



Curriculum Newsletter

Mrs Duffin Primary 5 Term 1 2025-2026

The World Around Us

(Science, Geography and History)

Our theme this term is **The Ancient Egyptians**. The children will be using ICT along with non-fiction books to research facts about Egypt, including the location of Egypt, Egyptian culture, the hierarchy of the Egyptians and Egyptian gods. Children will learn how the Egyptian way of life and work has shaped civilisations today.

The children will also explore, through STEM activities, how the Egyptians built the pyramids and get a better understanding of the mummification process. There will be plenty of Arts and Crafts opportunities from making Canopic jars and papyrus paper, to producing jewellery and riches fit for any Pharaoh.

We hope to have An Egyptian Day later in the term, where children can fully immerse themselves into life in Ancient Egyptian times, dressing up and completing a range of activities throughout the day.



This term in ...

Maths:

In our Maths Mastery programme, we will be focusing on the following areas-

- **Reasoning with 4-digit numbers**- focusing on thousands, hundreds, tens and ones. We also are working on rounding to the nearest 10, 100 and 1000.
- **Addition and Subtraction**- column addition and subtraction, building up to applying this knowledge and skill to solving word problems.
- **Multiplication and division**- Pupils will see the relationship between multiplication and division. It is important that children revise their times tables at every opportunity. Top Marks Maths Hit the Button Game is a super resource for this.
<https://www.topmarks.co.uk/maths-games/hit-the-button>
- **Data Handling**- Pupils will be working on bar graphs, reading information from bar graphs, pictograms and time graphs and choosing the most appropriate way to present some of their own data that they've collected.

Literacy: Primary 5 children have just started their AR (Accelerated Reading) journey and the enthusiasm is infectious! Be sure to ask your child how their AR quizzes are going. The children will move up AR levels when they get five 90% (or more) scores in a quiz. In writing, we will be focusing on narrative fiction, studying the features of stories and identifying the problem and resolution in well-known fairy tales. This will help when planning and writing our own stories about Hallowe'en, as well as a story based in Ancient Egyptian times. We will also study Report Writing and create our own report fact files on life in Ancient Egypt, as well as a Newspaper Report on the discovery of Tutankhamun's tomb. Our class novels for this term is 'The Worst Witch' by Jill Murphy and 'The Firework Maker's Daughter' by Philip Pullman.

ICT: Our focus for Term 1 will be on Computational Thinking and Coding (Sphero) and Microsoft PowerPoint/Google Slides. We plan to enhance the children's coding skills as they program the Sphero to navigate around the map of Egypt. To develop the children's presenting skills, we will introduce Microsoft PowerPoint and the Google Slides tools. The children will learn how to add slides, choose different slide designs & transitions and explore the Animation feature. These skills will be useful to the children when they are reporting to the class.

What else is happening this term?

PE: Our P.E. days will be **Tuesday (Gaelfast coaching for 6 weeks)** and **Thursday (ball skills and games)**. Please ensure your child brings their trainers to school on Tuesdays (up until 21st October) and Thursdays.

Homework:

- ❖ **Reading**- Reading should be done nightly and can be the Guided Reading Book for the week or the child's AR book.
- ❖ **Mental Maths**- Mental Maths focus and suggested activities will be inside your child's Numeracy homework book each week. This will reflect our mental maths work in class. This homework is to be completed with an adult and to be revised and worked on throughout the week.
- ❖ **Spellings**- Children should learn their spelling lists each week. Spelling activity books will be completed in school help with this learning.
- ❖ **Literacy**- A literacy activity will be inside your child's literacy homework book each week.
- ❖ **Numeracy**- Numeracy activity will be in the Numeracy homework book each week.

Children will do a Friday Check Up. This will consist of a spelling test, dictation of two sentences (which include some words from the spelling list) and there will also be a numeracy check-up related to the Mental Maths focus and learning in class that week. Children will bring home this book each Friday. Please ensure it is signed and returned to school on the Monday.

REACH FOR THE
STARS!

Mrs Duffin's P5s are reaching for the stars!

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Primary 5's Class Contract:

In P5 we will:

- Always be kind to each other.
- Use good manners
- Respect others when talking.
- Talk to Mrs Duffin or another adult in school if you have a problem.
- Use gentle hands.
- Listen to each other.
- Be helpful.
- Represent our school with pride when on trips or at swimming.
- Respect the school's and each other's property.
- Work hard to produce work we are proud of.
- HAVE FUN!!

Signed: P5 and Mrs Duffin on 1st September 2025

