



Curriculum Presentation

Mr McKernan

2025-2026

Welcome to Primary 7

Key areas of learning in St. Colmcille's:



- Literacy
- Numeracy
- The World Around Us (Science & Technology, Geography, History)
- Religious Education
- ICT
- Physical Education
- The Arts (Art & Design, Drama and Music)
- PDMU & RSE.

Literacy

- ▶ **Reading** - The most important area of Literacy. Importance of reading and understanding can not be under-estimated and is carried across all curriculum areas. **Strong readers make strong writers!** Pupils will work within their reading groups twice weekly in school, as well undertake weekly reading at home. Home reading will be a blend between hard copies and online reading via 'Rising Stars'. ***Reading is the primary responsibility of home, as they'll need to be regular readers to be successful readers.***
- ▶ **Writing** - Comprises of writing topic as well as creative writing opportunities. Pupils will continually work on their handwriting throughout the year in this lesson, as well as through handwriting lessons. Writing areas explored in Primary 7 include: Discussion texts, Persuasive writing, Newspaper reports, Fictional writing, and Report writing.
- ▶ **Skills** - These sessions focus on spellings, punctuation and grammar, as well as developing key skills across a range of literary features- based on a fortnightly text/ video stimulus.
- ▶ **Handwriting** - Pupils will take part in handwriting sessions throughout the week, based on the 'Nelson Handwriting' scheme. Each week will have a different focus of development.
- ▶ **Talking and Listening** - A key component of all Literacy aspects and occurs through all curriculum areas.



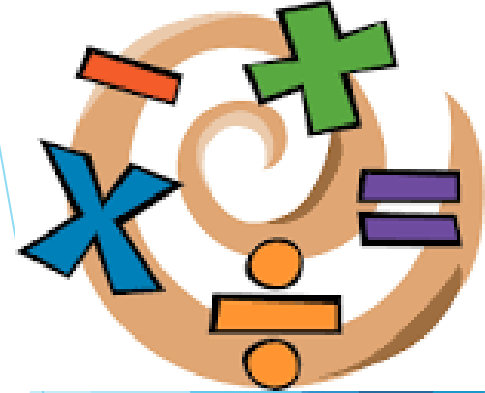
Phonics & Spelling

- ▶ Pupils will receive their weekly spelling list each Monday, which is based on a focused phonics sound for that week.
- ▶ Throughout the week, pupils will take part in phonics lessons and activities that will explore the weekly focus sound in greater depth; In particular, pupils will explore how the focus sound can be made from a variety of letter combinations.
- ▶ Each Friday, a spelling check-up assessment will take place, focusing on testing pupils on their weekly spelling list. These assessment results will be sent home to parents via Seesaw, to allow you to monitor your child's progress and support your child in reviewing their errors.



Numeracy

- An extensive range of materials are used within school to engage pupils with Numeracy and progress their skills through the Numeracy curriculum.
- Areas to be explored within Numeracy are:
 - Number (The four processes, Money, Place Value, ordering and comparing numbers, Fractions, Decimals and Percentages, Negative numbers)
 - Problem Solving & Investigations (A different problem-solving strategy to be focused on each term; For example, Trial and Improvement, reasoning, Looking for Patterns, Working backwards etc.).
 - Topic Maths (Data Handling, Measure, Time, Shape and Space, Angles, Area).
- Within Primary 7, all learning will be delivered in accordance with the Key Stage 2 'NI curriculum'. Appropriate tasks will be set for each child in class and work will be tailored to suit an individual's needs within a given learning area.
- Times Tables, division facts, number bonds and basic number skills are vitally important and need to be continually worked on and developed at home on a highly regular basis, alongside school set homework.
- In Primary 7, pupils will have a Mental Maths focus each week within class, as well as sent home each week. This will be assessed each Friday, alongside their spelling tests.



The World Around Us:

- ▶ In 'The World Around Us' (Science & Technology, Geography, History), the pupils will learn through a theme of work.
- ▶ The themes in Primary 7 for class for this year will be:
 - ▶ The Titanic
 - ▶ Natural Disasters
 - ▶ 'Money Wise'
 - ▶ Ireland
 - ▶ The Solar System



How you can support your child through their WAU learning:

- Discuss their learning at home and show a keen interest in their current topic.
- Support online research on the topic at home.
- Be creative- are there any home creations or crafts you can help your child to create at home to support their learning? E.g. Artwork, Lego creations, Minecraft etc.

Religious Education

- ▶ Children will follow the 'Grow in Love' programme for Primary 7.
- ▶ This programme will cover the religious areas of:
 - Biblical stories
 - Faith teachings and teachings from Jesus
 - Catholic practises (alms-giving, fasting, prayer etc.)
 - Sacramental understanding
 - Key elements of the liturgical year (advent/Easter/Pentecost etc.)
 - Strengthening links in our local community and Parish.
- ▶ Pupils will also attend church services with their school community on a monthly basis, as well as play a role in these services.
- ▶ Preparation for pupils receiving the Sacrament of Confirmation plays a central role in their Religious Education journey in Primary 7. Beginning in January, pupils will undertake preparation. Further information will follow in the new year.



Physical Education

Pupils will take part in two PE sessions each week (Mondays and Thursdays).

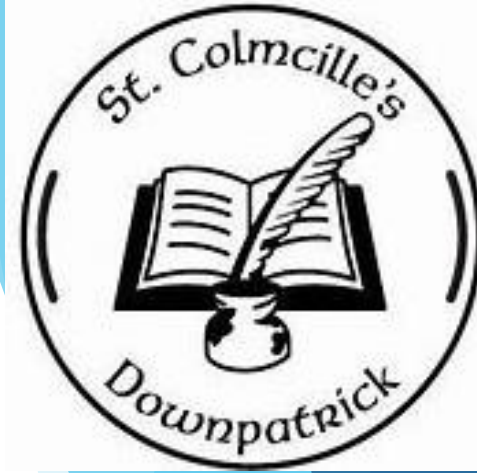
It is imperative that all pupils are dressed in PE uniform on these days to allow for full participation.

▶ This year's learning themes will be:

- ▶ Athletics
- ▶ Tennis
- ▶ Rounders
- ▶ Stomp Dance
- ▶ Tag Rugby
- ▶ Basketball
- ▶ Fitness
- ▶ Self Defence
- ▶ Gymnastics
- ▶ Dodgeball

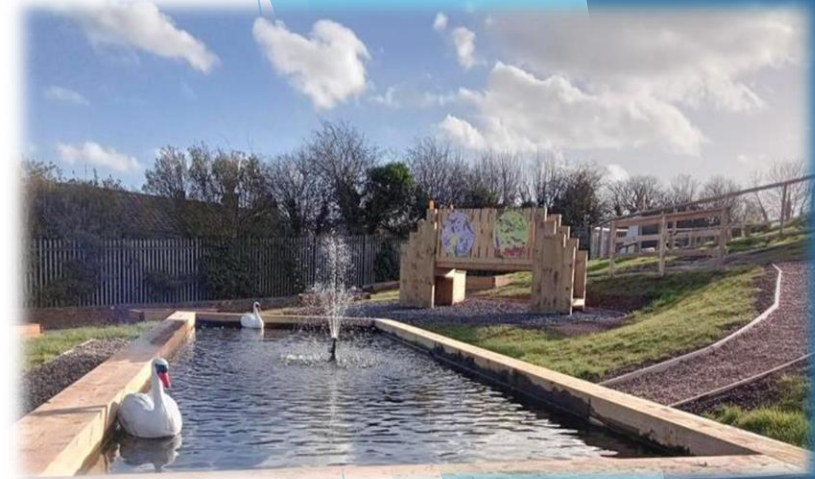


Swimming- This will begin later in the year. Notice will be given closer to the time.



Outdoor and activity-based Education

- ▶ Throughout the year, there will be many opportunities for our learning to take place outdoors, in one of our many outdoor learning areas.
- ▶ Furthermore, much of the learning taking place in Primary 7 will be 'activity-based', with a focus on pupil collaboration and investigative skills in order to develop their skills and showcase their understanding.
- ▶ Please visit our class web page on a regular basis, to keep up to date with our latest activities and learning.
- ▶ It is highly beneficial if you take time each week to explore the class web page with your child; This allows them to review their learning areas and to reflect on their learning through discussion at home.

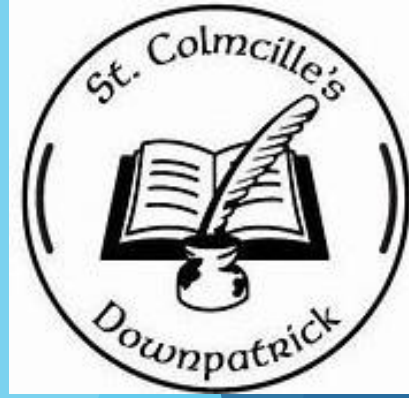


Presentation of work

- Pupils should be encouraged to take pride in their work and how it is presented.
- Each piece of work will be dated, with the WALT (We Are Learning To) and WILF (What I'm Looking For) also written by the pupil.
- Margins will be drawn on all pages in Numeracy.
- In Numeracy, pupils will always be encouraged to show workings out- with homeworks, discourage them from doing this on 'pages' and then just bringing the answer in to school. Working out is a positive sign of a thought process!



Primary 7 Reward Systems



- ▶ Reward tickets - Pupils can earn 'tickets' when they demonstrate positive behaviour/behaviour for learning (e.g. Persistence, being on-task, being a role-model etc.).
- ▶ Pupils can also lose tickets when they demonstrate negative behaviour/ negative behaviour for learning.
- ▶ At the end of each week, tickets will be drawn and the winning pupil will receive a small prize.
- ▶ Additional positive behaviour will be rewarded through;
 - ▶ *Pupils earning 'Golden Time' on Friday afternoons*
 - ▶ *'Pupils of the week' being awarded each Friday at Assembly*
 - ▶ *Small prize for the winning table each week (the table which earned the highest points for positive behaviour, leadership and teamwork).*
- ▶ In our school we promote and celebrate positive behaviour and attitudes- please do all that you can to support school in fostering positive behaviour and leadership within our pupils.



Homework

- ▶ Home learning is a **crucial** part of your child's education.
- ▶ Work will be sent home **Monday-Thursday**, to **support** what has been learnt in school. This will be recorded in your child's Homework Diary.
- ▶ Work may focus on **all aspects of the curriculum- building on what has already been covered within recent learning.**
- ▶ **Additional** support work may be sent home when deemed appropriate.
- ▶ Children should be **reading** each night- either through 'Rising Stars' online reading platform, books sent home from school, or their own personal books.
- ▶ All children are able to join their local library for free- This is an excellent resource and a wonderful opportunity to help ensure that your child has a wealth of reading openings available to them at home.



How you can support your child at home:

- ▶ Talk to them about their day in school and what they've learnt.
- ▶ Allow them independence with homework but support them when they are challenged.
- ▶ Check homework to ensure it's being done at home and to your child's best effort.
- ▶ Take time to celebrate your child's progress- even the 'small things' are worth celebrating!
- ▶ Attendance- ensure your child is in school as much as possible- every day missed in class, is a day of learning that has been missed!
- ▶ Promote positivity towards their education and their school.



Helping your child to come prepared for learning

- ▶ Your child should bring to school:
 - ▶ An eraser
 - ▶ A healthy snack for Break-time
 - ▶ A water bottle
 - ▶ Full uniform (with full PE uniform on Mondays and Thursdays).
- ▶ Your child should be in school promptly, by 9.00am.



Appointments

- ▶ Academic review meetings will take place later in the term.
- ▶ Outside of these meetings, other appointments may be required to discuss any issues which may arise. Just contact me via Seesaw if you wish to make an appointment.
- ▶ Due to child safeguarding protocols, in-depth playground discussions after school are not permitted. Such discussions must be pre-arranged.



Thank you for
taking the time
to engage.

