



Curriculum Information Year 4 2021-22



“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-information.html>).

Year 4 Curriculum Overview:

	Autumn 1		Autumn 2		Spring 1		Spring 2		Summer 1			Summer 2		
English	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Historical Fiction: The Legend of Romulus and Remus, Julius Caesar and William Shakespeare Non-fiction linked to history topic 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Contemporary Fiction Coraline by Neil Gaiman Non-fiction linked to Geography topic - report Poetry - Syllabic Poems Christmas Focus 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Rivers – The Rhythm of the Rain Non-fiction – Persuasion /discussion text – Animals in Captivity 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Classic Children's Literature –The Wind in the Willows Non-fiction - Diary or Letter related to TWitW Poetry –List Poems and Kennings 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1001 Arabian Nights by Geraldine. McCaughrean Non-fiction - Information Text – Ancient Egyptians 			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Narrative Non-fiction – Recount 1 week Poetry – Odes and Insults 		
Maths	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
RE	<i>Domestic Church People</i>	<i>Judaism Torah</i>	<i>Reconciliation Sacramental Preparation</i>	<i>Advent Gift</i>	<i>Local Church Community</i>	<i>Eucharist Sacramental Preparation</i>	<i>Lent/Easter Self-Discipline</i>	<i>Pentecost New Life</i>	<i>Baptism Called</i>	<i>Islam Qur'an</i>	<i>Universal Church God's People</i>			
Science	States of Matter		Electricity		Energy: Sound		Animals including humans		Living things and their habitats			Working Scientifically		
History	British History: Romans in Britain						World History: Ancient Egypt		World History: Ancient Egypt					
Geography			Study of the human and physical geography of the United Kingdom		Rivers							Geography Fieldwork Skills		
Art	Roman Mosaic: printing, mosaic, collage				Artist: Claude Monet – painting				Textiles: batik			<i>Art/DT project choice</i>		
DT			Electrical Systems & Woodwork: Light-up signs				Structures: Ancient Egyptian tombs					<i>Art/DT project choice</i>		
Music	String Orchestra - Led by Specialist Charanga: Mamma Mia		String Orchestra - Led by Specialist Christmas prep – 3 weeks		String Orchestra - Led by Specialist Charanga: Stop!		String Orchestra - Led by Specialist Charanga: Lean on Me		String Orchestra - Led by Specialist Charanga: Blackbird			String Orchestra - Led by Specialist Charanga: Reflect, Rewind and Replay		
Computing	Coding		Online Safety Spreadsheets		Spreadsheets continued Writing for different audiences		Writing for different audiences continued Logo		Logo continued Animation Effective Search			Effective Search continued Hardware Investigators		
French	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		
PE	Gymnastics Swimming		Dance Swimming		Rugby Swimming		Hockey Swimming		OAA Swimming			Athletics Swimming		

Curriculum Recovery



In responding to the lost school time faced by many of our pupils over the past two years, we have made continuing provision across our Curriculum to aid continued learning by:

- Revisiting and consolidating key learning from their previous year's study.
- Teaching new concepts affected by previous school closures as part of new units visited in their current year group.
- Revising certain units of study taking into consideration potential lost learning (taking into consideration the difficulties with delivering our curriculum remotely).

As a school we believe that good recovery planning,

DOES:

- Prioritise above all else the child's emotional well-being.
- Build progressively on children's prior learning.
- Take into consideration what children have learned – not what we expect them to have learned.
- Build in time for exploring, consolidating and revisiting key points of learning.
- Focus on short-term targets and ongoing review as well as having a view of the 'bigger picture'.
- Aim for security and confidence.

DOES NOT:

- 'Cram' learning – which can lead to cognitive overload.
- Miss out 'chunks' of learning.
- Prioritise Core subjects to the ultimate detriment of Foundation curricula.
- Give undue weighting towards a particular assessment or test.

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) or blue school polo shirt.
- School hoody, sweatshirt or cardigan.
- Plain tracksuit bottoms (ideally navy or black).
- Trainers.

Appropriate alternative sports kit may be worn occasionally if required (ie. Not simply a preference).

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>caterpillar</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>BACKWARDS</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>ch e e s e a d</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:

8:40-8:55	9:00-9:30	9:30-10:40	10:40-10:55	10:55-12:00	12:00-12:30	12:30-13:00	13:00-13:30	13:30-14:30	14:30-15:20	
Monday	SPaG & Handwriting	Maths	Break	English	Guided Reading	Lunch (Hall)	Lunch Break	RE <i>*Collective Worship 13:30</i>	History/Geography	
Tuesday	SPaG & Handwriting	Maths		English	Guided Reading			RE	Computing <i>Mrs Eden</i>	
Wednesday	SPaG & Handwriting	Maths		English	Guided Reading			RE	Science	
Thursday	Swimming			French <i>Mrs Innerdale</i>	PE <i>Mrs Dobson</i>			Guided Reading	English	Maths
Friday	SPaG & Handwriting	Maths		English	Guided Reading			Art/DT/Music		<i>Celebration Assembly</i>

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

Remote Learning Curriculum

Though we remain hopeful that we will not face a full school closure this academic year, full – or more likely, partial – school closures cannot be ruled out within the climate of the current coronavirus pandemic.

All schools must now have a remote learning curriculum to ensure continuity in learning should children be unable to attend school for a period of time.

In the eventuality of pupils being asked to stay away from school for a period of time, the class teacher would continue to provide daily learning tasks to be undertaken at home which would:

- Amount to broadly the same number of hours 'learning' as a typical school day.
- Be supplemented with 'teaching' materials (eg. videos) to introduce new content.
- Feedback from teachers to support ongoing learning and progress.
- Utilise online platforms familiar to the children.
- Not be heavily reliant on printed materials.
- Seek to benefit from adult support provided at home.

Eschools is the learning platform which we will use to share all tasks, instructions and resources, to receive messages and work, and to respond to pupils. Please ensure that you and your child are confident using eschools, and that you contact school asap if you do not have access to an appropriate internet-ready device, and/or basic learning materials/stationary at home.

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)

From the 2019/20 academic year onwards, all state-funded maintained schools and academies (including free schools) in England will be 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 12×12 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, would normally be given the opportunity to prepare to receive the Sacraments of Reconciliation and Holy Communion.

We fully expect that this will be the case this year however guidance has yet to be issued by the Bishops' Conference of England and Wales regarding the preparation of new cohorts

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.

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

(25 November)

ADVENT

(Begins 28 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:

2021-22

	START	END	HALF-TERM
AUTUMN	6.09.21	17.12.21	25.10.21-28.10.21
<i>INSET</i>	06.09.21		
SPRING	04.01.22	08.04.22	21.02.22- 25.02.22
<i>INSET</i>			
SUMMER	25.04.22	22.07.22	30.05.22-03.06.22
<i>INSET</i>			

Dates for the Diary

Please continue to check the weekly News Bulletin for updates.