

**Toronto Primary
Curricular Information**

**A Year in
P5**

**With
Mrs Steel**

This booklet is designed to provide information about the curriculum your child will experience this year in Primary 5 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

We are delighted with the way the pupils have settled in to Primary 5 and we are looking forward to the coming year. We are hoping for a challenging, creative, fun and successful year and we would like to inform you of our plans and expectations for the children.

English and Literacy

Throughout the year, Primary 5 will be developing their literacy and reading skills through our 'Guided Reading' approach. Guided reading is an experience that encompasses all aspects of English and Literacy: Blooms Taxonomy, mind-mapping skills, comprehension, grammar/ punctuation, dictionary/ thesaurus skills, writing, spelling, listening and discussion. During Guided Reading your child's core reader will remain in school. Your child will be encouraged to choose a book to bring home, developing opportunities for greater personalisation and choice. This is an opportunity for you and your child to share a range of literature.

Your child will experience a wide range of writing activities (functional, personal and imaginative) which at times will be linked to the class topic.

Term 1: Focus on personal and functional writing; group presentations.

Term 2: Focus on imaginative writing and group presentations.

Term 3: Focus on Scot's language - Scot's Poetry Recitation & Individual Class Talks

Term 4: Individual class talks & Personal Project: Subject to be confirmed.

The school uses the Berol Cursive Hand Writing Scheme encouraging children to begin each letter on the 'line'. As your child gains confidence with this scheme all written tasks should be completed in this form.

Listening and Talking skills are embedded throughout the curriculum and children will be given the opportunity to share their knowledge and understanding through group discussions and individual/ group presentations. Children will be expected to listen carefully to others and carry out instructions accordingly.

Spelling

The SWST programme is being used throughout the school to provide a framework for spelling. Pupils will be taught new words on a Monday and will then engage in a number of learning activities throughout the week, including homework activities, to reinforce the new spelling pattern. An assessment will take place on Friday morning to monitor progress.

Numeracy & Mathematics

In Primary 5 Numeracy and Mathematics is delivered through a variety of fun, engaging learning experiences. We use a number of resources to meet the needs of our pupils, including Heinemann Active Mathematics, which is a progressive programme with continual assessment opportunities built in. We employ an active approach to Mathematics and Numeracy and use ICT along with a variety of activities to support your child's progress in all areas. Learning experiences will include:

- Basic computation: addition and subtraction.
- Multiplication, division, fractions and decimal numbers
- Place value: Numbers to 1000.
- Shape (2D & 3D): Tessellation and symmetry.
- Measure: Length, Weight & Time.
- Problem solving is embedded throughout.

Health & Wellbeing

Health and Wellbeing is evident throughout the curriculum with children being encouraged to become confident individuals, successful learners, effective contributors and responsible citizens. This year our class will be learning about the following:

- Personal Safety: UThinkUKnow (Internet/ social media safety); Road Safety; Personal Hygiene.
- Thinking of others: Global Education: Children-in-Need; McMillan Coffee Morning; Fairtrade
- P.E. on a weekly basis (Monday with Mrs Weatherup and on Thursday with Mrs Steel)

As a class, Primary 5 have worked together to create a Class Charter. The charter highlights the way we would like to work and achieve in Primary 5. To create our charter, we discussed the rights and responsibilities that we all have in class and in school. From this discussion, we agreed what should be included in our charter to help us respect everyone's rights and contribute to a positive classroom environment.

Golden Time is a 30 minute fun activity. Each week, children take part in Golden Time as recognition of their hard work and good behaviour. Golden Time can be lost (in 5 minute increments) if behaviour does not meet expectations. In line with our Promoting Positive Behaviour policy, children are given a number of opportunities to make better choices before Golden Time is lost. If a child does lose Golden Time, the reason for loss of time and suggestions for making better choices will be discussed.

Social Studies (Interdisciplinary Learning- IDL)

This term our class will be learning about Habitats. Pupils will gain more understanding of food-chains and life-cycles whilst developing a variety of skills through engaging in a range of learning experiences. Pupils will be encouraged to think in terms of local and global issues.

Building on our Social Studies improvement work last session, we have revised our interdisciplinary topics to ensure that they are relevant and meaningful to the children and that children have a bigger voice in planning their learning. This session, Primary 5 topics will be Habitats in Our Environment, The Body Machine, Kenya and The Magic Castle.

Classroom Organisation/Routines

Please encourage your child to come to school prepared for the day with the following equipment:

- A pencil case with appropriate writing tools e.g. writing & colouring pencils, rubber & ruler.
- Gym shoes: Health and Safety means that rubber soles are essential. All children should have a pair of indoor shoes.
- Please ensure all items of clothing and personal belongings are labelled/ named.
- Water Bottle (Sport's cap) for hydration in the class - WATER ONLY (not flavoured water or juice).
- P.E. Kit, consisting of shorts, t-shirt and change of shoes, is needed on a weekly basis. In case of loss or injury, jewellery, especially earrings, should be left at home on PE days; otherwise, jewellery must be removed before lessons.

All members of Primary 5 are encouraged to contribute to the positive working of the class by taking on a range of class responsibilities and leadership opportunities throughout the year.

Communication

- Parent mail will be issued monthly to inform you of classroom activities and events in the school. Please read these and respond where appropriate. If you are unable to access class newsletters please ask for assistance at the office.
- Occasionally children will be expected to pass on information from school. This may be in the form of a verbal message or a letter.
- School lunches are now £1.95 and can be paid for and ordered in advance using Ipayimpact.
- An old shirt brought from home to cover and protect your child's school uniform would be appreciated for art & craft activities. (optional)
- Parents' Evenings are scheduled for term 1 and term 3. However, if you have any concerns, please contact the office to make an appointment.
- On 23rd March 2017 we look forward to inviting parents and carers into our classroom to share our learning. More information will follow later in the school year.

Leadership Opportunities

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, taking on class responsibilities, Star of the Week, Achievement Awards, Class Assemblies and many other experiences.

Homework

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

- Spelling - new words and a task.
- Numeracy
- Reading
- Optional challenges
- Occasionally a topic related activity.

Please support your child by ensuring homework is returned on time. Please check and sign completed homework tasks. Your continued support is very much appreciated.

P5 Lowport Residential Experience

All P5 pupils will be offered the opportunity to experience a 2-night residential experience to The Lowport Centre, Linlithgow. During this experience, your child will take part in a range of outdoor activities and learn more about the historic town of Linlithgow. More information about this event will be issued later in the school year.

There are a number of After-School and Lunch-Time Clubs on offer to the pupils. Information about the clubs is usually issued by letter from the teacher who is running the club.

Thank you for your continued support.

Mrs Steel ☺