

## Lower KS2 Half Termly Curriculum Overview

Year 4 Autumn 1 2025 - 2026

Dear Parents/Carers, Welcome to Year 4. I am really looking forward to this academic year and have lots of fun and engaging lessons planned. I hope you find interest in the information provided about what we will be covering in each subject this half term. If you wish to know more, please visit the DfE website for further information. 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 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.

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** 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 e mail me or speak to me at the school gate.

[y4@@stoswaldscatholicprimary.co.uk](mailto:y4@@stoswaldscatholicprimary.co.uk)

**Year 4**  
**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.

**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. Please pre-book, using the form on the 'Our School App'.

**PE****PE days are Tuesday and Thursday**  
**Swimming – Thursday**

Children will be taught swimming skills in Freestyle (front crawl), Breaststroke and Back stroke alongside skills such as lifesaving and enjoying water sports like water polo.

The sessions will be on a Thursday. Girl must wear full swimming costumes and boys must wear swimming trunks /shorts which come above the knee.

Swimming goggles are not allowed due to health and safety. If you do wish for your child to wear swimming goggles you must complete the form on the letter sent home.

Any child without appropriate attire will not be allowed to take part.



**RE****Creation and Covenant - Branch 1**

To know that Abraham is one of the most important figures in religious history because Jews, Christians and Muslims trace their belief in one God, back to him.

To understand the scriptures that they are reading from the Holy Bible.

To think about why the authors gathered these stories together, who for, and what was happening at the time. To understand that Christians may link together Abraham's sacrifice of Isaac and Jesus, the Lamb of God.

**Please read the RE newsletter on the school website for more information.**

**Science****Animals: Digestion and food**

- To describe the function of the human digestive system.
- To recognise the different types of human teeth and their roles in eating.
- To explain how to take care of teeth.
- To recognise producers, predators and prey, in food chains.
- To recognise that animal poo can give us clues about digestion, teeth and diet.

**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.

**Mathematics****Place Value**

- Represent numbers to 1000
- Partition numbers to 1000
- Order and compare numbers to 10 000
- Roman numerals

**Addition and Subtraction**

- Add and subtract two 4-digit numbers with and without exchanges
- Efficient subtraction
- checking strategies
- Estimating answers

**Multiplication and Division**

- Recall the 3 times table
- Recall the 6 times table
- 9 times tables
- Multiply and divide by 7
- Multiply and divide by 11
- Multiply and divide by 12
- Multiply and divide by 1 and 0
- Multiply 3 numbers

## Year 4 Autumn 1 Topic Map 2025/26

### PE - UNIT 1 - Personal Skills

The children will be working on the key aspects of balance and coordination within PE, demonstrating key skills such as hopscotching in different ways, learning to compete and create challenges within the game.

#### PE is on a Tuesday and a 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 an additional waterproof warm coat.

Swimming on Thursdays.

### PSHE- Families and Friendships

The children will learn:

- Strategies for building positive friendships.
- How to seek support if they feel lonely or secluded.
- How to communicate respectfully using digital devices online.
- What to do if they are worried about something.

#### RSE - Journey in Love:

- God loves us in our differences.
- To describe how we all should be accepted and respected.

### Geography

#### Where does food come from?

- Identify that different foods grow in different biomes and say why.
- Explain which food has the most significant negative impact on the environment.
- Consider a change people can make to reduce the negative impact on food production.
- Describe the intensions around trading responsibly.

### Art

- Create several pencil tones when shading and create a simple 3D effect.
- Explore the effect of holding a pencil in different ways and applying different pressures.
- Use charcoal and rubber to show areas of light and dark in their drawings.
- Demonstrate an awareness of the relative size of the objects they draw.
- Use scissors with care and purpose to cut out images.
- Try out multiple arrangements of cut images to decide on their composition.

## Year 4 Curriculum Map

### Computing-Programming

The children will begin to understand selection in computer programming.

- To understand how an IF statement works.
- To understand how to use co-ordinates in computer programming.
- To understand the 'repeat until' command.
- To understand how an IF/ELSE statement works.
- To understand what a variable is in programming.
- To use a number variable.
- To create a playable game.

### Music

The children will listen to and appreciate a range of music from around the world.

Using the Charanga music scheme the children will practise using pitch and rhythm to sing.

They will also learn to play notes and rhythm using glockenspiels.

Working alongside the English National Opera Company, finding out about creating music to express ideas.