsletters are issued by email throughout the year (hard copy if we don't have your address) as well as a weekly class newsletter. **Parent Evenings are scheduled for Terms 1 and 3.**

If you wish to contact us for further information, or have a problem or concern, please send a note to class with your child, or contact the school office (**01506 431461**) to make an appointment.

Opportunities for pupils

We will be encouraging the children to become increasingly independent and responsible for organising themselves throughout this year and hope this will be reinforced at home. There will be many opportunities for your child to develop these skills, such as contributing to the pupil council, class responsibilities and monitors.

Extra curricular Trips

As we have some P5 children in the class, they will be given the opportunity to go on a Residential Course to Lowport, later in the session. You will of course be given more facts about costs and dates dates about this nearer the time.

Homework

Throughout the year homework will be issued on a Monday to be returned by the following Thursday (unless otherwise stated) and will include:

- Spelling – new words and a written task.
- Numeracy
- Occasionally a topic related activity.

Please support your child by ensuring homework is returned on this date. Please check and sign completed homework tasks.

Thank you for your continued support.

Mrs Colville

