



# Curriculum Newsletter

Primary 4 Term 1 2021-2022



## The World Around Us

(Science, Geography and History)

Our theme this term is 'The Solar System'. The children will be learning about the 8 different planets and finding out lots of interesting things about each one. The children will research what life is like for astronauts, as well as the first landing on the Moon. Experiments will be carried out to investigate how craters are made and what affects the size of a crater. Research will be carried out into the law of gravity and we will even be making rocket balloons and see how far they fly.



## Music and Art



Through song, the children will learn the order of the planets and interesting facts about each. In dance, they will become aware of how it might feel to fly in a spaceship. In art, the children will make information posters to invite visitors to their planet as well as seasonal Hallowe'en art.

## PDMU

Each week we will celebrate 'Wellbeing Wednesday' when we will meet a different super hero who will give us a message as to how we can look after ourselves and our wellbeing.

### **This term in:**

**Maths:** At the start of this term we will spend some time revising mental maths strategies from Primary 3 e.g. number pairs to 10/20, counting in 2s/5s/10s, doubles and near doubles, odd and even numbers. In number we will move on to place value of numbers up to 999, introduce fractions [1/2, 1/3, 1/4] and introduce tables [2,5,10]. When tables are introduced please ensure that they are worked on every homework night and revisited often. Mathematics will also be used to support the children's learning in all areas of maths. All children can access this from home and a task will be assigned regularly, based on an area of maths that we are doing in class, for the children to complete.

**Literacy:** As with maths, some time will be spent revising and basic punctuation and handwriting will also be a focus. Through our topic of 'The Solar System' report writing and narrative writing will both be undertaken to help develop, not only the skills needed for each style of writing, but also to develop the children's imaginations. Reading Eggs will continue to be used to help develop the children's ability and love of reading.

**ICT:** The children will use website addresses to find out more information on planets/space. They will use MS Paint program to draw an alien form from their chosen planet. Microsoft Word will be used so the children can present some written work. The PHOTOSPEAK app will be used on the iPads to animate a planet and the STOPMOTION app will be used to create an animation about an alien.

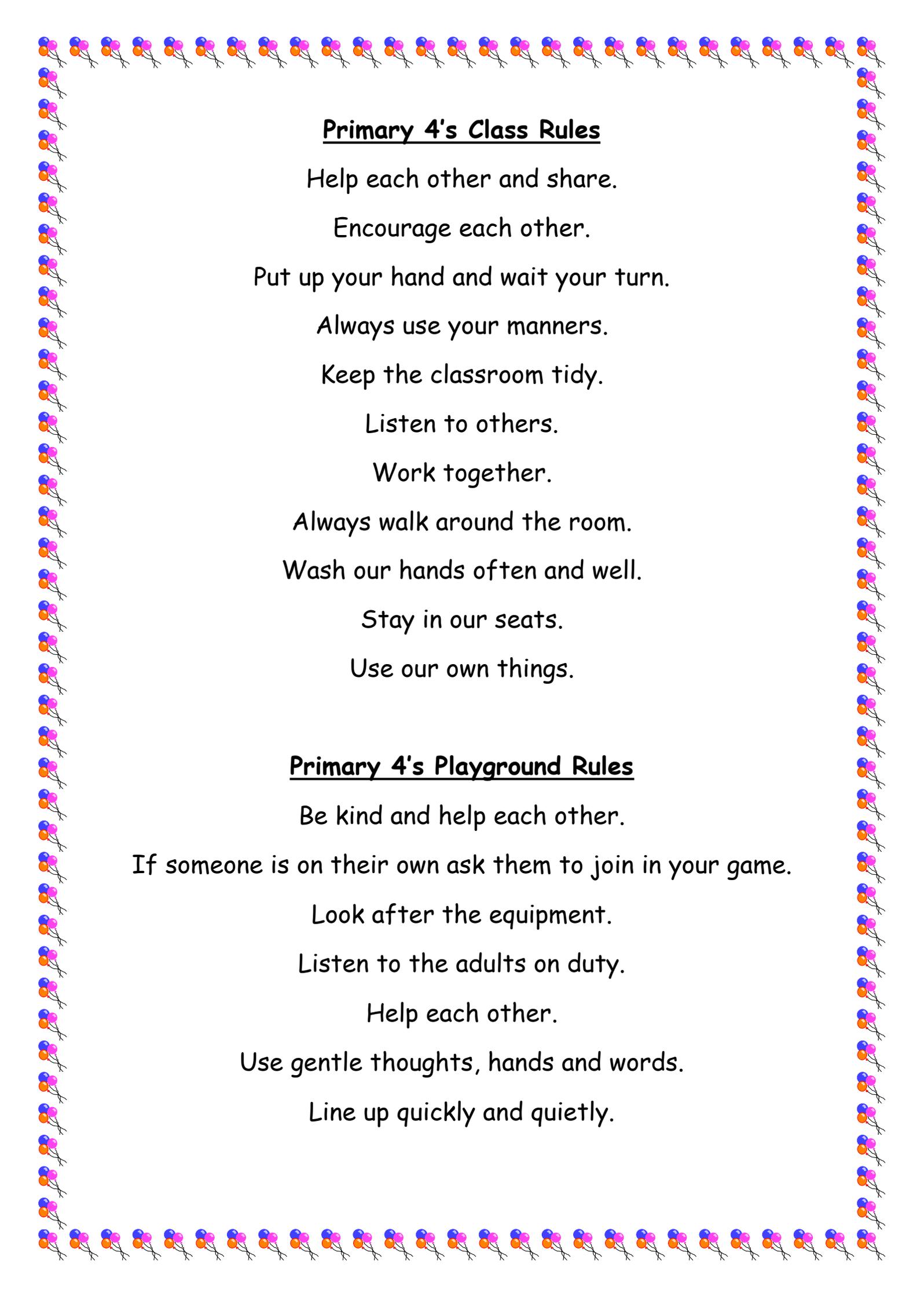
### **What else is happening this term?**

**Daily Mile:** Weather permitting!!! We hope to take part in a jog/fast walk every day around the school grounds. It would be very helpful if your child could have a pair of trainers that could be kept in school, in a bag, with your child's name on it.

**PE:** Tuesday and Friday: trainers should be brought to school on these days [if not already in school for the Daily Mile]. Friday is our Gaelic Day.

**Homework:** Please ensure your child takes time over their homework, presenting their work neatly at all times. Can I please ask that all written homeworks are signed, including the Friday Check-up book. Learning at home is a necessary exercise. Please encourage your child to write out their spellings, as you call them out, into this book as well as completing some mental maths in it every night.

**Blended Learning:** An exciting development this term, for Primary 4, is the introduction of Google Classroom. This will be used on a regular basis to set a homework and to help develop the children's ICT skills. The Google Classroom homework will be set on a Monday to be completed by Friday or Mathematics or Reading Eggs will be set on a nightly basis.



## Primary 4's Class Rules

Help each other and share.

Encourage each other.

Put up your hand and wait your turn.

Always use your manners.

Keep the classroom tidy.

Listen to others.

Work together.

Always walk around the room.

Wash our hands often and well.

Stay in our seats.

Use our own things.

## Primary 4's Playground Rules

Be kind and help each other.

If someone is on their own ask them to join in your game.

Look after the equipment.

Listen to the adults on duty.

Help each other.

Use gentle thoughts, hands and words.

Line up quickly and quietly.