

Lower KS2 Half Termly Curriculum Overview

Autumn 1 - Year 3 2025/2026

Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome back to a new school year and to Year 3! The children have made an excellent start and continue to make a smooth transition from Key Stage 1 to Lower Key Stage 2. It has been wonderful getting to know all the children and I'm very excited about what this year has in store for us. 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 y3@stoswaldscatholicprimary.co.uk. Kind Regards Miss Jones and Miss Arnold.

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 encourage the children to be active at playtimes. We will continue to improve our fitness by completing a 15-minute Daily Mile. Children will be encouraged to increase their ability to jog for this time to run a mile. Running everyday will mean your child will achieve their 100-mile certificate in July!

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 are promoted every day, and the children will be given the opportunity to eat their snacks during morning playtimes. Please avoid sending nuts in any form into school as we do have children with allergies. Please avoid sending nuts in any form into school as we do have children with allergies.

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 will be given out on a Wednesday and is to be handed in the following Monday.

Spellings will be given out on a Tuesday in the children's spelling folders. This is assessed through a focus on the children embedding their spellings into their written work. Please can spelling folders be returned every Tuesday.

Maths Homework will be given out on a Tuesday and is to be handed in on Friday of the same week. Children should use TT Rockstars 3 times a week.

Reading Each child should read for a minimum of 15 minutes per night.

Concerns and messages

If you have any concerns or problems, please do not hesitate to contact me by email at y3@stoswaldscatholicprimary.co.uk or catch me at the school gate.

Year 3
General Class
Information

Big Maths

The children will continue to complete daily Mental Maths lessons and be assessed at the end of the term on their progress. Each child will use morning Maths books to complete their mental maths tasks.

Later in the term, children will bring a Maths worksheet home for homework. This will have lots of different types of maths questions for your child to have a go at.

Every Monday morning, the children will be taught in small groups led by an adult. The teaching will focus on the key objectives in Maths, recapping, consolidating or teaching, at the pupil's appropriate stage and level of learning.

This small group work will help to address any mistakes or misconceptions the children may have with number and close any gaps in their knowledge. The aim is to increase a pupil's confidence, accelerate progress and secure fluency in basic skills.

To best help your child in Maths, please support with homework tasks and practise fluency in times tables and number bonds.

Reading

The children will develop their reading in class throughout the week through shared reading and guided reading sessions. I shall be monitoring their reading progress carefully each week with my own records. Our class reading book for this half term is 'Gorilla' by Anthony Browne. Your child will bring home two books; a reading banded book and a Sharing Book to read and share with you.

Reading Banded Book

The reading banded book should be at a level the child can read at comfortably and not struggle, with some fluency and understanding. The band will be directed by the Class Teacher.

The reading records are for parents to record your child's reading at home. We ask all our children to read for 15 minutes each night. Although I will be keeping my own record of your child's reading progress it would be really helpful if you could make comments in your child's reading record book each time they read, to let me know how they have coped with a book at home. Home reading records are checked regularly.

Due to the differing lengths of books, the children are responsible to change their own reading books when they have finished, I will however prompt the children to change when I check reading records. We will also have a class story which will be reading each day to encourage reading for pleasure.

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!

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.

RE**Creation and Covenant - Branch 1**

- Revisit and recall the creation story.
 - Encounter the belief that human beings are made 'in the image of God'.
 - Making connections between experiences where people have not been treated equally and how this felt.
 - Wondering why the author of the first story of Creation suggests a holy day
- Please read the RE newsletter on the school website for more information.**

Science- Movement and Nutrition

- To explain the role of the skeleton.
- Recognise the main bones in the body.
- Explain how muscles are used for movement.
- Explain how food is an essential energy source for animals.
- Identify the main nutrient groups and their simple functions.
- Explain what makes a balanced diet.

English**Reading**

- Children will read a range of fiction and nonfiction texts and analyse texts including recounts and instructions, in order to write in different styles.

Writing

- Plan written work by discussing structure, vocab and grammar of similar writing.
- Build an increasing range of sentence structure.
- Create settings, characters and plot.
- Read aloud own writing using intonation.
- Write a letter.

Grammar and Punctuation

- Understand the formation of nouns using prefixes and word families.
- Use a range of conjunctions, adverbs and prepositions.
- Introduction to paragraphs, headings and sub-headings to aid presentation and group related information.
- Use of the present perfect form.
- Introduction to inverted commas to punctuate direct speech.

Spelling

- Recap of high frequency words from KS1.
- To learn Year 3 spelling lists and use dictionaries to find meanings and create new lists of words with similar spelling patterns.

Handwriting

- Join words and understand which letters are best left un-joined.

Maths**Number and Place Value**

- Read and write numbers up to 1000 in numerals and in words.
- Recognise the place value of each digit in a three-digit number (hundreds, tens, and units).
- Solve number problems and practical problems involving these ideas. (NRICH- a maths website).

Addition and Subtraction

- Add and subtract numbers with up to three digits, using formal written methods of column addition and subtraction.
- Estimate the answer to a calculation and use inverse operations to check answers.
- Solve problems, including missing number problems, using number facts, place value, and more complex addition and subtraction.

Multiplication and Division

- Count from 0 in multiples of 4, 8, 50 and 100 and find 10 or 100 more or less than a given number.

Shape

- Draw 2-D shapes.
- Measure the perimeter of simple 2D shapes.

Data

- Interpret and present data using bar charts, pictograms and tables.
- Solve one-step and two-step questions [for example, 'How many more?' and 'How many fewer?' using information presented in scaled bar charts and pictograms and tables.

PE

Tuesday and Thursday

Children will be working on the key aspects of PE such as Balance and Co-ordination. They will incorporate these focuses into a variety of activities and games.

PE Uniform - plain white t-shirt, royal blue shorts, dark coloured, plain navy sweatshirt (no hood) and jogging pants. Trainers will also be needed.

Please ensure children come to school in their PE Uniform on PE days.

PSHE- Families and Friendships

The children will:

-Recognise and respect different types of families, including single parents, same-sex parents, stepparents, blended families, foster and adoptive parents.

-Being part of a family provides support, stability and love.

-Positive aspects of being part of a family, such as spending time together and caring for each other.

-Different ways that people can care for each other e.g. giving encouragement or support in times of difficulty.

-Identify if/when something in a family might make someone upset or worried.

-What to do and whom to tell if family relationships are making them feel unhappy or unsafe.

RSE - Journey in Love

To describe and give reasons how friendships make us feel happy and safe.

Prehistoric Art

The children will have opportunities to:

Experiment with charcoal, berries, leaves and homemade paints. Children will get a sense of what it is like to create art thousands of years ago and why they were created.

- Pupils should be taught to develop their techniques, including their control and their use of materials, with creativity, experimentation and an increasing awareness of different kinds of art, craft and design.
- Improve their mastery of art and design techniques, including drawing, painting and sculpture, for example, pencil, charcoal, paint, clay.

Year 3 Curriculum Map

Computing

Computing systems and networks

Children will:

- Recognise what a network is.
- Demonstrate how information moves around a network.
- Demonstrate how a website works.
- Explore the role of a router.
- Identify the role of packet data.

History

Would you prefer to have lived in the Stone Age, Bronze Age or Iron Age?

- Recognise the chronology and significance of prehistory.
- Use archaeological evidence to learn about the prehistoric dwellings of Skara Brae.
- Use archaeological evidence to investigate the Bronze Age.
- To use deductions to explain how bronze transformed prehistoric life.
- To understand the importance of trade during the Iron Age.
- To compare settlements in the Neolithic period and Iron Age by exploring continuity and change.

Music

Using 'Charanga', the children will learn how music is created. They will be learning to sing an R and B song called 'Let your Spirit Fly'. They will:

- Confidently listen and appraise pieces of music.
- Find the pulse, rhythm and pitch.
- Sing in unison and in two parts.
- Rehearse and perform with a glockenspiel.
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The children will also listen to and appreciate a range of music from around the world and sing every day.