

Upper KS2 Half Termly Curriculum Overview

Year 6 - Autumn 2

Dear Parents,

Welcome back after the half term break, I hope that you have had a lovely holiday. I am pleased to provide you with information about what the children will be covering in the different subjects this half term. We are continuing with the national curriculum, if you wish to know more about it, visit the DfE website for more information.

Catholic life of the school

On a Monday afternoon, we start the week by gathering together to reflect on the week ahead and pray together. Each Thursday at 3 pm, we hold a Celebration Assembly, when we celebrate the achievements of children from each class with parents.

The children will be attending a variety of whole school masses, both in the Church and also class Masses in school.

The Wednesday Word is available for every child to take home every Wednesday. Please look out for this and share it with your child. Additional copies are available at the school office.

In class the children will continue to plan and lead Collective Worship Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays.

During the season of Advent, the children will have the opportunity to give Mary and Joseph a place to stay for the night, with the Travelling Nativity. It will give families a chance to reflect together on the meaning of Christmas and to enjoy some activities together.

The children will also be performing their Christmas Nativity plays this half term.

Healthy School Initiative

As part of the healthy school initiative, we will continue to encourage the children to be active at playtimes. 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 snack days will continue to be Monday to Friday and the children will be given the opportunity to eat their snacks during morning playtimes.

Information and dates to remember

Mon 29 Oct - School re-opens at 8.45am.

Thurs 1 Nov - All Saints Mass, 9.30am in
Church

Mon 12 Nov - Anti-bullying Week

Tues 13 Nov - Year 2 & 5 Class Mass, 9.30am

Tues 2. Nov - Year 4 & 3 Class Mass, 9.30am

W/C 5 Dec - Matilda production Year 5 dates
tbc

Tues 11 Dec at 2pm & Wed 12 Dec at 6pm -
KS2 Christmas play in Church.

Wed 19 Dec - Christmas lunch for Infants /
Juniors

Fri 21 Dec - School closes for Christmas

Homework

Literacy homework: will be given out on a Friday and is to be handed in the following Tuesday.

Spellings: we will continue to learn our spellings through the week which will be handed out every Tuesday and can be found in the SPaG folders, these will be tested on 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 records.

Concerns and messages

If you have any concerns or problems, please do not hesitate to come in and see me at the end of the school day.

Any messages in the morning must be left with a Teaching Assistant on the Junior gate and they will be passed directly to me that morning.

Year 6
General Class
Information

Big Maths

The children will continue to complete a weekly 'Big Maths' assessment and will be assessed at the end of the half term on their progress.

Each child will continue to keep their Big Maths files in their book bags so that they can share their assessments with you and work on the types of questions that they find more challenging. The children will continue to split into smaller groups and work with a Big Maths teacher once a week. We will also be continuing to focus on learning our times tables thoroughly up to 12x12 and be rewarding with bronze, silver and gold stickers on our tables charts.

Please encourage your child to use their Maths skills at every opportunity.

Remember we are going for green!

Reading

In line with our school policy the children will develop their reading in class throughout the week through shared reading and guided reading sessions and I shall be monitoring their reading progress carefully each week with my own records. Our class reader for this half term is 'The Lion the Witch and the Wardrobe' by C.S. Lewis.

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 every day and home reading is acknowledged with positive comments and stickers.

We have purchased a lot of new reading resources throughout the school, in particular the banded home readers. I will be checking weekly and guiding your child's choice of reading book and changing them as necessary.

If your child reads any other reading material as well as their reading book from school, please also make a note of it in their reading record. The home reading record is also a good way to make contact with me if you wish to send me a message and cannot get into school.

As well as our reading activities in class, we ask that in addition to hearing your child read, you share books and read to them and explore the pleasure of reading with your child.

The school continues to run an early-doors reading club (£2) 8am - 8:45am each morning. Open to all!

Grammar Hammer

The children will continue to complete a 'Grammar Hammer' assessment every two weeks and will be assessed at the end of the half term on their progress.

Each child will continue to keep their SPAG folders (Spelling, Punctuation and Grammar) in their book bags so that they can share their assessments with you and work on the types of questions that they find more challenging. The children will be focusing on different grammar aspects each week.

The children will also be focusing on incorporating their grammar knowledge within their own writing and demonstrating good use of spelling knowledge. Continual writing assessments will focus upon: neat joined handwriting, grammar within writing, spellings and knowledge of different writing genres.

Please encourage your child to use their folders to practise the areas of Grammar at every opportunity.

Mrs Crook will be running an after-school grammar club, for Year 6, on Mondays from 3.30 - 4.15pm. All children are welcome to attend.

RE – Autumn 2 term topics**Baptism/Confirmation – Belonging**

The children will know and understand about vocation and commitment and the vocation of of priesthood and religious life.

Advent/Christmas-Loving

The children will know and understand our expectations during Advent and our preparations for the arrival of the Son of God.

Please read the RE newsletter on the school website to find out more about Religious Education in the school.

English**Reading**

The children will be reading for pleasure within their special reading time in class. In addition, a variety of texts (fiction and non-fiction) will be read within guided and shared reading where the children will be taught the following skills:

- How to refer to the text to support their opinions and predictions.
- How to identify the main ideas from a paragraph.
- How to give their point of view about vocabulary and text structure.
- How to distinguish between fact and opinion.
- How to appreciate how an author has arranged sentences to create maximum effect and create a particular effect.
- How to draw inferences such as inferring characters' feelings, thoughts and motives from their actions and justifying inferences with evidence.
- How to skim and scan texts.
- How to respond to different types of question from a given text (fiction and non-fiction texts).

Writing

The children will continue to develop their writing skills. They will produce: narratives, non-chronological reports, explanation texts, persuasive texts and diary entries. They will plan, draft and edit their writing using a dictionary and thesaurus.

Grammar and Punctuation

The children will learn how to:

- Use and punctuate direct and reported speech and know the difference between the two.
- Use commas to clarify meaning and avoid ambiguity.
- Use brackets, dashes or commas to indicate parenthesis.

Spelling The children will revise how to spell the words on the Years 5-6 word lists in their reading records. They will also learn new stage 6 spellings.

Science**Living things and their habitats**

- The children will learn how to classify living things into broad groups according to observable characteristics based on similarities and differences.
- They will also be able to give reasons why plants and animals are classified in different ways.

Evolution and inheritance

- The children will recognise that living things have changed over time and that fossils provide information about living things that inhabited the Earth millions of years ago.
- They will identify how living things have adapted to suit their environment.

Animals, including humans

- The children will identify the main parts of the human circulatory system, and describe the functions of the heart, blood vessels and blood.
- They will recognise the impact of diet, exercise, drugs and lifestyle on their body's function.

Mathematics**Number – Number and Place Value**

- Read and write numbers up to 1,000 000.

Addition and Subtraction

- Formal written methods of addition and subtraction.

Multiplication and Division

- Revise multiplication tables.
- Revise long multiplication and division.

Fractions

- Revise equivalent fractions.
- Convert proper fractions into mixed numbers and vice versa.
- Adding and subtracting fractions with different denominators.

Measurement

- Find shapes that have the same perimeter but a different area.
- Calculate the area of parallelograms and triangles.
- Use formulae for area and volume.

Geometry

- Properties of shapes -Make the nets for 3D shapes and use these to build the shapes.
- Find unknown angles in triangles, quadrilaterals and regular polygons.
- Find unknown angles at a point, on a straight line, vertically opposite.
- Use co-ordinates in all four quadrants.

PE Indoor and Outdoor

Dynamic balance, agility and social skills.

This half term the children will be working on games and will:

- Choose and combine techniques in game situations (running, throwing, catching, passing, jumping and kicking, etc.).
- Work alone, or with team mates in order to gain points or possession.
- Field, defend and attack tactically by anticipating the direction of play.
- Choose the most appropriate tactics for a game.
- Uphold the spirit of fair play and respect in all competitive situations.
- Lead others when called upon and act as a good role model within a team.

Please ensure that your child has the correct PE in school indoor kit (blue shorts, white t-shirt and black pumps) as well as outdoor kit (blue/black jogging pants and sweat top, white t-shirt, trainers and spare socks).

Art/ DT

Drawing/Painting

Throughout the topic of a 'Sense of Place' - the local area geography link of waterways and architecture, the children will:

- Use a variety of techniques to add interesting effects (e.g. reflections, shadows, direction of sunlight).
- Use a choice of techniques to depict movement, perspective, shadows and reflection.
- Choose a style of drawing suitable for the work (e.g. realistic or impressionistic).
- Use lines to represent movement.

PSHE

The children will:

- Learn about E-safety.
- Take part in Anti-bullying activities.
- Go on a week long residential to Condover Hall, completing many different activities, individually, as a team and as a class.

Topic Title

A Sense of Place

Computing

The children will use Scratch to:

- Design and write programs that accomplish specific goals, including controlling or simulating physical systems; solve problems by decomposing them into smaller parts.
- Use sequence, selections and repetition in programs; work with variables and various forms of input and output; generate appropriate inputs and predicted outputs to test programs.
- Use logical reasoning to explain how a simple algorithm works, detect and correct errors in algorithms and programs.

Geography

Why does the Mersey no longer flood?

The children will:

Identify key geographical features of the countries of an area of the United Kingdom and show an understanding of how some of these aspects have changed over time. Use fieldwork to observe, measure and record the human and physical features in the local area using a range of methods, including sketch maps, plans and graphs and digital technologies.

This will be done by:

- Collecting and analysing statistics and other information in order to draw clear conclusions about locations.
- Identifying and describing how the physical features affect the human activity within a location.
- Using a range of geographical resources to give detailed descriptions and opinions of the characteristic features of a location.
- Analysing and give views on the effectiveness of different geographical representations of a location.

Music

During this term the children will use the 'Charanga' Music Program to develop their knowledge of pitch, duration, dynamics and tempo, timbre, texture, structure and musical notation. They will be learning to play several pieces of percussion. They will also be learning a variety of songs for their Christmas Nativity plays and will be able to:

- Sing or play from memory with confidence.
- Perform solos or as part of an ensemble.
- Sing or play expressively and in tune.
- Sing a harmony part confidently and accurately.
- Sustain a drone or a melodic ostinato to accompany singing.