

Key Stage 1 Half Termly Curriculum Overview
Year 2 2025/2026 - Autumn 1

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Welcome back to a new school year and to Year 2! The children have made an excellent start and continue to make a smooth transition from Year 1 to Year 2. I am pleased to provide you with information about the topics and subjects we will be covering during the first half of the Autumn term. Should you have any queries please do not hesitate to contact me at y2@stoswaldscatholicprimary.co.uk Kind Regards Mrs Thomason and Mrs Birchall.

Catholic life of the school

On a Monday morning, we begin the week by gathering to reflect on the week ahead and pray together. On Wednesday we have Key Stage assemblies and on Friday, we have Celebration Assembly, when we celebrate the achievements of children from each class.

In class, the children will continue to plan and lead Collective Worship with their teacher on Tuesday, Thursday and Friday.

The children will attend a variety of school Masses/services, in Church and in school, throughout the year. The Wednesday Word is available online for each child, every Wednesday. Please look out for this and share it with your child.

Later in the term, each child in the class throughout the year will be given the opportunity to take home a prayer bag, to share in some reflective time with their family.

We will be collecting for the local Food Bank, each Friday in October. The children are asked, where possible, to bring in one item as a donation, as part of our Harvest Festival celebrations.

We continue to strive to 'Live Simply' and will look to achieve the award this term.

Thank you for your continued support.

Healthy School Initiative

As part of the healthy school initiative, we continue to encourage the children to be active at playtimes and improve their fitness by completing the 'Daily Mile'. This is done from a walking pace to a jogging/running pace as each child increases in speed and ability.

Children will be encouraged to drink water throughout the day; therefore it is important that the children have their bottles in everyday! It makes it easier for the children if the bottles have a sports top, as it would prevent any unnecessary spillage.

Healthy snacks can be brought into school each day and the children will be given the opportunity to eat their snacks during morning playtimes. A piece of fruit will be offered to every child in Key Stage 1 at afternoon playtime.

Information and dates to remember:

18 Sept - Whole School - Welcome Mass
15 Sept - After school clubs begin
3/10/17/24- Foodbank Friday donations.
3 Oct - Reception Welcome Service in Church
24 Oct - Y1 Class assembly
End of half term, school closes 3.25pm

3 Nov - Start of Autumn 2 half term
3 Nov - Other World Faith - Judaism

Homework Information
will be set on Google Classrooms

English Homework Books will be sent home on Wednesdays with either a fiction or non-fiction piece of work to be completed and handed in by Monday.

Spellings will be given out on a Monday and tested the following Monday.

Maths Homework will be given out on a Tuesday and is to be handed in on Friday of the same week.

Reading Each child should read for a minimum of 15 minutes per night and complete their reading record.

Concerns and messages

If you have any concerns or problems, please do not hesitate to speak to me at the door or email me at y2@stoswaldscatholicprimary.co.uk and I will do my best to get back to you as soon as I can.

Year 2
General Class
Information

Reading

The children will bring home two decodable books, which they can read more fluently. One will have practised in school the previous week. Any other book taken home will be a book to share with you reading to or with your child. Please ensure that the decodable books are returned to school on time as other children will be relying on using the books, the following week. (A cost will be incurred for any books that are lost or damaged).

Supporting your child with reading

Although your child will be taught to read at school, you can have a huge impact on their reading journey by continuing their practice at home. There are two types of reading book that your child may bring home:

Reading practice books (Decodable phonic book)

This will be at the correct phonic stage for your child. They should be able to read this fluently and independently.

A sharing book (library book)

Your child will not be able to read this on their own. This book is for you both to read and enjoy together.

Reading practice book

These books have been carefully matched to your child's current reading level. If your child is reading it with little help, please don't worry that it's too easy - your child needs to develop fluency and confidence in reading. Listen to them read the book. Remember to give them lots of praise - celebrate their success! If they can't read a word, encourage them to have a go and then read it to them. After they have finished, talk about the book together. Please continue to complete reading record books each night, to communicate how your child has read or enjoyed a book with you.

Sharing book

In order to encourage your child to develop their vocabulary and become a lifelong reader, it is important that they learn to read for pleasure. The sharing book is a book they have chosen for you to enjoy together.

Please remember that you shouldn't expect your child to read this alone. Read it to or with them. Discuss the pictures, enjoy the story, predict what might happen next, use different voices for the characters, explore the facts in a non-fiction book. The main thing is that you have fun!

We look forward to working together, to keep reading a pleasurable experience for all our children and embracing the new scheme as we move forward together.

The school continues to run an early-doors reading and number club 8am - 8:45am each morning. We ask that children are in the club by 8.20am. Please pay using the Parent Pay app.

RE**Creation and Covenant- Branch 1**

To explore the Old Testament story of Noah and the ark and understand why God sent a flood and the promise God made.

Judaism To learn about Shabbat and understand that it is an important time for Jewish people.

Please see the RE Newsletter on the school website for more information.

English**Transcription**

Pupils will learn to spell by:

- Segmenting spoken words into phonemes and representing these by graphemes, spelling many correctly.
- Learning new ways of spelling phonemes for which one or more spellings are already known, and learn some words with each spelling, including a few common homophones.
- Learning to spell common exception words.
- Learning to spell more words with contracted forms.
- Learning the possessive apostrophe (singular) [for example, the girl's book].
- Distinguishing between homophones and near-homophones.

Composition

Pupils will learn to develop positive attitudes towards stamina for writing by:

- Writing narratives about personal experiences and those of others (real and fiction).
- Writing about real events.
- Writing poetry.
- Writing for different purposes.

Vocabulary, Grammar & Punctuation

Pupils should be able to develop their understanding of the following concepts:

- Learning how to use both familiar and new punctuation correctly, including full stops, capital letters, exclamation marks, question marks, commas for lists and apostrophes for contracted forms and the possessive (singular).
- Sentences with different forms: statement, question, exclamation, command.
- Expanded noun phrases to describe and specify [for example, the blue butterfly].
- The present and past tenses correctly and consistently including the progressive form.
- Subordination (using when, if, that, or because) and co-ordination (using or, and, or but).

Science**Living things and their habitats**

- Recall some life processes, giving examples of how they apply to plants and animals. Classify objects into alive, never been alive and was once alive, giving reasons for their choices.
- Match different plants and animals to their habitats.
- Give examples of how animals use their habitat for food and shelter.
- Recall that plants produce their own food for energy. Name living things that are producers and place a producer at the beginning of a food chain. Use arrows to show the order in a food chain.

Mathematics**Place Value**

- Count in steps of 2, 3, and 5 from 0, and in tens from any number, forward or backward.
- Recognise the place value of each digit in a two-digit number (tens, ones).
- Identify, represent and estimate numbers using different representations, inc. the number line.
- Compare and order numbers from 0 up to 100; use <, > and = signs.
- Read and write numbers to at least 100 in numerals and in words.

Addition & Subtraction

- Solve problems with addition and subtraction: using concrete objects and pictorial representations; applying their increasing knowledge of mental and written methods.
- Recall and use add and subtract facts to 20 fluently and derive and use related facts up to 100.
- Add and subtract numbers using concrete objects, pictorial representations, and mentally, including: a 2-digit no and 1s or 10s; two 2-digit numbers; adding three 1-digit numbers.
- Show that addition of two numbers can be done in any order (commutative) and subtraction of one number from another cannot.
- Recognise and use the inverse relationship between addition and subtraction and use this to check calculations and missing number problems.

History - Schools in the past

Children will learn to:

- Understand that although schools have been in the local area for a long time, they have not always been the same.
- Identify historical similarities and differences.
- Use a range of sources to recognise continuity between children's lives past and present.



PSHE - Families and Friendships

Making friends; feeling lonely and getting help

Children will learn:

- How to be a good friend, e.g. kindness, listening, honesty.
- About different ways that people meet and make friends.
- Strategies for positive play with friends, e.g. joining in, including others, etc.
- About what causes arguments between friends.
- How to positively resolve arguments between friends.
- How to recognise, and ask for help, when they are feeling lonely or unhappy or to help someone else.

RSE - Journey in Love

We meet God's love in the community.

To describe how we are growing and developing in diverse communities that are God-given.

PE - Personal Skills - Keep Trying

This half term the children will:

- develop and apply their footwork and one leg balance through focused skill development sessions, cooperative and competitive games.

PE is on Monday and Friday.

Please send your child in royal blue PE shorts and plain white t-shirt, under navy outdoor PE jogging pants and a sweatshirt, along with a waterproof warm coat.

Year 2
Curriculum Map

Music

Learn new songs from 'Our hands, Our Heart, Our Feet'.

The children will learn skills such as:

- Finding the story and or idea that a song can tell.
- Listening to a rhythm and clapping it back
- Finding the pulse in music and keeping in time with it.
- Following a singing leader, knowing when to start and stop.

Art & Design: Map it out

Children will learn to:

- Investigate maps as a stimulus for drawing.
- Learn and apply the steps of the felt-making process.
- Experiment with a craft technique to develop an idea.
- Develop ideas and apply craft skills when printmaking.
- Present artwork and evaluate it against a design brief.

Computing- Coding

Using Purple mash, children will learn to:

- Understand what an algorithm is.
- Create a computer program using an algorithm.
- Create a program using a given design.
- Understand the collision detection event.
- Understand that algorithms follow a sequence.
- Design an algorithm that follows a timed sequence.
- Understand that different objects have different properties.
- Understand what different events do in code.
- Create a program using a given design.
- Understand the function of buttons in a program.