



Curriculum Newsletter

Primary 5

Miss J McGurk

Term 3 2024-2025



The World Around Us

(Science, Geography and History)

Our theme for Term 3 is **Farming**, which focuses on the importance farming has in our lives, including food and produce and how they travel from **Farm to Fork**. This theme introduces children to Farming in Ireland and will provide them with an understanding of the history of farming and how life on the farm has changed in the modern day, with an aim to inspire an appreciation for the vital role that agriculture plays in our society.

The development of farming in Ireland will be our focus, looking at the evolution from traditional practices to modern techniques. A key focus will be on the advancements in technology and how these improvements have revolutionised farming, enhancing productivity and sustainability. We will take a closer look at our local area, specially Glenravel and County Antrim, to identify and learn about the diverse types of farms that contribute to our agricultural landscape.

Primary 5 will take on an exciting STEM challenge, where they will design and create a tractor using recycled materials, allowing them to use numeracy to design their tractor to scale, calculating measurements as they bring their tractor ideas to life. The children will look at friction as they will be given the opportunity to test their tractor on different surfaces; as they learn how friction is a force that works against a moving object and makes it slow down.

Our learning will be connected to Literacy with the children researching and writing a biography of Harry Ferguson, a pivotal figure in the development of farm machinery, as well as crafting a report on Armagh, known as the Orchard County. The writing tasks will not only enhance the pupils writing skills but will also deepen their knowledge of local history and agricultural practices.

This term in:

Maths Mastery: In our Maths Mastery the Year 5 children will be focusing on Decimals. With the children having covered Fractions they will see the clear link between the two topics. The children will then look at converting units of measure; and solve measures and money problems. We will then look at Area and Perimeter, linking in well with our topic of farming. Finally, we will be looking at number sequences, identifying a pattern and continuing the sequence.

In Mental Maths, we have begun to revise some of the topics we have covered already this year. It is important to keep revisiting these areas to make sure that everyone has still retained this knowledge and understanding. Please work on the Mental Maths focus each week with your child, as it will be tested in our Friday Check-ups.

Literacy: I am very proud of the children and their efforts in A.R during Term 1 and Term 2, with many of the children meeting or exceeding their 'A.R points targets' set for them. Every child will get their Term 3 target and this will be stuck inside their Literacy Homework book. Please ensure you continue to encourage your child to read for 20 minutes per night to help them meet their target.

ICT: Our focus for Term 3 will be word processing and publishing. The children will continue to use Just2Easy to explore the features of publishing their work and will use it to create digital designs of their tractors.

PE: We will have PE every Thursday and children should bring their trainers. This term Primary 5 will also be swimming every Monday at Ballymena Leisure Centre, please can you ensure you complete the Parent Pay for each week.

Important dates for your diary

- Tuesday 29th April - Shared Education Visit to Cushendall
- Friday 30th May - Sports Day (Weather Permitting)
- Friday 13th June – School Trip to Cityside

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, and we will take a particular focus on appreciating our local area through our topic of Farming.

Shared Education:

Primary 5 will continue our Shared Education with Camphill Primary School with a trip to Cushendall. The children will get the opportunity to visit RNLI and discuss marine safety with field officers from Keeping Northern Ireland Beautiful. We have thoroughly enjoyed our Shared Ed programme, and we look forward to our final meet-ups.

Homework:

- Reading nightly – 20 minutes of AR. Children will also have a guided reading book.
- Literacy and Numeracy – nightly.
- Mental Maths nightly: An area of 'Quick Mental Recall' to focus on and this will be in their numeracy homework books.
- Spellings nightly in preparation 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.