



Curriculum Information Year 3 2016-17



“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 (Reading, Writing – including Phonics, and Grammar, Punctuation and Spelling), Mathematics and Science. Alongside this, pupils will access a Foundation Curriculum based on half-termly topics, in Humanities (History and Geography), Computing, Art and Design Technology, Music, Computing, Physical Education and Languages. Each Term, parents/carers will receive a Curriculum overview of the key learning objectives in each curriculum area.

Extended Learning Opportunities:

Alongside our Core and Foundation Curriculum, pupils will access a rich wider range of learning opportunities which we call our Extended Learning Opportunities. These centre on the key areas of: Information and Communication Technology, Arts and Culture, Global Citizenship and the Rights Respecting Agenda, Outdoor Learning, Sport and Exercise. You will see these outlined in each class' termly Curriculum Map.

Whole-School Learning Weeks:



As a way of enriching the pupils' learning experiences in school, each half-term we 'collapse' our Foundation Curriculum for one week for pupils to engage in a whole school learning focus. These weeks aim to foster in our pupils a thirst for knowledge, a creative outlook and a love of learning. This year's themes are:

| TERM | LEARNING FOCUS |
|----------|---|
| Autumn 1 | Rights Respecting Week for Change |
| Autumn 2 | STEM Week (Science, Technology, Engineering, Maths) |
| Spring 1 | Global Citizenship – Kenya |
| Spring 2 | Mission Week |
| Summer 1 | History Explorers |
| Summer 2 | Creative Arts Week |

Extra-Curricular Activity

As a learning community, we believe passionately that our pupils should also receive opportunities to develop skills and talents outside of the school curriculum. The programme for the up-coming year is as follows (**external personnel**):

| Activity | Available to | Lead by |
|--|---------------|-------------------------------------|
| School Choir | Years 2 - 6 | Mrs Sanderson |
| Sports Clubs (varying) | All KS2 | Mr Colling and Mrs Joyce |
| Cycling Club | Year 5 | Mr Colling (& Ben Tweedie) |
| Mini-Vinnies | Year 4 | Mrs McTernan (& Mrs Salmon) |
| Reading Club | Years 5 and 6 | Mrs Ledger |
| School Librarians | Years 5 and 6 | Mrs Norman |
| Art Ambassadors | TBC | Mrs Pomeroy |
| Gardening Club | TBC | Mrs Gardner and Mrs Recchia |
| School Council and Rights Respecting Ambassadors | Years 2 - 6 | Mr Wheatley and Mr Colling |
| Tennis Club | KS1 and 2 | Blaydon Tennis Club |
| Happy Feet Dance | KS1 and 2 | Nicola Liddle |
| Irish Dancing | Y1 - 6 | Kelly Hendry |
| Gymnastics | KS1 and 2 | Julie & team |

Routines for Year 3:



Homework

Your child will receive homework weekly on a Thursday to be returned to school with their blue bag on a Monday. Homework will normally be a piece of Maths and a piece of English. Occasionally, Maths or English may be replaced by a Science or Humanities (History or Geography) task.

Spellings

Each week, alongside homework, children will bring home a list of spellings. These reflect the Year 3 spelling syllabus and children will be tested on the spellings the following Friday.

Reading diaries

Reading diaries will be given to every child. The children are asked to bring their diaries in on certain days (depending on their reading group) and they can take them home the same day. The days for children to bring their diaries in are as follows:

Monday - **Authors**

Tuesday - **Illustrators**

Wednesday - **Editors**

Thursday - **Publishers**

Friday - **Reporters**

The reading diaries will be checked and those who read regularly will be rewarded. Please encourage your child to read at home and record it in their diaries.

PE

PE will take place on a Friday morning. Children should take full responsibility for remembering their own PE kits!

What's Special in Year 3:



Practical Pedestrian training

In Year 3 children take part in Child Pedestrian Training. During the sessions, children are encouraged to develop strategies for crossing the road safely. Children are supervised by road safety instructors and will learn how to:

- Choose safer places to cross the road
- Cross safely near parked cars
- Cross safely at junctions

The training takes place on a Tuesday afternoon in the first half of Autumn Term and consists of 2 classroom sessions and 4 outdoor sessions. Please ensure your child has a coat and suitable footwear for the outdoor sessions.

Music Tuition – Drumming

In the Summer Term, as part of the Year 3 Music curriculum, children will receive tuition in drumming with Mr Long, from the Gateshead Music Service. Children will learn rhythms and techniques for the West African Djembe drum, as well as Brazilian Samba. There will be a showcase for parents in the Summer Term.

Weekly Timetable:

| | 9-9.30 | 9.30-10.30 | 10.30-10.45 | 10.45-11.45 | 12.00-1.00 | 1.00-2.00 | 2.00-3.15 | AFTER SCHOOL |
|-----------|--------------------|--|-------------|-------------|-------------|--------------------------------------|--------------|---------------------------|
| Y3 | Collective Worship | Guided Reading English Writing Target RS | Break | | Break | | RE | Staff Meeting |
| Monday | Guided Reading | Maths | Maths CD | English | Maths CD | English Djembe and Salsa Drumming | Topic Art/DT | Directed Time |
| Tuesday | Guided Reading | English RS | Maths CD | English | Maths CD | Science KS2 Literacy 1-120 | Science | |
| Wednesday | Guided Reading | Maths | English | English | English | RE | ICT | |
| Thursday | Guided Reading | PE CD | PE CD | ICT RS | English | RE | RE | |
| Friday | French AI | PE CD | PE CD | ICT RS | English | RE | RE | Celebration Assembly 2.45 |