Lower KS2 Half Termly Curriculum Overview Year 3 Autumn 2 2026-2027

Welcome back! We hope you've had restful break and are looking forward to 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. Kind Regards Mr Critchley.

Catholic life of the school

On Monday morning we begin the week by gathering as a whole school to reflect and pray together. On a Wednesday we do this as a Key Stage. 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 also 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

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. Our 'ordinary time' prayer bags will stop for Advent.

We are also collecting packed shoe boxes for Operation Christmas Child. Please could you follow the guidance given on the leaflet as to the items that are appropriate /inappropriate to pack. These should be brought into school by Monday 16th November.

We will also do a coin collection for Mary's Meals, a local charity for those in need. Thank you for your 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. 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! 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:

WC 2nd Nov: Judaism week.
Fri 6th Nov: Own Clothes Day
Monday 9th to Friday 13th Nov: Anti-bullying Week
Monday 17th to Friday 21 Nov: Road Safety Week
Mon 16th Nov: Operation Christmas Child boxes to be in
Wed 18th Nov: Tempest Photographs
Thurs 26th Nov: Year 5 Class Assembly
Sun 29th Nov: Advent begins
Thurs 10th December: Y3 & Y4 Christmas Production
Friday 11th December: Christmas Jumper Day
Friday 16th December: Christmas Dinner Day
Monday 14th December: Santa Dash
Thursday 17th December: Christmas Mass/Carols, 11am
Friday 18th December: School closes for the Christmas break.

Homework

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 Wednesday.

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.
teachers@socps.co.uk

Year 3 Autumn 2 Topic Map – 2026/2027

Year 3

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. Your child will bring home two books; a reading banded book and a Sharing Book to read and share with you.

This half term we will be reading Ice Palace by Robert Swindle in our guided reading sessions.
We will be reading Winters Child by Angela McAllister in our English sessions.

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.

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We will be reading Winters Child by Angela McAllister in our English sessions.

Sharing/Library 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 with them. Discuss 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 pay using the Parent Pay app.

Year 3 Autumn 2 Topic Map – 2026/2027

RE: Prophecy and Promise- Branch 2

-Understand what happens at Mass
-The nativity according to St. Matthew.
-The Liturgy of the Word.
- The importance of the Eucharist to the early Church.
-Understand Jesus is the Messiah, foretold by the prophets.
-Symbolic significance of Jesus' birthplace as the house of bread.

Science – Forces and Magnets

- Describe the effects of contact forces.
- Recognise the effects and use of forces.
-Interpret how and why things move differently on different surfaces.
-Describe the effects of magnets.
-Compare properties of magnets.
-Explain the use of magnets.

English

Reading

Children will read and enjoy a fiction text 'Ice Palace'. They will analyse sections of the story and discuss in small groups any predictions or meanings about the story.

Writing

Plan to write by discussing the structure, vocab and grammar of similar writing.
Discuss and record ideas.
Build a varied and rich vocabulary.
Assess the effectiveness of own and others' writing.
Write a fantasy story based on a fable.

Grammar and Punctuation

Understand the formation of nouns using prefixes and word families.
Use a range of conjunctions, adverbs and prepositions.
Introduction to paragraphs, headings and sub-headings to aid presentation and group related information.
Use of the present perfect form.
Introduction to inverted commas to punctuate direct speech.

Spelling

Recap of high frequency words from KS1.
To learn Year 3 spelling lists and use dictionaries to find meanings and create new lists of words with similar spelling patterns.

Handwriting

Begin to join words and understand which letters are best left un-joined.

Mathematics

Number and Place Value

- Read and write numbers up to 1000 in numerals and in words.
- Recognise the place value of each digit in a three-digit number (hundreds, tens, and units).
- Solve number problems and practical problems involving these ideas. (NRICH- a maths website)

Addition and Subtraction

- Add and subtract numbers with up to three digits, using formal written methods of column addition and subtraction.
- Estimate the answer to a calculation and use inverse operations to check answers.
- Solve problems, including missing number problems, using number facts, place value, and more complex addition and subtraction.

Multiplication and Division

- Count from 0 in multiples of 3, 4, 8, 50 and 100 and find 10 or 100 more or less than a given number.

Shape

- Draw 2-D shapes.
-Measure the perimeter of simple 2D shapes.

Data

-Interpret and present data using bar charts, pictograms and tables.
- Solve one-step and two-step questions [for example, 'How many more?' and 'How many fewer?'] using information presented in scaled bar charts and pictograms and tables.

Year 3 Autumn 2 Topic Map – 2026/2027

Year 3 Curriculum Map

PE

Gymnastics and fundamentals

The children will be working on co-operating, listening and encouraging team-mates alongside working on their balance and agility.

They will learn to:

- Perform a variety of moving jumps and turns.
- Control and hold static balances.

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.

Geography

Why do people live near volcanoes?

-Name and describe the layers of the Earth.
-Explain how and where mountains are formed.
-Explain why volcanoes happen and why they occur.
-Recognise the positive and negative effects of living near a volcano.
-Explain what earthquakes are and why they occur.
-Observe and record the location of rocks around the school.

PSHE- Mental health and wellbeing

The children will learn about:

- A range of emotions, recognise different strengths and explain how noticing thoughts and bodily feelings helps us manage them.
- Distinguish helpful and unhelpful distractions and describe ways to manage them.
- Explain how thought and emotion patterns affect wellbeing and identify more helpful strategies.
- Recognise worries and their effects on thoughts, emotions and behaviour; identify coping strategies and trusted adults.
- Describe feeling calm and tense and explain how calming strategies help us choose our responses

RSE – Journey in Love (Social & Emotional)

To describe and give reasons how friendships make us feel happy and safe.

ART

Developing Drawing skills

- Shade with a reasonable degree of accuracy and skill following the four shading rules.
- Use mark marking to show texture and details.
  Use simple shapes to sketch the basis of their drawing before using lines and marks

Computing - Programming Scratch

Children will:

- Identify Scratch as a coding application and explore its different code blocks.
- Make predictions about what code blocks will do and test these ideas.
- Create a simple animation by combining motion, speech and wait blocks.
- Plan how to remix an existing animation by choosing which parts to change.
- Alter and remix code to create a new version of an animation.

Music

Using 'Charanga' children will learn how music is created. They will begin to learn how to play the glockenspiel and notes D, E & F. They will also:

- Confidently listen and appraise pieces of music
- Find the pulse, rhythm and pitch
- Explore and develop playing skills
- Rehearse and perform with a glockenspiel.

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