



# Curriculum Information Year 4 2022-23



“St Mary’s aims to develop the talents of each pupil as a unique individual whose full potential can be developed in a community which has Christ at its centre.”

## Our Core Mission & Values:



As our School Mission Statement states: St Mary's aims to develop the skills and talents of all its pupils, in a nurturing family environment, which has Christ's living example of love at the heart of everything we do. As a thriving Catholic Christian school community, we have a unique and privileged position in living out this Mission: facilitating outstanding learning opportunities for our pupils; promoting values of empathy, tolerance and respect; being a living embodiment of 'church' for our wider school community.

## Our Vision:

A Vision of Growth from St Catherine of Siena:

"Be who God means you to be and you will set the world on fire."

The vision of St Mary's RC Primary School is as a hub of excellence in all we do: Educational Excellence, in our Teaching and Learning, in the formative Faith experiences we help facilitate for our pupils and wider school family, and in the way in which we strive to build God's Kingdom in our local and global community, piece by piece. By each member of our school family being encouraged, supported and inspired to live and work to the absolute fullness of their potential, our school will continue to be a beacon of educational, spiritual and community excellence for all to see.

## Our Commitments to Excellence and Growth:

As a community dedicated to excellence and growth in all we do, we commit to striving towards being the absolute best we can be. As a learning community, we have the highest expectations of our pupils, and as such, hold ourselves to account by the highest standards. Our home school partnership aims to outline the commitments we make towards one another, in order that we may best meet the needs of all pupils in our school. As a learning community, we strive to work as closely as possible with the parents and carers of our young people, as initial educators, to support and encourage educational, social, moral, physical and spiritual growth and development. Through choosing the family of St Mary's for your child's education, you are choosing to enter in to a partnership which strives to support, encourage, empathise and enable, and one of which we hope to all be proud.

## Our Curriculum:



At St Mary's, we strive to offer a broad and balanced Curriculum, based on firm groundings, which inspires, motivates and supports, and is delivered by highly skilled Teachers and support staff. We are committed to excellence in all we do, and the promotion of growth and development of each individual child.

The principles of the St Mary's Curriculum are as follows:



## Curriculum Subjects:

Our Core Curriculum consists of Religious Education, English, Mathematics and Science. Alongside this, pupils will access a Foundation Curriculum through which topics in Humanities (History and Geography), Computing, Art and Design Technology, Music, Physical Education and French will be taught. You will be able to see the class' planned units of study outlined on their Curriculum Overview. Further information can be found on our school website <http://www.whickhamstmarys.org.uk/curriculum.html>

# Year 4 Curriculum Overview:

	Autumn 1		Autumn 2			Spring 1		Spring 2			Summer 1				Summer 2	
<b>English</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Historical Fiction:</b> The Legend of Romulus and Remus, Julius Caesar by William Shakespeare</li> <li><b>Non-fiction linked to history topic:</b></li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Contemporary Fiction</b> Coraline by Neil Gaiman</li> <li><b>Non-fiction linked to Geography topic:</b> report about the UK</li> <li><b>Poetry</b> - Syllabic poems</li> <li><b>Christmas Focus</b> 1 week</li> </ul>			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Rivers</b> – The Rhythm of the Rain</li> <li><b>Non-fiction</b> – Persuasion / discussion text – Animals in Captivity</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Classic Children's Literature</b> The Wind in the Willows by Kenneth Grahame</li> <li><b>Non-fiction</b> - Diary or Letter related to Twitter</li> <li><b>Poetry</b> – List Poems and Kennings</li> </ul>			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>1001 Arabian Nights</b> by Geraldine McCaughrean</li> <li><b>Non-fiction</b> Information Text – Ancient Egyptians</li> </ul>				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Narrative</b></li> <li><b>Non-fiction</b> – Recount</li> <li><b>Poetry</b> – Odes and Insults</li> </ul>	
<b>Maths</b>	Place Value	Number: Addition and Subtraction	Measurement: Length and Perimeter	Number: Multiplication and Division		Number: Multiplication and Division	Measurement: Area	Fractions	Decimals	Decimals	Money	Time	Statistics	Geometry: Properties of Shape	Geometry: Position and Direction	
<b>RE</b>	Domestic Church People	Judaism Torah	<b>Reconciliation Sacramental Preparation</b>	RSHE Life to the Full Module 1	Advent Gift	Local Church Community	Islam Qur'an	RSHE Life to the Full Module 2	<b>Eucharist Sacramental Preparation</b>	Lent/Easter Self-Discipline	Pentecost New Life	RSHE Life to the Full Module 3	<b>Baptism Called</b>	Universal Church God's People		
<b>Science</b>	States of Matter		Electricity			Energy: Sound		Animals including humans			Living things and their habitats		Working Scientifically			
<b>History</b>	British History: Romans in Britain							World History: Ancient Egypt			World History: Ancient Egypt					
<b>Geography</b>			Study of the human and physical geography of the United Kingdom			Rivers							Geography Fieldwork Skills			
<b>Art</b>	Roman Mosaic: printing, mosaic, collage					Artist: Claude Monet – painting					Textiles: batik		<i>Art/DT project choice</i>			
<b>DT</b>			Woodwork: Light-up signs					Structures: Ancient Egyptian Shaduf					<i>Art/DT project choice</i>			
<b>Music</b>	String Orchestra - Led by Specialist Charanga: Mamma Mia		String Orchestra - Led by Specialist Christmas prep – 3 weeks			String Orchestra - Led by Specialist Charanga un: Lean on me		String Orchestra - Led by Specialist Charanga: Lean on Me			String Orchestra - Led by Specialist Charanga: Reflect, Rewind and Replay		String Orchestra - Led by Specialist Charanga: Reflect, Rewind and Replay			
<b>Computing</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Coding – 6 weeks</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Online Safety – 4 weeks</li> <li>Spreadsheets – 2 weeks</li> </ul>			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Spreadsheets continued – 4 weeks</li> <li>Writing for different audiences – 2 weeks</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Writing for different audiences continued - 3 weeks</li> <li>Logo – 3 week</li> </ul>			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Logo continued – 1 weeks</li> <li>Animation – 3 weeks</li> <li>Effective Search – 2 weeks</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Effective Search continued – 1 week</li> <li>Hardware investigators – 2 weeks</li> </ul>			
<b>French</b>	Revise countries and weather		Learn cities in France Compass Points			Compass Points Holiday Activities – past tense		Write a postcard imagining you are on holiday in France. Numbers to 60. Use of some conjunctions			Drinks Opinions of drinks		Ice-cream flavours Café conversation			
<b>PE</b>	Gymnastics (Swimming)		Dance (Swimming)			Rugby Swimming		Hockey Swimming			OAA Swimming		Athletics Swimming			

# Year 4 Autumn Targets



## Maths:

- Recall multiplication and division facts for all times tables
- Use Times Table Rockstars regularly to improve accuracy and speed of recall
- Use the standard written methods for column addition and subtraction (with exchanges)

## Writing:

- Check common spellings carefully - particularly words beginning with a w (*which, when, want, went* etc) and homophones (*there/their, where, were, to/two* etc)
- Ensure correct use of apostrophes for possession (*the cat's whiskers*) and contraction (*did not* → *didn't*, *were not* → *weren't* etc)
- Check work for accurate use of capital letters and full stops – look out for 'run-on' sentences or sentence fragments
- Practise using a joined, fluent handwriting style, ensuring correct letter formation and joins

## Reading:

- Read every night at home and bring reading diary into school to be checked
- Use Reading Plus regularly
- Scan a text to find specific information to answer retrieval questions
- Discuss the meaning of new or unusual vocabulary using the context to help

# Important Information for Year 4:



## Homework

Homework will continue to be set via eSchools. All pupils have their own login details to access weekly messages with activities to be completed at home. Homework will usually be set on a **Thursday**. This will consist of at least one English task and one Maths task, plus weekly spellings, and will utilise a number of online services to which the school subscribes such as IXL, Reading Plus and Times Table Rockstars. Homework does not need to be returned. It should be discussed with an adult at home. The class teacher can track engagement and progress on many of the online services used for home learning.

## PE

PE will take place every **Thursday**. Children should come to school on their PE day in full PE kit which comprises:

- School PE t-shirt (yellow).
- School hoody.
- Plain navy tracksuit bottoms.
- Trainers.

## Swimming

We will be going swimming on **Thursday** mornings at Dunston Leisure Centre. Children should bring a small, clearly named drawstring bag or rucksack. Pupils should bring a swimsuit (no long boardshorts), a towel and – if they can confidently put one on without adult assistance – a swim cap. Pupils may also bring their own goggles. Pupils will be using the changing room facilities before and after their lesson.

## Reading Diaries

Please encourage your child to read regularly and bring their reading diary in to school **every day**. Class teachers will check pupils' reading diaries and reward those pupils making particular effort with their reading. Any reading counts, whether it is a novel, comic or children's newspaper. Books may be borrowed from the class library and returned to school with the reading diary in the folder provided. Please ensure that your child takes good care of school resources at home.

## Spellings

The children will be tested each week on set spellings. All spellings follow the Year 3 & 4 Programme of Study. We would encourage children to use a wide range of spelling strategies in order to learn their weekly patterns and to tackle particular difficulties with important spellings.



### Spelling Menu

Try to use a range of strategies to practise your weekly spellings.

	<p><u>Word Parts</u></p> <p>Write your word in different colours to divide the word into syllables.</p> <p><b>caterpillar</b></p>	<p><u>Other Handed</u></p> <p>Write each word 5 times switching the hand you write with. Say the word as you spell it.</p> 	<p><u>Vowel Spotlight</u></p> <p>Write your words using one colour for the vowels and another for the consonants.</p> 
<p><u>Pyramid words</u></p> <p>s sp spe spel spell spelli spelling spelling</p>	<p><u>Rainbow Writing</u></p> <p>Write your word out using a different colour for each letter.</p> 	<p><u>Writing Race</u></p> <p>Set a timer for 2 minutes. How many times can you write the word out in your best handwriting?</p> 	<p><u>Bubble Letters</u></p> <p>Write your spellings out in bubble writing.</p> 
<p><u>Train words</u></p> <p>Write the entire list end-to-end as one long word. Write each word as a new colour.</p> <p>environmentstatementamazementdevelopment</p>	<p><u>Backwards Words</u></p> <p>Write each word forwards and then backwards.</p> <p><b>BACKWARDS</b></p>	<p><u>Spelling Scribble</u></p> <p>Draw a scribble and write your words as many times as you can in each section.</p> 	<p><u>Silly Sentences</u></p> <p>Write 3 or more silly sentences using as many of your spelling words as you can.</p> 
<p><u>X Factor</u></p> <p>Write 2 words with one letter in common so that they cross through each other.</p> <p>cheese rad</p>	<p><u>Words within words</u></p> <p>How many new words can you make using the letters from one of your spelling words?</p> <p>E.g. catch - Cat, hat, hatch, at</p>	<p><u>Words without vowels</u></p> <p>Write all of your words replacing your vowels with a dash. Go back and see if you can fill in the vowels.</p> <p>E.g. q--s-t-- = question</p>	<p><u>Picture and Story</u></p> <p>Draw a picture defining each word. Write a sentence about your picture using the spelling word.</p> 
<p><u>Ransom Words</u></p> <p>Cut letters out of a newspaper or magazine to spell your words.</p> 	<p><u>Scrabble</u></p> <p>In a game of Scrabble, each letter is worth a number of points. Work out the total points for each word.</p>		<p><u>ABC Order</u></p> <p>Write all of your spelling words in alphabetical order.</p> 

## Weekly Timetable:

Year 4	9-9.30	9.30-10.30	10.30-10.45	10.45 – 11	11-12	12-1	1-2	2-3.15		
<b>Mon</b>	Guided Reading	Maths		SPAG HW	English		1-1.30 Collective Worship	2-3 String Orchestra <i>Mrs Cuggy</i>		
<b>Tues</b>	Guided Reading	Maths		SPAG HW	English		RE			
<b>Wed</b>	Guided Reading	Maths		English		RE	Science	Computing <i>Mrs Eden</i>		
<b>Thurs</b>	Swimming			10.45 – 11.20 PE <i>Mrs Dobson</i>		11.20 – 12 French <i>Mrs Innerdale</i>		Guided Reading	Maths	English
<b>Fri</b>	Guided Reading	Maths		SPAG HW	English		History / Geography	Art / DT	2.30 Celebration Assembly	

Please note, the class timetable may change throughout the year to accommodate changes in staffing/curriculum etc.



## How can I help my child at home?

There is a wealth of online material you can use to support your child's ongoing learning at home. Here are a few websites we would recommend to support parents in reinforcing key learning concepts with their child and provide useful home learning challenges.

### Free online resources:

- **White Rose Maths home learning resources** (<https://whiterosemaths.com/homelearning/>)  
White Rose is the Maths scheme we follow in school. These home learning videos and follow-up tasks demonstrate 'how' concepts are taught and explored in school. Particularly useful when your child is stuck with a concept or strategy at home. Follows our planning so that you can 'keep up' with sequences of learning and revisit key areas of learning with your child.
- **Oak National Academy** (<https://classroom.thenational.academy/>)  
Online resource with a wealth of 'home learning lessons' and activities. Good resource base for revision and continued home study.
- **BBC Bitesize** (<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/articles/zvqgsk7>)  
'Home learning' and 'catch-up lessons' grouped by topic. Easy to navigate learning objectives with useful explanation videos and follow up tasks and challenges to complete.
- **Oxford Owl** (<https://home.oxfordowl.co.uk/>)  
Free ebooks for children aged 3-11.
- **Top Marks** (<https://www.topmarks.co.uk/>)  
Free learning games and resources in a range of subject areas.
- **Gateshead Libraries Borrowbox** (<https://capitadiscovery.co.uk/gateshead/>)  
Free membership with unlimited borrowing of a range of ebook and audiobook titles.

## Username and password provided by school:

- **IXL** (<https://uk.ixl.com>)  
Comprehensive English and Maths tasks linked to learning objectives for all year groups. Great for consolidation, practice, support and challenge. To be used independently (where appropriate) or supported by an adult.
- **Times Table Rockstars**  
(<https://play.ttrockstars.com/auth/school/student/19730>)  
Multiplication table challenges; very effective way of learning multiplication and division facts for rapid recall.
- **Numbots** (<https://play.numbots.com/#/account/school-login/19730>)  
Linked to TTRS (same username and password); challenges designed for quick recall of addition and subtraction facts.
- **Reading Plus** (<https://student.readingplus.com/seereader/api/sec/login> with site code: rpstmar15)  
Highly comprehensive reading scheme which adapts to the needs of the reader. Designed to develop fluency, comprehension and motivation.
- **Purple Mash** (<https://www.purplemash.com/sch/stmarysne16>)  
Comprehensive resource base for all kinds of learning activities for many different subject areas. Especially good for Computing and ICT.

# What's Special in Year 4:



## Y4 Multiplication Tables Check (MTC)

All state-funded maintained schools and academies (including free schools) in England are required to administer an online multiplication tables check (MTC) to Year 4 pupils.

The national curriculum specifies that pupils should be taught to recall the multiplication tables up to and including  $12 \times 12$  by the end of year 4. The purpose of the MTC is to determine whether pupils can recall their times tables fluently, which is essential for future success in mathematics. It will help schools to identify pupils who have not yet mastered their times tables, so that additional support can be provided.

The MTC will be undertaken by pupils in June. Teachers will have the flexibility to administer the check to individual pupils, small groups or a whole class at the same time.

Times Table Rockstars have developed activities that are based upon the MTC which we will use to prepare the children throughout the year. Regular practice on Times Table Rockstars at home will greatly support your child in improving their recall of multiplication and division facts.

## First Holy Communion

Throughout Year 4, children who have been Baptised, and whose parents would like to support them in making the next steps in their Sacramental journey, will be given the opportunity to prepare to receive the Sacraments of Reconciliation and Holy Communion.

The Sacramental Preparation sessions will take place alongside Curriculum RE, with many of the themes of both programmes being shared. The class may also be supported by Catechists from the parish community.

Further information will be shared at a meeting in school later in the Autumn term.

## String Orchestra

Our music curriculum in Year 4 will be delivered through the string orchestra project through which each child in the class will learn to play either a violin, viola or cello. Mrs Cuggy, from the Gateshead Music Service will lead the classes every Monday. Each child will be loaned an instrument from the service for the year which we would ask parents/carers to find a safe space for at home. The instruments must be well looked after. Issues regarding the instruments should be raised promptly with school.

## RE:

This term, within our 'Come and See' Curriculum, we will be studying the three themes of Domestic Church (Family), Baptism and Confirmation (Belonging) and Advent and Christmas (Loving). Each class will approach the themes through different topics. The children will also spend a week studying Judaism.

### Whole-School Curriculum Overview ('Come and See') – Autumn Term

#### DOMESTIC CHURCH – FAMILY

Early Years	MYSELF - God knows and loves each one
Year 1	FAMILIES - God's love and care for every family
Year 2	BEGINNINGS - God is present in every beginning
Year 3	HOMES - God's vision for every family
Year 4	PEOPLE - The family of God in Scripture
Year 5	OURSELVES - Created in the image and likeness of God
Year 6	LOVING - God who never stops loving

#### SUGGESTIONS FOR HOME ACTIVITIES

Make a collage using family photographs of all the significant family members—grandparents, parents, children, aunts, uncles etc. who show God's love.  
Write underneath it  
"We show God's love to one another."  
Include those who have died.

#### JUDAISM

Pupils will study various aspects of Judaism for one week. Ask them what they have been learning about.

#### BAPTISM AND CONFIRMATION - BELONGING

Early Years	WELCOME - Baptism: a welcome to God's family
Year 1	BELONGING - Baptism: an invitation to belong to God's family
Year 2	SIGNS AND SYMBOLS - Signs and symbols in Baptism
Year 3	PROMISES - Promises made at Baptism
Year 4	CALLED - Confirmation: a call to witness
Year 5	LIFE CHOICES - Marriage, commitment and service
Year 6	VOCATION AND COMMITMENT - The vocation of priesthood and religious life

#### SUGGESTIONS FOR HOME ACTIVITIES

Talk to someone who has been to a Baptism and/or Confirmation about their memories of this celebration.

#### ADVENT/CHRISTMAS - LOVING

Early Years	BIRTHDAY - Looking forward to Jesus' birthday
Year 1	WAITING - Advent: a time to look forward to Christmas
Year 2	PREPARATIONS - Advent: preparing to celebrate Christmas
Year 3	VISITORS - waiting for the coming of Jesus
Year 4	GIFT - God's gift of love and friendship in Jesus
Year 5	HOPE - Advent: waiting in the joyful hope for Jesus, the promised one
Year 6	EXPECTATIONS - Jesus born to show God to the world

#### SUGGESTIONS FOR HOME ACTIVITIES

Discuss with the children how your family welcomes visitors to your home.  
Find out about some Christian symbols for Advent e.g. Advent wreath, calendar, Jesse tree.  
Use the CAFOD or Missio websites to get a religious Advent calendar.

## Important Dates in the Church:

### **ALL SAINTS**

(1 November)

We celebrate the lives of special and ordinary people who have responded to God's invitation to love.

### **THE COMMEMORATION OF ALL THE FAITHFUL DEPARTED (ALL SOULS)**

(2 November)

Today and throughout the rest of November we pray for those who have died. Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them. May they rest in peace. Amen.

### **OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, UNIVERSAL KING**

(20 November)

### **ADVENT**

(Begins 27 November)

Advent means 'coming'. We think of the coming of Jesus when he was born but we also think of his promise that he would come again at the end of time. It is a time of waiting and preparing. It is only in the last week of Advent that we focus upon the events to be celebrated at Christmas.

### **THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY**

(8 December)

This feast marks the first stage of the existence of Mary, the mother of Jesus. She was 'full of grace' from the very beginning and co-operated with God throughout her life.

### **CHRISTMAS DAY, THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD**

(25 December)

On this day we begin our celebration of the birth of Christ.

### **THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY AND JOSEPH**

(30 December)

## Term Dates:

2022-23

	START	END	HALF-TERM
<b>AUTUMN</b>	05.09.22	23.12.22	24.10.22 – 28.10.22
<i>INSET</i>	05.09.22 and 23.12.22		
<b>SPRING</b>	09.01.23	31.03.23	20.02.23 – 24.02.23
<i>INSET</i>	<i>TBC</i>		
<b>SUMMER</b>	17.04.23	21.07.23	29.05.23 – 02.06.23
<i>INSET</i>	<i>TBC</i>		

### Dates for the Diary

Please continue to check the weekly News Bulletin for updates.