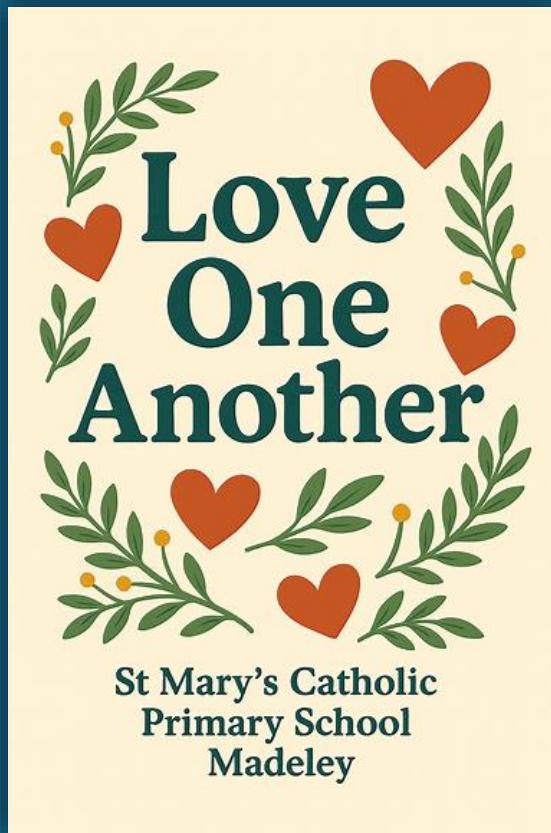


CURRICULUM NEWSLETTER

SPRING TERM 2026



Reception

Mrs Rushton's Class

We have a **busy, exciting, and fun-filled term** ahead in Reception!

Terrific Toys

This half-term our topic is '**Terrific Toys**'. We will be exploring what toys are made from, how they work, and how toys have changed over time. The children will learn about **old and new toys**, comparing the toys we play with today to those enjoyed by parents and grandparents.

We will also be getting creative by **making our own toys from junk materials**, so any donations of clean recycled materials would be very welcome. You could even have a go at making a toy at home too—we would love to see what the children create!

Teddy Bears' Picnic

We will be inviting our **teddy bears** to join us for a special **teddy bears' picnic**! In Maths, we will make plates, hats, and decorations using **repeating patterns**. We will also practise **writing and following instructions** when we make delicious jam sandwiches to enjoy at our picnic.

Chinese New Year

We will be learning about **Chinese New Year**, making Chinese lanterns and dragons, and trying our hand at **writing Chinese characters**. In Maths, we will use **chopsticks** to estimate and count how many noodles we can pick up, as well as practising writing and ordering **Chinese numerals**.

We will learn about the **Great Animal Race** and the **Year of the Horse**. As Chinese New Year falls during half-term this year, you may wish to try making some Chinese food at home, such as a stir-fry, with your child.

Spring and Outdoor Learning

As we move into **Spring**, we will spend more time outdoors in our garden area, planting **flower and vegetable seeds**. Children will need a pair of **wellies** that can be kept in school during the week and taken home on Fridays.

PE Days

Our PE sessions take place on **Wednesdays and Fridays**. Please ensure your child is wearing trainers or has a pair in their bag on these days.

Religious Education

In R.E. this half-term, we will be following the topic '**Galilee to Jerusalem**', learning about the visit of the Three Kings, Jesus and the children, and the feeding of the five thousand. After half-term, we will move on to '**Desert to Garden**', where we will explore the seasons of **Lent and Easter**.

Reading at Home

Please continue to read with your child **as often as possible** and ensure their **reading diary** is in school each day. Children earn **two Dojo points** every time they read at home. When they reach **50 points**, they can choose a prize from the class box!

Children who read **five times each week** will also be entered into our **Reading Raffle** for a chance to win a prize. The more times you read, the more raffle tickets you earn!

Amazing Animals and Deadly Dinosaurs

After half-term, our topic will be '**Amazing Animals and Deadly Dinosaurs**'! We will explore different types of dinosaurs, what they looked like, and what they ate. The children will take part in exciting science-based activities such as **making salt-dough fossils, dinosaur gloop, and even a volcano!**

We will also learn about the famous palaeontologist **Mary Anning**. Children are encouraged to do their own dinosaur research at home - this could include visiting the library, drawing or painting dinosaurs, making models, or creating other crafty dinosaur projects.

✿ Year 1 ✿

Mrs Lambie and Mrs Bright

We have a **very exciting half-term** ahead of us in Year 1 . The children will continue to take part in **daily reading and phonics lessons**  , which are a vital part of our curriculum. We kindly encourage you to read as often as possible at home with your child and to ensure their **reading diary** is in school every day.

You will have received the reading diary along with the new **spellings and number bonds** to practise  , as well as the expectation of reading **five times a week**. We are also beginning to prepare for the **phonics screening check** in the summer, so regular practise of sounds at home will be extremely helpful . Remember, reading five times a week earns entry into the **reading raffle** , and the more you read, the more raffle tickets you receive.

Maths

In Maths this term, we will be working with **numbers up to 100** and learning how to calculate using **tens and units to 50**  . The children will represent numbers to 50 using a range of resources such as Numicon and Dienes .

We are really enjoying our **number sense** work, where we develop a strong feel for number and patterns . The children will explore **odd and even numbers**, two more and two less, using number lines and part whole models to help them solve equations . They have particularly enjoyed learning their **number bonds to 10** and the related subtraction facts . We use a variety of apparatus, drawings, real life examples, and songs to support learning, and we will continue to build on this throughout the term. There are lots of free songs and games available online if you would like to practise at home .

Writing

In our writing lessons, we will be exploring a range of **different genres** . We have been focusing on narrative through stories such as *Sammy the Street Dog*  and *Vlad and the Great Fire of London* . The children are learning to identify main characters and their characteristics, as well as understanding the beginning, middle, and end of a story.

We have also been learning what adjectives are and how they can improve our sentences . This term, we will continue to work on **beautiful handwriting and presentation**, while becoming more confident independent writers . The children are doing well at remembering **capital letters, finger spaces, and full stops** .

History and Geography

In History, we will be learning about the **Great Fire of London** , creating a timeline of events and exploring how life changed afterwards. In Geography, the children will be learning about the **United Kingdom and its four capital cities** .

We will focus on how the fire changed the way houses were built and how towns and cities were laid out. As part of our outdoor learning , the children will have opportunities to **build a fire and bake bread** , as well as practise putting out a fire using a chain of children and buckets, just as people would have done in 1666 . We will be reinforcing the idea of **past and present** throughout all of our learning .

Art

In Art, the children will be learning about the artist **Kandinsky** . They will create their own artwork to represent the Great Fire of London in an abstract style inspired by his work. This is a style the children are finding particularly exciting and fun .

Computing

This term, we will also be programming **Beebots**  as part of our computing lessons. The children will learn how to set an algorithm and debug a program if it goes wrong . The robots will be programmed to move North, South, East, and West, which links perfectly with our Geography work on **compass directions** .

Home Projects

For home learning projects this term, we would love children to **make a model of a house**  that might have been in London in 1666. These can be created using recycled materials such as cereal boxes .

For the Beebots project, you could try creating a **maze on a grid**  for the Beebots to travel through. This could be a real place or a fantasy world . Be as creative as you like and make it interesting for your Beebot to explore .

We cannot wait to see what the children create and are looking forward to another **fantastic and rewarding half-term** in Year 1  .

Year 2

Mrs Brazier's Class

What an **exciting term** we have ahead in Year 2 . The children have made a fantastic start to the spring term, and we are really looking forward to everything we have planned.

Reading

We will continue with **daily whole class reading**, with children completing focused tasks linked to our class texts. This term, we will be reading the wonderful story *The Sandman and the Turtles* by Michael Morpurgo . Through this text, children will explore important themes such as **friendship, adventure, and bravery**.

We will also enjoy reading a range of **non-fiction texts about flight** , learning all about **Amelia Earhart** and the **Wright brothers**. Each week, children will have opportunities to read, re-visit texts, and answer questions to support their understanding.

Please continue to read with your child **daily at home** and ensure that their **home reading diary** is signed and returned to school each day  .

Writing

Our writing this half term will be closely linked to our class story. The children will develop their skills across a range of genres, including **character and setting descriptions, diary writing, instructional writing, and non-chronological reports**.

They will also continue learning **spelling rules and patterns** through Read Write Spell. In grammar lessons, children will practise using **nouns, verbs, and adjectives**, explore **past and present tense**, learn about **sentence types**, and

use punctuation correctly, including **commas in a list** and **apostrophes for belonging and contractions** .

Maths

In Maths, the children will be learning all about **money** . They will practise recognising the value of coins and notes and use this knowledge to count totals in pounds and pence. Children will also use their **addition and subtraction skills** to add amounts of money and calculate **change**.

Later in the term, children will work with objects to explore **equal groups** and **repeated addition**, which will lead into **multiplication and division**  .

Physical Education

Children will have **two PE lessons each week**. We are especially excited to be working with the **Chance to Shine cricket coach** this half term  , alongside continuing our work on **team building, ball skills, and net and wall games**.

Please ensure your child has **appropriate footwear** for PE and that **jewellery and earrings are removed** on PE days .

History

In History this term, we will be learning all about the **history of flight**, from the **hot-air balloon** to **modern spacecraft** . We will explore significant individuals who invented aircraft and learn about careers linked to flight, including **pilots, engineers, flight attendants, and helipad control officers**.

As part of our spring term project, children will complete a **Flight-themed project**. They could research aircraft and create a poster, leaflet, or fact file, or explore flight and inventors through diagrams, paintings, drawings, or building a model of an aircraft. We cannot wait to see their creativity take off .

Science

In Science this term, we will begin by learning about **seeds and bulbs** and how they grow into mature plants . Children will discover the differences between seeds and bulbs and carry out investigations to explore how plants grow healthily.

We will then move on to learning about **animal life cycles** and what living things, including humans, need to grow and survive. Children will also learn about the importance of leading a **healthy lifestyle**  .

Computing

Our computing topic this half term is **Robot Algorithms** . The children will learn how to program **Bee-bots**, create instructions, and guide them along a specified path. They will also develop their problem-solving skills by debugging programs when things do not go quite to plan .

The children have already shown **great enthusiasm and effort**, and we are all looking forward to a **busy, exciting, and inspiring term** ahead in Year 2  .

Class 3

Mr Morgan

We have a **fun and busy term** ahead in Class 3, and the children are already showing lots of enthusiasm for our new topics .

History and Topic

For the first half of the term, our topic is the **Stone Age**, where we will be focusing on **people and settlements**. The children will then move on to learn about the **Bronze Age and the Iron Age**, discovering how people lived, where they settled, and the tools they used over time.

We will enjoy lots of **outdoor learning sessions**  linked to our topic, taking part in activities such as **building shelters, orienteering, and creating cave-style paintings**. These hands-on experiences will bring history to life and help deepen the children's understanding.

Science

As part of our **Rock of Ages** topic in Science, we will be learning about **different types of rocks**, including **igneous, sedimentary, and metamorphic** . The children will explore how rocks are formed and take part in practical investigations to examine their properties and uses.

After half term, our Science topic will be **Magnets** . The children will carry out investigations to compare, group, and identify everyday materials based on whether they are magnetic. They will also explore **magnetic forces and fields**, developing their scientific enquiry skills.

Reading

In Reading, we will be enjoying the text **Stig of the Dump**, which is also our class novel . Whole class reading continues to take place daily, with children completing focused tasks linked to the text.

Throughout the week, children will be fully immersed in the story and have multiple opportunities to answer a variety of questions. This approach helps to build both **confidence and comprehension**, encouraging thoughtful discussion and deeper understanding.

Writing

In Writing, we will focus on **producing and extending sentences** by using interesting and descriptive adjectives . We will also continue to develop our use of **coordinating conjunctions, subordinating conjunctions, and subordinate clauses** to improve sentence structure and fluency.

Over the term, children will work with a wide range of text types, including **instructions, recounts, stories, diaries, and newspaper reports**  .

Mathematics

In Mathematics this term, we will be learning about **division, money, and calculating transactions**, as well as **telling the time, recognising the properties of shape, and using statistics**   .

Throughout all Maths lessons, children will be encouraged to develop their **mathematical vocabulary**, apply their knowledge, and engage in **reasoning and problem-solving** activities.

We are also working hard to master our **3, 4, 6, and 8 times tables** . Please practise these as often as possible at home, and remember to log in to **Times Table Rock Stars** to keep challenging yourself  .

Physical Education and Outdoor Learning.

As the weather begins to improve ☁, we will have many opportunities for **outdoor learning**, so please keep an eye out for letters. Children will need to bring **wellies** into school for certain sessions so that they can take part comfortably and safely.

✿ Year 4 ✿

Mr Freeman

This term, our exciting topic is **The Egyptians** EG. We will be exploring the fascinating world of **Ancient Egypt**, learning about the many **Egyptian gods and goddesses**, as well as what the Ancient Egyptians built and created.

We will investigate the discovery of **Tutankhamun's tomb**, focusing on the archaeologist **Howard Carter** 🎨. In Writing, the children will bring history to life by writing **diary entries** and **newspaper reports** to research and discuss Howard Carter's discovery and his actions.

✍ Writing

Our topic work will be closely linked to our Writing lessons. The children will create **explanation texts** describing how to mummify a body, supported by exploring the mummification process through practical activities such as **mummifying fruit** and researching **canopic jars** 🍋 🧃.

Alongside instructional writing, children will be writing **biographies** about Howard Carter, Tutankhamun, and other important historical figures. We will continue to use the school's **editing key** to support children in editing and improving their own work, a skill we will keep developing throughout the term ✨.

Grammar remains a key focus. Children will practise **prefixes and suffixes** in spelling, identify **main clauses and subordinate clauses**, and learn how to use **apostrophes for possession and contractions** correctly. We will also focus on using the correct determiner **a** or **an** ✓.

🌐 Geography

In Geography, the children will create a **non-fiction text** about the **Northern and Southern Hemispheres** 🌎. They will use atlases to locate countries in each hemisphere, including countries that fall across both.

We will then move on to learning about **mountains**, identifying and labelling their key features and locating well-known mountains from around the world .

Reading

Guided Reading takes place every day, with a whole class focus book . Children will complete follow-up tasks based on the weekly chapter or text, developing their **VIPERS skills**. These include vocabulary, inference, prediction, explain, retrieval, and sequencing.

Reading comprehensions play an important role in Guided Reading and help children develop their **inference and deduction skills**. Please try to hear your child read as often as possible at home. Signing and adding comments in the reading diary is encouraged, and children are welcome to write their own comments too. Reading diaries should be in school every day .

Mathematics

In Mathematics, we will be learning about the **perimeter of 2D shapes**, measuring lengths and drawing our own **rectilinear shapes** . We will then use these skills to **design a garden** for our outdoor area.

Later in the term, children will work on **fractions, decimals, and measurement** . By the end of Year 4, children are expected to be confident with **all times tables up to 12**, and we are practising these regularly in school .

Outdoor Learning and PE

Outdoor learning this term will include **scavenger hunts and outdoor games**, once we have completed building our **Roman road** . Please ensure children have an **outdoor pair of shoes** and suitable clothing, as outdoor learning will take place on **Fridays**.

PE sessions will be held on **Thursdays and Fridays** .

Music

The children have a particularly exciting term ahead with their **weekly music lessons**, taught by a **ukulele specialist** . By the end of the term, children will

be able to play their instrument alongside a selection of songs, which is something to really look forward to.

The children have an **exciting and engaging term ahead**, and we are looking forward to seeing their enthusiasm and creativity shine as their learning unfolds .

Year 5

Miss Carver

We are thrilled to share what your children will be learning in **Year 5 this spring term** . Our curriculum is packed with exciting and inspiring topics that will encourage curiosity, creativity, and thoughtful reflection.

Religious Education

In Religious Education, we will be exploring the **Beatitudes** . Children will discuss how these teachings can be applied to their own lives, encouraging reflection on **kindness, compassion, and empathy**. This thoughtful journey will support children in considering how they can put these values into action in their everyday lives .

Science

Our Science focus this term is **Space** . Children will explore the **timeline of space discoveries**, learning how our understanding of the universe has developed over time and how these discoveries have influenced modern technology .

To enrich our learning even further, we are incredibly excited about our upcoming **trip to the National Space Centre in Leicester** . This hands-on experience will allow children to explore space in an engaging and interactive way, helping to deepen their understanding while having lots of fun.

Maths

In Maths, we will begin the term by exploring **fractions** . Children will learn about **equivalent fractions, mixed numbers, and improper fractions**, using practical activities and engaging challenges to build confidence and understanding in this essential area of learning.

Writing

Our Writing lessons will focus on using **modal verbs and subordinating conjunctions**. Children will learn how to use these effectively to create **subordinating clauses** within their writing .

This grammatical focus will be linked closely with our Space topic, giving pupils the opportunity to write creatively about **space exploration and scientific discoveries**, while developing strong sentence structure and expression .

Reading and PE

We encourage you to support your child's learning at home by **hearing them read at least five times a week** . Talking about what they are reading and exploring related topics together can make a huge difference to their confidence and progress.

Please remember that **PE takes place on Wednesdays**, and **cricket sessions are held on Thursday afternoons**  .

We are really looking forward to a term filled with **discovery, creativity, and growth**, and we thank you for your continued support  .

Year 6

Miss Bulkeley Jones

Year 6 have another **busy and exciting term** ahead, with lots of opportunities to explore challenging and inspiring topics across the curriculum.

Religious Education

In Religious Education this term, our learning focuses on the **Gospel of John** . We will begin with the topic **Galilee to Jerusalem**, before moving on to explore the **season of Lent** and the symbolism found within John's Gospel. Children will reflect on key messages and consider how these teachings link to their own lives.

History and Geography

In History, we are really looking forward to studying the **Picts, Scots, Anglo Saxons, and Vikings** 🏴. We will learn about how England changed during this period, what the **Heptarchy** was, and how the influence of these groups can still be seen today.

Our Geography learning will link closely with History as we explore **Scandinavia** 🌎, developing our understanding of the physical and human features of this region and how it connects with the Viking era.

Science

In Science, we will be exploring **light and electricity**💡. Children will build on what they have already learned in previous years and deepen their understanding through **experiments and investigations**, allowing them to test ideas and think like real scientists.

Computing

In Computing, we will be learning about **variables in coding**💻. Children will use these to plan and code their own games using **Scratch**, developing their logical thinking and problem solving skills. We will also continue to focus on **online safety**, ensuring children know how to stay safe and responsible when using technology 🔒.

Art

In Art, we will explore the bold and imaginative sculptures of **Yayoi Kusama** 🎨. Using her work as inspiration, children will create their own sculpture pieces before moving on to study the collage work of **David Adey**, experimenting with texture and composition.

Outdoor Learning

During Outdoor Learning, children will take part in the **RSPB Big Schools' Birdwatch** 🌦, learn how to tie a range of **knots**, and continue our **seasonal temperature measurements**, which we have been recording throughout the year.

English

In English, we will explore a wide range of **writing genres and themes**, including **dialogue, information texts, and narratives** . Children will be encouraged to develop their creativity, accuracy, and confidence as writers.

Maths

In Maths, we will continue to develop **fluency skills**, alongside learning about **ratio, proportion, and algebra** . These topics will challenge children to apply their understanding and reasoning to more complex problems as they prepare for secondary school.

Learning at Home

At home, children could explore any of the topics we are covering in school and create their own **response**, such as a piece of writing, artwork, research project, or model. These activities help reinforce learning and encourage independence and curiosity .

We are all looking forward to a **motivating and rewarding term** in Year 6 and are excited to see the children continue to grow in confidence and independence as learners  .