

Key Stage 1 Half Termly Curriculum Overview
Year 2 2026/2027 - Autumn 1

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Welcome back to a new school year and to Year 2! The children have made an excellent start and continue to make a smooth transition from Year 1 to Year 2. 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 teachers@socps.co.uk Kind Regards Mrs Thomason and Mrs Birchall.

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.
<http://www.wednesdayword.org/school/index.htm>

Each child in the class, will be given the opportunity to take home a prayer bag, to share some reflective time with their family. Please feel free to add a prayer, photograph or picture to the class book.

We will be collecting for the local Food Bank, each Monday in October. The children are asked, where possible, to bring in one item as a donation, as part of our Harvest Festival celebrations. Thank you for your support.

Healthy School Initiative

As part of the healthy school initiative, we continue to encourage the children to be active at playtimes and improve their fitness by completing the 'Daily Mile'. This is done from walking pace jogging/running pace as each child increases in speed and ability.

Children will be encouraged to drink water throughout the day; therefore, it is important that the children have their bottles in every day! It makes it easier for the children if the bottles have a sports top, as it would prevent any unnecessary spillage.

Healthy snacks can be brought into school each day and the children will be given the opportunity to eat their snacks during morning playtimes. A piece of fruit will be offered to every child in Key Stage 1 at afternoon playtime.

Information and dates to remember:

Tuesday 15th September - Whole school mass 9.25am
2nd/9th/16th/23rd October Foodbank Fridays
Mon 5th /Tues 6th Parent Teacher Consultations
Wed 7th October Flu Immunisations
Fri 23rd October School closes for Half Term

Homework information.

Homework will be set on Google Classroom.
English will be given out on a Friday and is to be handed in the following Tuesday.

Spellings will be given out on a Wednesday and tested the following Monday.

Maths will be given out on a Tuesday and is to be handed in on Friday of the same week.

Reading - Each child should read / share a book for a minimum of 15 minutes per night and complete their reading records.

Written homework may sometimes be replaced with online homework.

Concerns and messages

If you have any concerns or problems, please do not hesitate to speak to me at the door or email me at teachers@socps.co.uk and I will do my best to get back to you as soon as I can.

Year 2 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. We will also be continuing to focus on learning our times tables.

To best support your child in Maths, please continue to help them with their homework tasks and encourage regular practice of key fluency skills, including times tables and number bonds.

Little and often makes a big difference, and your support at home helps to build confidence and secure the foundations they need for future learning.

Reading

The children will bring home two decodable books, which they can read more fluently. One will have practised in school the previous week. Any other book taken home will be a book to share with you reading to or with your child. Please ensure that the decodable books are returned to school on time as other children will be relying on using the books, the following week. (A cost will be incurred for any books that are lost or damaged).

Supporting your child with reading

Although your child will be taught to read at school, you can have a huge impact on their reading journey by continuing their practice at home. There are two types of reading book that your child may bring home:

Reading practice books (Decodable phonic book)

This will be at the correct phonic stage for your child. They should be able to read this fluently and independently.

A sharing book (library book)

This is a book your child has chosen - they might not be able to read this book on their own, please enjoy sharing it together.

Reading practice book

These books have been carefully matched to your child's current reading level. If your child is reading it with little help, please don't worry that it's too easy - your child needs to develop fluency and confidence in reading. Listen to them read the book. Remember to give them lots of praise - celebrate their success! If they can't read a word, encourage them to have a go and then read it to them. After they have finished, talk about the book together. Please continue to complete reading record books each night, to communicate how your child has read or enjoyed a book with you.

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!

We look forward to working together, to keep reading a pleasurable experience for all our children and embracing the new scheme as we move forward together.

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 pay using the Parent Pay app.

RECreation and Covenant- Branch 1

To explore the Old Testament story of Noah and the ark and understand why God sent a flood and the promise God made.

Judaism To learn about Shabbat and understand that it is an important time for Jewish people.

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

EnglishTranscription

Pupils will learn to spell by:

- Segmenting spoken words into phonemes and representing these by graphemes, spelling many correctly.
- Learning new ways of spelling phonemes for which one or more spellings are already known, and learn some words with each spelling, including a few common homophones.
- Learning to spell common exception words.
- Learning to spell more words with contracted forms.
- Learning the possessive apostrophe (singular) [for example, the girl's book].
- Distinguishing between homophones and near-homophones.

Composition

Pupils will learn to develop positive attitudes towards stamina for writing by:

- Writing narratives about personal experiences and those of others (real and fiction).
- Writing about real events.
- Writing poetry.
- Writing for different purposes.

Vocabulary, Grammar & Punctuation

Pupils should be able to develop their understanding of the following concepts:

- Learning how to use both familiar and new punctuation correctly, including full stops, capital letters, exclamation marks, question marks, commas for lists and apostrophes for contracted forms and the possessive (singular).
- Sentences with different forms: statement, question, exclamation, command.
- Expanded noun phrases to describe and specify [for example, the blue butterfly].
- The present and past tenses correctly and consistently including the progressive form.
- Subordination (using when, if, that, or because) and co-ordination (using or, and, or but).

ScienceLiving things and their habitats

- Recall some life processes, giving examples of how they apply to plants and animals. Classify objects into alive, never been alive and was once alive, giving reasons for their choices.
- Match different plants and animals to their habitats.
- Give examples of how animals use their habitat for food and shelter.
- Recall that plants produce their own food for energy. Name living things that are producers and place a producer at the beginning of a food chain. Use arrows to show the order in a food chain.

MathematicsPlace Value

- Count in steps of 2, 3, and 5 from 0, and in tens from any number, forward or backward.
- Recognise the place value of each digit in a two-digit number (tens, ones).
- Identify, represent and estimate numbers using different representations, inc. the number line.
- Compare and order numbers from 0 up to 100; use <, > and = signs.
- Read and write numbers to at least 100 in numerals and in words.

Addition & Subtraction

- Solve problems with addition and subtraction: using concrete objects and pictorial representations; applying their increasing knowledge of mental and written methods.
- Recall and use add and subtract facts to 20 fluently and derive and use related facts up to 100.
- Add and subtract numbers using concrete objects, pictorial representations, and mentally, including: a 2-digit no and 1s or 10s; two 2-digit numbers; adding three 1-digit numbers.
- Show that addition of two numbers can be done in any order (commutative) and subtraction of one number from another cannot.
- Recognise and use the inverse relationship between addition and subtraction and use this to check calculations and missing number problems.

History - Schools in the past

Children will learn to talk about past, present and future events.

- Understand that although schools have been in the local area for a long time, they have not always been the same.
- Identify historical similarities and differences.
- Use a range of sources to recognise continuity between children's lives past and present.



Music

Pulse, Rhythm and Pitch

The children will learn skills such as:

- Exploring and identifying pulse
- Exploring and identifying rhythm
- Exploring and identifying pitch
- Singing and Listening
- Creating and playing
- Performing



PSHE - Families and Friendships

Making friends; feeling lonely and getting help

Children will learn:

- How to be a good friend, e.g. kindness, listening, honesty.
- About different ways that people meet and make friends.
- Strategies for positive play with friends, e.g. joining in, including others, etc.
- About what causes arguments between friends.
- How to positively resolve arguments between friends.
- How to recognise, and ask for help, when they are feeling lonely or unhappy or to help someone else.

RSE - Journey in Love

We meet God's love in the community.

To describe how we are growing and developing in diverse communities that are God-given.

PE - Personal Skills - Keep Trying

This half term the children will:

- Develop and apply their footwork and one leg balance through focused skill development sessions, cooperative and competitive games.
- They will further develop these skills through activities, competitive games and ball games.

PE is on Monday and Tuesday

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 a waterproof warm coat.

No earrings on PE days please!

Working Together in Year 2

Autumn Term

Art & Design:

Drawing, understanding tone and texture

Children will learn to:

- Experiment with a range of materials to create marks and tones using different pressures and control to make different marks.
- Describe the texture of objects.
- Identify how artists use tone and control shading to show tone.
- Sketch and refine a drawing.

Computing- What is a computer?

Children will find out about:

- Recognising the parts of a computer
- How technology is controlled
- Designing for an invention
- What algorithms are; how they are implemented as programs on digital devices; and that programs execute by following precise and unambiguous instructions
- Uses of information technology beyond school.
- Safety online, what information is safe to share online.

