

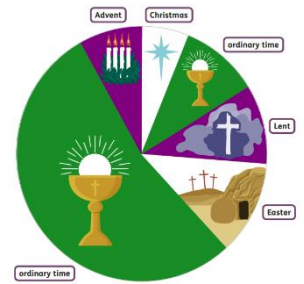
St. Mary's RC Primary School

Year 1

Half Termly Overview – Spring Two

Religion

This half term, Year 1 will focus on Jesus' journey from the desert to the garden, exploring stories from Luke's Gospel. They will learn about the final events of Jesus' life, including how he showed ultimate love and sacrifice through his willingness to suffer for others. Children will reflect on the significance of the resurrection and how it is celebrated during Easter. Through these stories, children will deepen their understanding of Christian beliefs about Jesus as the saviour and how his actions demonstrate God's kindness and forgiveness for all.



Maths:

Place Value within 50

In Maths, Year 1 will explore numbers within 50. They will use number lines to estimate '1 more and 1 less', and learn to partition numbers into tens and ones.

Length and Height

Children will compare the lengths and heights of different objects. They will also measure using non-standard units like cubes, before progressing to using centimetres with rulers.

Mass and Volume

Children will compare the mass of objects using non-standard units, and develop an understanding of 'heavier and lighter'. They will also investigate volume and capacity by comparing the amounts containers can hold, using terms like 'full, empty, and more or less than'.

Reading (and Phonics):

In Year 1, we will continue with phase 5 sounds. The children will read words and sentences containing these sounds. They will also apply the sounds they have learnt into writing words and sentences.

Phase 5 sounds:

/ur/ or (word), **/oo/** u oul (awful, would), **/air/** are (share), **/or/** au aur oor al (author, dinosaur, floor, walk), **/ch/** tch ture (match, adventure), **/ar/** al ar (half, father), **/or/** a (water), **/o/** a (want), **/air/** ear ere (bear, there), **/ur/** ear (learn), **/r/** wr (wrist), **/s/** st sc (whistle, science), **/c/** ch (school), **/sh/** ch (chef), **/z/ /s/** ce se ze (freeze).

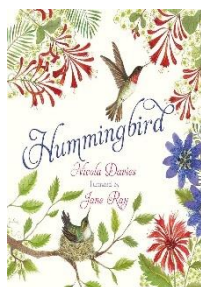
Phase 5 tricky words:

once, laugh, because, eye

Writing

In English, Year 1 will be reading *Hummingbird* by Nicola Davies and illustrated by Jane Ray. They will examine the story through artwork, discussion, and drama focusing on the ruby-throated hummingbird's migration and making connections to human migration. Children will develop their writing skills by acting in role, performing simple poems, and producing a short informative narrative based on main events from the story.

Throughout the unit, they will practice sentence skills - including capital letters, finger spaces, full stops, and writing on the line - while also applying their phonics knowledge to support spelling, punctuation, and grammar (SPaG).



Science

The topic this half term is 'Everyday Materials - Exploring Everyday Materials'. This is the first part of two units. This unit takes children through six lessons where they learn how to distinguish between an object and the material from which it is made. They also learn how to identify and name a variety of everyday materials, including wood, plastic, glass, metal, water, and rock. They describe the simple physical properties of a variety of everyday materials. Finally, they learn how to compare and group together a variety of everyday materials on the basis of their simple physical properties.

History

This half term, our History topic is “*How Have Toys Changed?*” The children will be exploring how toys from the past are different from the toys they play with today. We will be looking at old and new toys, talking about what they are made from, how they work, and who they were made for. We will explore toys from the past such as wooden rocking horses, rag dolls, tin cars and board games. We will also look at modern toys like electronic games, plastic figures, and remote-controlled cars. The children will be encouraged to spot similarities and differences between them.

Art (Design Technology)

In DT, Year 1 will be exploring sculpture and 3D play. Children will experiment with shaping paper strips in different ways to make 3D drawings and apply these to their secured base. They will also design and decorate a ‘*Tree of Life*’ sculpture as well as collaborate on building a ‘*Giant Spider Model*’.

Finally, they will evaluate their spider model, talking about what they liked and what they would change next time.



Physical Education

In PE, Year 1 will take part in *Gymnastics and Striking and Fielding Games Skills 1*. In Gymnastics, children will perform balances and spins in various formations as part of a wider routine. In Striking and Fielding children will find out how to control direction and distance, and apply simple tactics while working safely as a team. Across both units, children will develop their confidence, cooperation, and communication, and learn why being active supports a healthy lifestyle.

Music

In Music, Year 1 will study the unit *Round and Round* which is inspired by a core Latin Bossa Nova style. Through an integrated approach, children will strengthen their knowledge of pulse, rhythm, and pitch by taking part in a progressive warm-up, flexible games, as well as structured appraisal and improvisation tasks.



PSHE

In PSHE, Year 1 will focus on what it means to live well both online and offline, recognising that their feelings matter in every space and exploring clear rules to help them stay safe on the internet. They will reflect on the story of *The Prodigal Son*, appreciating that God loves them unconditionally, that forgiveness can restore relationships, and that they are called to show love and kindness to others. Children will also learn about the human life cycle, identifying the different stages of life (baby, child, adolescent, adult, elderly) and celebrating how they have grown and changed. Throughout the half-term, pupils will develop self-awareness, empathy and an understanding of belonging within their families, friendships and God’s family.

Homework

This half term, Y1 have been asked to complete a piece of creative homework linked to an Easter Garden. This has been shared via tapestry and should be handed in on 30th March 2026.

They will also be given a reading book each Friday to read throughout the week. In addition, each Friday children will be given spellings to practise in readiness for a test the following Friday. Lastly, children have been given logins for numbots which they should access for 10 minutes a week.

Other important information

- Y1 have PE every Tuesday and Wednesday. Children should come to school in their PE kits.
- Homework books should be returned every Thursday so new spellings can be added.
- Reading books should be brought to school daily and will be changed on Thursdays.
- World Book Day will be on Thursday 5th March.
- Parents’ evening will be on Monday 16th March and Thursday 19th March.