

Lower KS2 Half Termly Curriculum Overview

Year 4 2025/2026 - Spring 1

Dear Parents and Guardians, Welcome back! We hope you've had a wonderful Christmas break and are looking forward to the New Year and the next half term. We are pleased to provide you with information about the exciting things we will be covering in the different subjects over the coming weeks. Should you have any queries please do not hesitate to contact me at teachers@socps.co.uk. Kind Regards Mr Critchley.

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 Friday, we have Celebration Assembly, when we celebrate the achievements of children from each class. Key Stage assemblies take place on Wednesday, and in class the children will continue to plan and lead prayer and liturgy with their teacher on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays.

The children will attend a variety of school Masses/services, in Church, throughout the year. The oldest and youngest children will also buddy up for prayer and liturgy/Mass together.

The Wednesday Word is available online for each child, every Wednesday. Please look out for this and share it with your child. <http://www.wednesdayword.org/school/index.htm>

The children will be given the opportunity to take home our 'Ordinary Time' Prayer Bag this half term to share with their families at home. The bag will go home on Mondays and Thursdays.

St Oswald's School is aiming to achieve the Live Simply Award which is about 'Living Simply, Living Sustainably and Living in Solidarity' in a local, global and school level in line with Laudato Si, at the request of Pope Francis, we need to care for each other and our common home.

The Jubilee Year of Hope had now ended, but our journey has not. We will continue our journey to pray and act together for hope, for the suffering in our world.

Watch out for more information in the school weekly newsletter, on 'Our school app' or the school website.

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!

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:

Mon 5 Jan - School opens

Tues 6 Jan - Whole School New Year Mass, 9.15am

Thurs 15 Jan - Year 5 Swimming Week 1

Thurs 15th Jan - Deadline for Reception application forms

Tues 20th Jan Y3/Y2 Buddy Mass, in church, 11am

Thurs 29th Jan - Individual Photos- Tempest

Tues 10th - Safer Internet Day

Tues 10th Feb Y6/EYFS Buddy Mass, in church, 11am

Fri 13th Feb - End of half term.

Mon 23rd Feb - School reopens

Homework information

Homework 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 continue to learn our spellings throughout the week, which handed out every Tuesday.

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 20 minutes per night and complete their reading records.

Please can Parents/Carers sign Reading

Records books three times a week.

Supporting and discussing your child's reading with them, it really does help them with their understanding and comprehension.

Concerns and Messages

If you have any concerns or problems, please do not hesitate to e mail me or speak to me at the school gate.

teachers@socps.co.uk

Year 4
General Class
Information

Mental Maths

The children will continue to complete daily mental Maths lessons and will be assessed at the end of the half term on their progress.

Each child will continue to use morning maths books to complete mental Maths tasks. The children will continue to split into smaller groups and work with a teacher once a week for mental Maths.

We will also be continuing to focus on learning our times tables and be rewarding with stickers and smileys.

Please encourage your child to go on TTRockstars to practice their times tables and to use their Maths skills at every opportunity.

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 will be 'Find out! Volcanoes' by Maria Gill. 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 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.

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.

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**Branch Three: Galilee to Jerusalem**

In this branch, pupils will:

- Consider Jesus' question to Peter, 'Who do you say I am?'
- Reflect on Jesus as the servant Messiah and how he announces the Kingdom of Heaven to those at the edge of society.
- Alongside learning from Scripture, pupils understand the historical and cultural context in which Jesus' healings occur.

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

English**Reading**

- Use dictionaries to check the meaning and spelling of words.
- Continue to listen to and discuss a range of fiction, non-fiction and reference books.
- Read, listen to and discuss a range of narrative poetry.
- Discuss words, phrases and uses of grammar that capture the reader's interest and imagination and add to the poems.
- Read a variety of texts each day including books, newspapers and leaflets.
- Understand what they read in books they can read independently, by checking that the text makes sense to them, explaining the meaning of words in context, asking questions to improve their understanding of a text.
- Retrieve and record information from non-fiction and participate in discussion about both books.

Writing

- Use organisational devices e.g. headings, subheadings, bullet points and lists to produce a persuasive presentation.
- Compose and rehearse sentences orally, building a rich vocabulary and a range of sentence structures.

Grammar and Punctuation

- Vary sentence structure by expressing time and cause using conjunctions, and prepositions.
- Correct use of past and present tense.
- Revision of apostrophes to mark contracted forms in spelling.
- Continue to improve verbs using adverbs to aid interest.
- Develop use of interesting adjectives to aid impact.
- Consistently use paragraphs appropriately.

Science**Materials: States of matter**

- Identify solids, liquids and gases using their properties.
- Describe melting, freezing, condensing and evaporating.
- Describe the different stages of the water cycle.
- Describe how temperature affects the rate of evaporation and, therefore, the water cycle.

Mathematics**Decimals**

- Recognising fractions as decimals.
- Look at how to convert between tenths as fractions and tenths as decimals.
- Exploring decimals and fractions on a number line.
- Adding and subtracting decimals.

Multiplication and Division

- Recall multiplication and division facts for 2, 3, 4, 5-, 6-, 9- and 10-times tables.
- Recall multiplication facts for 7- and 8-times table.
- Multiply and divide by 10 and 100.
- Multiplying a two-digit number by a one-digit number.
- Multiplying a three-digit number by a one-digit number.

Fractions

- Recognise, find and write fractions of a number and equivalent fractions.
- Understanding the whole.
- Simplify fractions, as well as adding and subtracting fractions.
- Compare and order mixed numbers.
- Partition mixed numbers.
- Convert mixed numbers to improper fractions.

Length and perimeter

- Equivalent lengths (kilometres and metres).
- Find missing lengths in rectilinear shapes.
- Calculate the perimeter of rectilinear shapes.

Geography

- Identify water stores and processes in the water cycle.
- Describe the three courses of a river.
- Name the physical features of a river.
- Name some major rivers and their location.
- Describe different ways a river is used.
- List some of the problems around rivers.
- Describe human and physical features around a river.

RSHE*Living in the Wider World*

- The meaning and benefits of living in a community and how to show compassion to those that need it.
- Making decisions about money, how to use and keep money safe.

RSE - Journey in Love

God loves us in our differences:

Physical: To describe how we should treat others making links with the diverse, modern society we all live in.

Art
Sculpture

- Use familiar shapes to create simple 3D drawings and describe the shapes they use.
- Draw a simple design with consideration for how its shape could be cut from soap.
- Create a shadow sculpture using block lettering in the style of Sokari Douglas Camp.

Our Curriculum Map

PEUNIT 4 - Creative Skills

The children will be working on key aspects of counterbalance within PE, demonstrating key skills such as counter balancing and co-ordination.

PE is on a Tuesday and a Thursday

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 an additional waterproof warm coat.

Computing

Using our new Kapow computing scheme, the children will learn how to write for different audiences. They will learn how to:

- Explore how font styles impact a text.
- Use a simulated scenario to produce a newspaper report.
- Write a persuasive letter/poster as part of a campaign.

Music

Using 'Charanga', the children will learn a soul gospel song called 'Lean on me'. They will:

- Talk about the musical dimensions working together.
- Talk about the music and how it makes them feel
- Sing in unison and rehearse and perform their part in simple two-parts.
- Use the glockenspiel to play their parts.