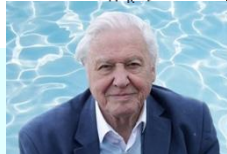


# Curriculum Newsletter



Primary 5 Mrs Duffin

Term 2 – 2025-2026

## The World Around Us

(Science, Geography and History)

Our theme for Term 2 is called **Liquid Gold**, which focuses on something we often take for granted—**water**! This theme introduces the children to the Water Cycle and allows them to explore the processes of evaporation and condensation through a range of practical activities. The children will dive deep into the wonders of water, exploring its many forms and its crucial role in our world.

By considering water as a limited resource, the children will be introduced to the ideas of Water Conservation and consider some of the issues surrounding supplying clean drinking water to a growing global population. The children will learn how drinking water is purified and how waste water is made safe through simple classroom experiments.

Inspired by the captivating stories of David Attenborough in "The Blue Planet," the children will embark on a journey to discover the magnificent ecosystems found in our oceans. Learning about the oceans of the world and exploring the causes and effects of water pollution, specifically plastic pollution. Through watching selected clips from the series, we hope to foster a sense of wonder and a desire to protect our oceans.

We will also study the causes and effects of flooding in different parts of the world and explore ways to limit flood damage. Throughout this term, a central theme will be encouraging our children to recognise their individual roles in conserving our water resources -linking to our Take 5. We will discuss practical actions they can take every day, such as turning off taps while not in use, taking shorter showers and understanding the importance of recycling and reducing waste. Every small effort counts, and together, we can make a substantial difference.

This term in:

**Maths Mastery:** In our Maths Mastery this term the Year 5 children will be focusing on

- Multiplication and division – looking at short division. It is important that the children are revising their quick recall of times tables.
- Fractions – learning what fractions are and progressing on to improper and mixed fractions.
- Time - Analogue to digital, 12- hour and 24-hour and converting between units of time.
- Decimals- learning how to work with tenths, hundredths and thousandths in decimal form.

**Literacy:** Our class novel for this term is George's Marvellous Medicine by Roald Dahl. We will begin to focus on Poetry and Recount Writing, looking at thinking maps in planning and the type of language used in this writing genre. We will also continue to develop our Report Writing skills this term, with the children writing a non-chronological report on sea animals found in different layers of the ocean. Children will cover instructional writing and recount writing this term. We are introducing a new cursive handwriting style in our school and so we will be introducing each lowercase letter to the children this term. We will then progress to capital letters in the cursive style

**ICT:** Our focus for Term 2 is Digital Storytelling Film & Animation. The children will use the iMovie app to record, edit and produce a short movie for a particular audience and for a particular purpose, eg: Online Safety, Water Pollution, Favourite Sea Animal, Famous Rivers or Water Disasters. The children will continue to improve/develop their coding skills this term using Spheros, a programmable robot, designed for exploration, experimentation, and creativity.

**PE:** We will have PE each Thursday and children should bring their trainers. This term in PE we will be looking at the curriculum area of Dance, both creative and folk. The pupils will be exploring and experimenting with a range of movements while creating and performing their dances to music. Primary 5 will also be going to Swimming Lessons in Ballymena from Monday 15<sup>th</sup> March. More information to follow. Music: Primary 5 children will be learning how to play the tin-whistle in Term 2 each Friday. We might even be able to perform a tune as well as a folk dance at our Green Day celebrations this year !

What else is happening this term?



**Take Five:** Our children's wellbeing continues to be an important feature of the school curriculum. This term we will be continuing to **connect**, to **learn**, to be **active**, to take **notice** and to **give** in order to promote wellbeing. Our Take 5 is incorporated into our daily life in the classroom, however we will focus on how we can look at how we can give of ourselves to others in our school, family and community during Catholic Schools' Week (17<sup>th</sup> -24<sup>th</sup> January).

### Shared Education:

This term Primary 5 will continue to connect with their peers in Camphill Primary School. Throughout the programme, the children will have numerous chances to develop friendships through PMDU, PE, ICT and Art activities. We look forward to all the opportunities and fun we will have together.

### Homework:

- Reading – 20 minutes of AR each night. Children will also have a guided reading book.
- Literacy and Numeracy weekly written tasks
- Mental Maths Focus - can be found in numeracy homework books and will be tested on in Friday Check-Up
- Spellings for Friday Check-Up

Your child has a Learning at Home book which should be used to revise spellings and practise areas of mental maths.



# Key Dates in Mrs Duffin's Class in Term 2

- Tin whistle – each Friday until Easter
- Grandparents' Day Mass- Friday 30<sup>th</sup> January
- Shared Education Trip to Cushendall- Thursday 19<sup>th</sup>

January

- P5 Monthly Mass- Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> March
- Shared Education Camphill P.S come to MQP- Thursday

12<sup>th</sup> March

- Green Day- Monday 16<sup>th</sup> March
- Swimming- each Monday from Monday 16<sup>th</sup> March-

Monday 20<sup>th</sup> April

