

Curriculum Information – Year One – Autumn 1 2026

Welcome back to St. Mary's; *we are looking forward to working with you and your children this year!* Year 1 is a very important next step in your child's early learning journey. We always stress that this is the year to 'practise' and to learn new things; the children aren't expected to 'know' everything already and they can never, ever 'go wrong', they are simply given a range of opportunities to **practise basic skills**, over and over again, through fun tasks, until they can almost do them in their sleep!

The basic skills are **formation of letters and numbers**, served by a **secure handwriting style**, an **understanding of the value of number** and the **patterns within the number system** and how to put all of the **PSHE & RHE, Virtues & Values and Catholic Social Teaching principles into their daily lives**.

We are always there to listen to you and to your children and, as such, I would like to remind you to make an appointment, either by telephone or in person, via the school office, should you wish to discuss any matter arising during your child's time with us in Year 1!

Many thanks, in advance, for your support

Yours in learning Mrs. Scattergood, Mrs. Massey and Mrs. Mottram 😊

Class texts	We will be exploring our topic 'Once upon a time'. To help us to understand the meaning of new beginnings, the importance of our families and how and why we need to keep ourselves healthy to enable us to grow, we are going to be listening to, and working with, a range of texts. Stick Man is just one of these books, written by our class author Julia Donaldson and 'Eat your Peas' is a funny book written by Kes Gray. We will also be familiarising ourselves with a range of traditional tales, beginning with Little Red Riding Hood, written by The Brothers Grimm.	
RE 	The Virtues & Values this half term are 'Compassionate and Loving' and the Catholic Social Principle is 'Stewardship', <i>both linking beautifully to our Religious Education lessons</i>. This autumn, we will be learning through the overarching branch, 'Creation and Covenant'; listening to, learning from and reflecting upon the story of Creation. We will also introduce our class saint, Saint Lucy who will help us to better understand the Catholic Social Teaching Principle of 'Option for the poor and vulnerable' through example and guidance this year.	
English 	We will be practicing skills such as: ➤ sitting correctly at the desk and holding our pencil correctly ➤ begin to form lower case letters correctly with correct spacing ➤ write simple dictated sentences ➤ write independently, sequencing our sentences so that they can be understood	

Maths 	We will be teaching Mastery in Maths, following the Power Maths Scheme. This term we will be covering everything to do with numbers up to 10, understanding, counting, adding and subtracting. We will also be taking a look at 2D and 3D shapes.	
Science 	‘What makes us the same, what makes us different?’ We will be learning about our body parts, how to name, draw and label the basic parts of the human body. We will be learning about the five senses and how to link the body parts to the function of senses.	
PSHE/RHE 	‘Rules are there to keep us safe!’ We will be working through a carefully planned curriculum focusing this half term on the PSHE program, Jigsaw. The program will help us to better understand ourselves and how we fit into the world around us. We will be covering units such as rules, being and staying safe, rewards, feeling proud, actions and consequences; we will also be taking part in learning focus days for topics such as National Inclusion Week, Black History month and World Mental Health Day.	 Class Rules 1. We promise to <u>listen</u> to everyone. 2. We will <u>respect</u> one another. 3. <u>No-one</u> will be asked to talk about things that they <u>don't want</u> to talk about. 4. We all <u>try our very best</u> to join in. 5. Everyone has the <u>choice</u> not to join in if they really don't want to. 6. We will <u>not laugh at anything anyone</u> says or if they make mistakes. Signed Date
Geography 	‘Where do I live?’ We will be looking closely at the make-up of the United Kingdom, the position on the world map and the flags that represent them. We will also be learning our address and understanding where we live in relation to other places we may or may not already know in the UK.	
Art 	‘How can you make spiral artwork?’ We will be learning new vocabulary, new materials and new skills as we explore how we can find and make spiral artwork. The children will be focusing upon the Key Concepts of line, colour and pattern.	
Computing 	‘Online Safety, Grouping & Sorting’ First and foremost, we will be talking about the importance of online safety; we will revisit this topic throughout the year. We will also be looking carefully at what it means to group and sort on and offline; this compliments our learning in maths.	

PE 	‘FUNdamentals of movement’ Children will become competent in the FUNdamentals of movement (<i>Agility, Balance, Co-ordination</i>) and begin to apply these skills in conditioned games. Please ensure that a full, labelled PE is in school at all times – as well as for class PE, the children will also need their full kit in school should they be attending after school ‘PE themed’ clubs.	
Music 	‘Everyday Sounds and Classroom Percussion’ Timbres – We will be listening to everyday sounds and sounds from particular places or occasions. We will explore the timbres of the classroom percussion instruments and learn to follow symbols when playing instruments. We will practise taking turns and listening when we use our voices and we will compose some musical patterns of our own.	
Homework expectations 	Letter formation practise - A set of letters will be sent home each week to help your child to understand and to practise how to form each letter correctly. All of the letters have been put into families, dependent upon how they are formed. The first family is the round family c o a g q d Daily Homework - Daily Maths homework (<i>small blue book</i>) will be four questions practising the four basic operations; they should be completed and returned Tuesday to Tuesday for marking and re-setting. Weekly homework - Children will receive one piece from either RE, science, art, DT, history, geography, computing or PSHE (<i>these subjects will be rotated and linked to the class topics</i>). Reading Diaries - Children are encouraged to read at home daily (<i>for at least 20 minutes</i>) and are expected to have their diaries signed by an adult at least 3 times a week (<i>a member of staff will check the diaries on a Monday Wednesday and Friday</i>).	