ST MARY'S

CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

In All Things Love

What your child will learn

A guide for parents and carers

Reception / EYFS to Year 6

Every area of learning. Every subject.

2026–2027

EYFS | Y1 | Y2 | Y3 | Y4 | Y5 | Y6

Growing in knowledge, confidence and care for others.

HARBORNE • BIRMINGHAM

A clear picture of your child’s learning

This guide brings together the main knowledge, skills and topics children explore across the year at St Mary’s. It helps you see what comes next and start conversations about learning at home.

Find your year group

Reception / EYFS	Ages 4–5	Pages 3–5
Year 1	Ages 5–6	Pages 6–8
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How to use the guide

The statements describe what children are taught and practise. Learning builds over time: children may need different amounts of support, practice or challenge. Teachers adapt activities so every child can take part and make progress.

EYFS learning is organised through seven connected areas, explored through play, conversation and guided activities. From Year 1, the pages are organised by subject. Oracy means learning to speak, listen and think together.

These are whole-year highlights. Class curriculum maps give more detail about each half term. Reading, vocabulary, prayer, inclusion, children’s rights and care for others run throughout school life.

WHAT YOUR CHILD WILL LEARN IN

Reception

R

The foundations for learning

EYFS • Ages 4–5 • Your child will learn to...

Communication and Language

- Enjoy stories, rhymes, songs and back-and-forth conversations; learn new words and use them in play.
- Listen and respond, ask questions, explain an idea and describe something that has happened.
- Build longer spoken sentences, share ideas with a partner or group and listen to other people’s contributions.

Personal, Social and Emotional Development

- Build friendships, take turns, cooperate and begin to resolve disagreements with support.
- Name feelings, try ways to manage them and keep trying when something is difficult.
- Become more independent with everyday routines, learn about healthy choices, personal boundaries and trusted adults, and explore kind, safe behaviour online and offline.

Physical Development

- Develop strength, balance and coordination through running, jumping, climbing, dance, gymnastics and ball games.
- Use scissors, brushes, pencils and other small tools with increasing control.
- Move safely, manage personal care with growing independence and learn why movement, rest and healthy food help the body.

WHAT YOUR CHILD WILL LEARN IN

Reception

R

Early reading, writing and number

EYFS • Ages 4–5 • Your child will learn to...

Literacy: Reading and Enjoying Books

- Enjoy shared stories, poems and information books; talk about characters and events and retell a familiar story.
- Learn letter sounds through Little Wandle, blend sounds to read words and read short sentences matched to the phonics taught.
- Use pictures, new vocabulary and story language to explain ideas, while learning to read the printed words accurately.

Literacy: Writing

- Give meaning to marks and begin to write for a purpose, such as a name, label, message or story.
- Hear sounds in words and choose letters to represent them.
- Form recognisable letters and build towards short sentences that can be read back, with adult modelling and support.

Mathematics

- Develop a deep understanding of numbers to 10: count objects, recognise small amounts without counting and explore how numbers can be made.
- Compare quantities, recall number bonds within 5 and develop familiarity with bonds to 10, doubles and equal sharing.
- Count beyond 20, spot and create patterns, explore shapes and position, and compare length, weight and capacity through practical play.

WHAT YOUR CHILD WILL LEARN IN

Reception

R

Exploring, creating and growing in faith

EYFS • Ages 4–5 • Your child will learn to...

Understanding the World

- Explore family, home, school and Harborne; use simple maps and compare familiar places with farms, the seaside and other environments.
- Talk about memories, people who help us and differences between life in the past and now; learn about different families, cultures and beliefs.
- Observe seasons, plants, minibeasts and animals; investigate ice, water and materials. Follow instructions, explore simple technology and sort information with support.

Expressive Arts and Design

- Draw faces and animals, mix colours, print, collage and arrange natural materials, including ideas inspired by Andy Goldsworthy.
- Design and make house models, soup, hanging egg decorations and boats; choose materials, join, test and improve.
- Explore sounds and instruments, sing and move to music, and create stories through role play, puppets and imaginative performance.

Religious Education and Prayer

- Learn that God loves each person and that Christians care for the world and one another.
- Encounter Bible stories, including Jesus' birth and Easter, and become familiar with prayer, Christian signs and celebrations.
- Wonder, ask questions and respond through talk, play, art and quiet reflection, while learning to respect other people's beliefs.

A LITTLE LEARNING AT HOME

Share a story, sing a rhyme, count real objects and talk about something noticed on a walk. Leave time for play and conversation.

WHAT YOUR CHILD WILL LEARN IN

Year 1

1

Reading, number, faith and communication

Ages 5–6 • Your child will learn to...

Reading and Phonics

- Use Little Wandle phonics to blend sounds and read unfamiliar words, including words with different spellings for the same sound.
- Enjoy stories, poems and information books; retell events, talk about characters and explain a prediction.

Writing, Spelling and Handwriting

- Say a sentence aloud, write it and reread it. Put sentences in order to tell a short story or share information.
- Form letters clearly, spell using taught sounds, leave spaces and use capital letters, full stops and question marks. Join ideas with words such as and.

Mathematics

- Count, read and compare numbers to 100; add and subtract within 20 and recall number bonds.
- Count in 2s, 5s and 10s; explore equal groups, sharing, halves and quarters.
- Name common 2D and 3D shapes, describe position, compare measurements, recognise money and tell the time to the hour and half hour.

Religious Education

- Explore God as Creator, care for the world and learn familiar prayers, including the Our Father.
- Retell the Christmas story, events in Jesus' life, Holy Week and Easter; learn about the Ascension and Pentecost.
- Recognise Christian symbols, belonging to a worldwide Church and features of Jewish life.

Speaking and Listening: Oracy

- Explain an idea in order, give a reason and use new topic words.
- Listen and respond to a partner, ask when something is unclear and disagree kindly.

WHAT YOUR CHILD WILL LEARN IN

Year 1

1

Science, people, places and technology

Ages 5–6 • Your child will learn to...

Science

- Observe the seasons and weather; identify common plants, trees and animal groups.
- Name body parts and senses, and describe what different animals eat.
- Compare everyday materials, ask questions and use observations or simple tests to describe what happens.

Geography

- Explore weather, the local area and oceans. Locate the UK, continents and oceans on maps and globes.
- Compare Harborne with the Clent Hills, notice natural and human-made features, follow simple routes and record observations outdoors.
- Explain simple ways people can protect the ocean.

History

- Compare toys from the past and today, using objects, pictures and people’s memories.
- Explore Augustus Pugin and Birmingham buildings, then castles, kings and queens.
- Put events in order and use clues to explain how life has changed.

Computing

- Control a mouse, create digital pictures and follow precise instructions.
- Plan and test commands for a Bee-Bot, spotting and correcting a mistake.
- Use technology respectfully, keep personal information private and tell a trusted adult about anything worrying.

French

- Join in with French greetings, songs, stories and playground games.
- Use familiar words for food and feelings, explore French sounds and practise polite expressions.
- Respond through actions, pictures and spoken words, with models to help.

WHAT YOUR CHILD WILL LEARN IN

Year 1

1

Creating, performing and living well

Ages 5–6 • Your child will learn to...

Art and Design

- Explore line, colour and shape through Catherine Rayner’s hares, Modigliani portraits, Miró-inspired pictures and a Tree of Life.
- Draw, paint, collage and build paper sculptures; practise using tools and explain choices about colour and materials.

Design and Technology

- Design and make a puppet, a moving storybook and a healthy smoothie.
- Join materials, explore sliders or levers, prepare ingredients safely with support and describe how a product could work better.

Music

- Keep a steady beat, copy rhythms and explore high and low sounds, fast and slow music.
- Sing, play and create sounds through All About Me, Superheroes and Under the Sea, learning words to describe what is heard.

Physical Education

- Develop running, jumping, balance and coordination through dance, gymnastics and games.
- Control balls with hands, feet and rackets; cooperate in team challenges, follow rules and notice how activity helps the body.

Relationships, Health and Personal Development

- Recognise special people, treat others kindly, say sorry and know who can help.
- Learn about safe touch, worrying secrets and harmful substances, and practise asking a trusted adult for help.
- Explore belonging to a community and the ways people care for one another.

WHAT YOUR CHILD WILL LEARN IN

Year 2

2

Reading, number, faith and communication

Ages 6–7 • Your child will learn to...

Reading and Phonics

- Build fluent, expressive reading, using phonics when needed and checking that a sentence makes sense.
- Discuss vocabulary, sequence events and explain what a character may be thinking, using clues from the book.

Writing, Spelling and Handwriting

- Write stories, accounts of real events, information and poems; plan ideas and make improvements after rereading.
- Use past and present tense, descriptive phrases and words such as because and when.
- Practise spelling patterns and letter joins; use commas in lists and apostrophes in words such as don’t.

Mathematics

- Understand tens and ones; compare numbers to 100 and add and subtract two-digit numbers.
- Recall the 2, 5 and 10 times tables; use multiplication and division and recognise halves, quarters and thirds.
- Measure in standard units, solve money problems, tell time to five minutes, describe shapes and use simple charts.

Religious Education

- Explore the Bible, Noah and God’s promises, the signs of Baptism and prayers of praise.
- Learn about Jesus through the Church’s year, including Christmas and Easter, and consider how Christians put love into action.
- Explain the Good Samaritan’s message and learn about Jewish prayer, the synagogue and the Sabbath.

Speaking and Listening: Oracy

- Build on someone else’s idea, ask a useful follow-up question and make links with previous learning.
- Prepare a short talk, choose words for the audience and encourage others to join in.

WHAT YOUR CHILD WILL LEARN IN

Year 2

2

Science, people, places and technology

Ages 6–7 • Your child will learn to...

Science

- Compare living things, things that have died and things that have never been alive; explore habitats and simple food chains.
- Investigate plant growth, animals' basic needs and healthy habits.
- Choose materials for different purposes and use simple observations and tests to answer questions.

Geography

- Locate the UK's countries, capital cities and surrounding seas, and revisit the continents and oceans.
- Compare places in the UK and India, including landscape, weather and everyday life.
- Use simple compass directions, maps and fieldwork to describe and compare places.

History

- Explore the British Empire and Commonwealth through links with Birmingham's 2022 Commonwealth Games.
- Learn how coal mining shaped communities around Cannock Chase and investigate significant explorers.
- Use timelines and different sources to describe change, ask questions and explain why people are remembered.

Computing

- Recognise computers and explain the jobs of familiar parts.
- Create clear instructions, find errors and begin block coding in ScratchJr.
- Explore data through the International Space Station topic and learn rules for safe, kind use of technology.

French

- Explore animals, colours, shapes, numbers, food and the seaside through songs, stories and games.
- Take part in short supported exchanges, including buying something in a shop.
- Match familiar French words to pictures and copy simple labels carefully.

WHAT YOUR CHILD WILL LEARN IN

Year 2

2

Creating, performing and living well

Ages 6–7 • Your child will learn to...

Art and Design

- Explore portraits and patterns through Warhol, Mondrian, Mehndi designs, Picasso and Kusama.
- Combine drawing, colour, collage and oil pastels; fold paper to create an origami boat and a raised paper sea.
- Describe how artists' ideas have influenced personal choices.

Design and Technology

- Make a London Eye model using wheels and axles, prepare a healthy wrap with Indian spices and design a chair.
- Explore how moving parts work, make structures more stable, prepare food hygienically and test a finished product against its purpose.

Music

- Explore British songs and sounds, Indian instruments and improvisation, and instruments of the orchestra.
- Sing and keep a beat, create short musical ideas and choose sounds to tell a traditional story.

Physical Education

- Develop dodging, sending, receiving and simple attacking and defending skills, alongside dance, gymnastics and teamwork.
- Begin or build swimming confidence, learn safe pool routines and practise movement and control in water.

Relationships, Health and Personal Development

- Recognise individual differences, care for the body and manage feelings, including anger.
- Explore growing, beginnings, endings and change; learn safe online habits.
- Think about needs and wants, community life and the choices that help people live well together.

WHAT YOUR CHILD WILL LEARN IN

Year 3

3

Reading, number, faith and communication

Ages 7–8 • Your child will learn to...

Reading

- Read with growing fluency and use vocabulary clues to understand unfamiliar words.
- Find information, summarise main ideas, explore characters' motives and support an answer with details from the text.

Writing, Spelling and Handwriting

- Plan and write stories, explanations and other texts for a reader, grouping related ideas into paragraphs.
- Use headings, varied sentence openings, conjunctions and punctuation for speech.
- Develop joined handwriting, apply spelling patterns and reread to improve meaning and accuracy.

Mathematics

- Read and calculate with numbers to 1,000, including written addition and subtraction.
- Learn the 3, 4 and 8 times tables; multiply and divide and work with tenths and simple fractions.
- Measure perimeter, use money, tell time to the minute, recognise angles and interpret bar charts and tables.

Religious Education

- Explore the language of the Creation story, the dignity of people and the meaning of God's Kingdom.
- Connect Scripture, the Church's celebrations and the Mass; learn about the Trinity and the early Church.
- Explore Passover and its links with the Last Supper, and learn about Muslim beliefs and practices.

Speaking and Listening: Oracy

- Use more precise subject words, summarise a partner's ideas and explain another viewpoint fairly.
- Take different discussion roles, help a group reach agreement and adapt a presentation for its listeners.

WHAT YOUR CHILD WILL LEARN IN

Year 3

3

Science, people, places and technology

Ages 7–8 • Your child will learn to...

Science

- Investigate rocks and soils, forces and magnets, and how light helps us see.
- Learn about nutrition, skeletons and muscles, and the parts and life cycle of flowering plants.
- Make careful observations, take measurements and use results to answer scientific questions.

Geography

- Explore UK regions, settlements, climate zones and biomes: large regions with characteristic plants and animals.
- Investigate rainforests, including the Amazon, and compare them with UK forests.
- Use maps and geographical evidence to explain how people and environments are connected.

History

- Trace changes in Britain from the Stone Age through the Bronze and Iron Ages, and explore Ancient Egypt.
- Compare homes, beliefs, work and technology; place civilisations on a timeline.
- Use artefacts and other evidence to explain what can be learned about people’s lives.

Computing

- Explore networks, the internet and what happens inside a computer.
- Plan and edit a video trailer on an iPad; create and improve a program in Scratch.
- Discuss safe sharing, respectful communication and how to get help online.

French

- Follow classroom instructions and ask or answer questions about name, age, birthday and home.
- Talk about food likes and dislikes, read familiar phrases and adapt short written models.
- Link French sounds with spellings and notice that nouns are used with words such as un or une.

WHAT YOUR CHILD WILL LEARN IN

Year 3

3

Creating, performing and living well

Ages 7–8 • Your child will learn to...

Art and Design

- Explore Stonehenge tones, Arcimboldo food portraits, landscape depth, Kente-inspired printing, architectural patterns and Rousseau-inspired jungles.
- Develop drawing, painting, collage and printing; use colour, detail and placement to create an intended effect and explain improvements.

Design and Technology

- Prepare a seasonal tart, make an Egyptian collar and create a poster with an electrical system.
- Plan for a purpose, join textiles, connect components in a simple circuit and test whether the finished design works as intended.

Music

- Explore ballads, create music for an animation and use body and tuned percussion to represent a rainforest.
- Sing expressively, combine musical patterns and explain how chosen sounds help tell a story or create an atmosphere.

Physical Education

- Build control and teamwork through cricket, rounders, hockey, basketball, tennis and athletics.
- Link movements in gymnastics and dance, follow routes in orienteering and explain how practice and healthy choices improve performance.

Relationships, Health and Personal Development

- Explore friendships, family relationships, balancing needs and coping when relationships feel difficult.
- Learn about safe sharing and chatting online, bodily safety, recognising risks and the effects of harmful substances.
- Practise age-appropriate first-aid learning and explore rights, responsibilities and working together.

WHAT YOUR CHILD WILL LEARN IN

Year 4

4

Reading, number, faith and communication

Ages 8–9 • Your child will learn to...

Reading

- Read a wider range of texts with expression and explain how words create meaning.
- Retrieve and summarise information, infer feelings or motives and justify ideas using evidence from the text.

Writing, Spelling and Handwriting

- Develop characters, settings and organised non-fiction, using paragraphs to group ideas.
- Use accurate speech punctuation, pronouns, possessive apostrophes and sentence openings that explain when or where something happens.
- Improve vocabulary, spelling and joined handwriting, and edit with the reader in mind.

Mathematics

- Work with four-digit numbers, round numbers and calculate using written methods.
- Recall multiplication and division facts up to 12 × 12; explore equivalent fractions, tenths and hundredths.
- Use perimeter and area, convert measurements and times, explore angles and symmetry, plot coordinates and interpret graphs.

Religious Education

- Explore Abraham, Joseph, God’s covenant and the virtues of faith, hope and love.
- Explain how Jesus’ miracles show the welcome of God’s Kingdom and how the Church continues his work.
- Learn about St Paul, different Catholic traditions and the Five Pillars of Islam.

Speaking and Listening: Oracy

- Support a point with evidence, ask questions that deepen an explanation and rephrase an unclear idea.
- Use pace, pauses and gesture thoughtfully, give helpful feedback and make space for others’ contributions.

WHAT YOUR CHILD WILL LEARN IN

Year 4

4

Science, people, places and technology

Ages 8–9 • Your child will learn to...

Science

- Investigate solids, liquids and gases, the water cycle, sound and simple electrical circuits.
- Group living things and consider how environmental change affects them.
- Explore teeth, digestion and food chains; use measurements, fair comparisons and evidence to explain findings.

Geography

- Investigate Birmingham, compare the West Midlands with a region of Brazil and explore Fairtrade.
- Study water, its movement and supply, including Birmingham’s link with the Elan Valley.
- Use fieldwork, Ordnance Survey map symbols and four-figure grid references to investigate places.

History

- Explore Ancient Greece, the Romans and the Maya, comparing their achievements and ways of life.
- Investigate Roman links with the local area, including Metchley Fort.
- Use timelines and sources to explain causes, consequences and the influence of these societies today.

Computing

- Work together on digital documents using Google tools, sharing responsibly and respecting others’ work.
- Develop and debug Scratch programs and collect, organise and interpret weather data.
- Make thoughtful choices about privacy, online communication and digital content.

French

- Describe animals, family members and positions; use the verb être, meaning to be, in familiar sentences.
- Take part in short conversations and read and write simple descriptions.
- Choose words such as mon, ma and mes, and improve pronunciation and dictionary use.

WHAT YOUR CHILD WILL LEARN IN

Year 4

4

Creating, performing and living well

Ages 8–9 • Your child will learn to...

Art and Design

- Explore Greek masks, Picasso portraits, Roman mosaics, detailed Tree of Life drawing and Cézanne-inspired still life.
- Arrange and photograph objects, build with paper and card and make raised metal designs.
- Compare approaches and refine choices of line, pattern, colour and composition.

Design and Technology

- Create a Birmingham city structure, a Roman sandal with a fastening and a Mayan-inspired chocolate biscuit.
- Choose construction and joining methods, test the strength and usefulness of a design and follow a recipe safely and accurately.

Music

- Explore changing pitch, speed and volume through river music; adapt repeated musical ideas through the Romans topic.
- Perform samba and carnival rhythms, listening carefully to keep a part in time with others.

Physical Education

- Develop skills in cricket, badminton and athletics, alongside dance, gymnastics and cooperative outdoor challenges.
- Build swimming technique, stamina and water-safety skills.
- Use feedback to improve movement and explain how activity supports wellbeing.

Relationships, Health and Personal Development

- Respect differences and care for the body; learn about puberty and physical changes in an age-appropriate way.
- Recognise feelings, consider images and messages, and explore life cycles and coping with change.
- Think about community, helping others and responsible choices with money.

WHAT YOUR CHILD WILL LEARN IN

Year 5

5

Reading, number, faith and communication

Ages 9–10 • Your child will learn to...

Reading

- Read increasingly demanding texts and explore themes, viewpoints and the effect of language.
- Summarise across paragraphs, compare ideas and explain inferences with relevant evidence, discussing more than one possible interpretation.

Writing, Spelling and Handwriting

- Write for different purposes and audiences, shaping descriptions, dialogue and information deliberately.
- Link paragraphs, add detail through relative clauses and use commas, brackets or dashes clearly.
- Choose vocabulary carefully, apply spelling patterns and revise and proofread increasingly independently.

Mathematics

- Work with numbers to at least one million, negative numbers and efficient written calculation methods.
- Explore factors, multiples and primes; calculate with fractions and link fractions, decimals and percentages.
- Measure angles, calculate perimeter and area, convert units, reflect or translate shapes and interpret timetables and line graphs.

Religious Education

- Explore Moses, the Ten Commandments, David and the links between covenant, leadership and moral choices.
- Explain the Beatitudes, virtues and the gifts of the Holy Spirit, including their connection with Confirmation.
- Investigate how the Bible developed and learn about Jewish Scripture and the Shema prayer.

Speaking and Listening: Oracy

- Explain a viewpoint using relevant knowledge, consider different perspectives and keep a discussion focused.
- Speak clearly to a larger audience, use precise vocabulary and listen thoughtfully through longer contributions.

WHAT YOUR CHILD WILL LEARN IN

Year 5

5

Science, people, places and technology

Ages 9–10 • Your child will learn to...

Science

- Compare life cycles and learn about human development.
- Investigate material properties, dissolving, separating mixtures and reversible and irreversible changes.
- Explore forces, Earth and space; plan investigations, take careful measurements and use evidence to explain patterns.

Geography

- Explore North and South America, mountains and volcanoes, river formation and sustainable energy.
- Explain how rivers shape land and why people live near rivers, mountains or volcanoes.
- Use maps, river fieldwork and geographical evidence to compare places and consider environmental choices.

History

- Investigate Anglo-Saxon and Viking settlement, beliefs, conflict and the development of kingdoms.
- Trace Birmingham’s changes after the 1300s, including industrialisation and social reform.
- Compare sources and interpretations, explaining change and its effects on different people.

Computing

- Use search engines thoughtfully and consider the reliability of information.
- Program music in Scratch, explore how a Mars rover uses data and binary, and create stop-motion animation.
- Evaluate digital choices, protect privacy and respond appropriately to online concerns.

French

- Describe the body, clothes, colours, places in town and transport; ask and answer route questions.
- Read and write linked descriptions using familiar forms of to be and to have.
- Apply taught adjective patterns, build number knowledge and use a bilingual dictionary.

WHAT YOUR CHILD WILL LEARN IN

Year 5

5

Creating, performing and living well

Ages 9–10 • Your child will learn to...

Art and Design

- Explore Keith Haring’s visual storytelling, Lindisfarne illumination, Matisse collage, colour theory and Hokusai’s Great Wave.
- Respond to music through Kandinsky-inspired work, and use drawing, painting and collage to communicate an idea.
- Explain how composition, colour and technique affect the result.

Design and Technology

- Prepare chilli con carne, make an electrical doodler and design a pop-up book.
- Adapt and follow a recipe, explore a motor-driven circuit and use mechanisms to create movement.
- Test prototypes, identify problems and improve the final product for its user.

Music

- Explore music from South and West Africa, including layered rhythms and ensemble performance.
- Create loops and remixes, then compose music inspired by colour, rivers and blue.
- Refine musical choices and explain their intended effect.

Physical Education

- Apply skills and tactics in netball, dodgeball, cricket, badminton and tennis.
- Refine dance and gymnastics sequences, take part in orienteering and improve athletics techniques.
- Explore fitness, practise purposefully and support others in a team.

Relationships, Health and Personal Development

- Recognise pressure, practise consent and boundaries, and use helpful self-talk.
- Explore safe sharing, cyberbullying, types of abuse and how to seek help.
- Consider healthy choices, giving assistance, Catholic Social Teaching and the skills and responsibilities involved in work.

WHAT YOUR CHILD WILL LEARN IN

Year 6

6

Reading, number, faith and communication

Ages 10–11 • Your child will learn to...

Reading

- Read fluently and critically across fiction, poetry and non-fiction.
- Evaluate viewpoints and language, distinguish fact from opinion, compare texts and develop well-supported explanations using carefully chosen evidence.

Writing, Spelling and Handwriting

- Write sustained, coherent pieces with a clear audience and purpose, adapting formality and style.
- Use dialogue, vocabulary, paragraph links and punctuation to guide the reader; develop control of passive sentences, colons and semicolons.
- Edit for effect, proofread accurately and maintain fluent, legible handwriting.

Mathematics

- Calculate with large numbers, fractions and decimals, and solve percentage, ratio and multi-step problems.
- Use simple algebra and explain why a method works.
- Calculate area and volume, explore angles, shapes and coordinates in four quadrants, convert measures and interpret pie charts, line graphs and averages.

Religious Education

- Consider Creation, scientific accounts, human responsibility and the new covenant in Jesus.
- Explore signs in John’s Gospel, Jesus’ death and Resurrection, and how Christians witness to their faith.
- Discuss Catholic Social Teaching, the common good and different religious and non-religious worldviews.

Speaking and Listening: Oracy

- Develop an argument, respond to counterarguments and explain when evidence changes a view.
- Lead inclusive discussion, answer follow-up questions and adapt language and delivery to the audience.

WHAT YOUR CHILD WILL LEARN IN

Year 6

6

Science, people, places and technology

Ages 10–11 • Your child will learn to...

Science

- Classify living things and explore evolution, inheritance and adaptation.
- Investigate light and increasingly complex electrical circuits; learn about the circulatory system and the effects of lifestyle.
- Plan and evaluate investigations, identify variables and explain how strongly the evidence supports a conclusion.

Geography

- Explore Europe, global trade and natural disasters, including earthquakes.
- Explain how places are linked through goods and resources, and why disasters affect communities differently.
- Use grid references, maps, fieldwork and data to support explanations and consider different viewpoints.

History

- Study the World Wars, with a depth study of the First World War, and trace the development of government, democracy and rights.
- Explore Windrush, migration and belonging.
- Evaluate sources, recognise different interpretations and build an argument about significance, cause or change.

Computing

- Investigate Bletchley Park and the history of computers, how large amounts of data are used, and artificial intelligence.
- Begin text-based programming in Python, testing and correcting code.
- Question the accuracy and fairness of digital information and make responsible decisions about privacy and online behaviour.

French

- Talk about weather, seasons, sport, time, routines and school subjects; compare school life in France and the UK.
- Use familiar verb patterns to sustain exchanges and create connected writing.
- Read for main ideas and detail, express opinions and check language with reference tools.

WHAT YOUR CHILD WILL LEARN IN

Year 6

6

Creating, performing and living well

Ages 10–11 • Your child will learn to...

Art and Design

- Explore wartime still life, The Scream, Lichtenstein-inspired lettering, hair and movement, and Notan paper designs using positive and negative space.
- Combine observation, photography, tonal drawing and colour; refine personal decisions and apply skills to project and production work.

Design and Technology

- Design an Anderson-style war shelter, make a waistcoat and plan food for Come Dine with Me.
- Strengthen structures, use patterns and accurate joining in textiles, and organise safe food preparation.
- Evaluate the product against the needs of its intended user and justify improvements.

Music

- Explore songs of the Second World War and features of Baroque music.
- Develop expressive singing and ensemble skills, make considered musical choices and apply learning in an end-of-year production.

Physical Education

- Refine skills and tactics in hockey, tennis and rounders, and develop athletics, dance and gymnastics performance.
- Use communication and planning in outdoor challenges.
- Work towards swimming at least 25 metres, using different strokes effectively and performing safe self-rescue.

Relationships, Health and Personal Development

- Learn about puberty, body image, emotional changes, menstruation and human reproduction through the school's planned programme.
- Recognise healthy and controlling relationships, respond to harmful online content and manage change, loss and transition.
- Explore gifts, talents, money choices and responsibility towards others.

KEEP EXPLORING

Small conversations. Lasting learning.

Ask about the thinking

- What did you notice? How do you know? What changed your mind? What would you try next? A thoughtful conversation can be just as valuable as a written task.

Make room for everyday learning

- Share books, cook, play games, talk about the news, notice nature and explore local places. Encourage curiosity and enjoyment. There is no need to recreate the school day at home.

Stay in touch

- Use class updates and the half-term curriculum maps to see the current focus. Speak to your child’s teacher about strengths, questions or helpful support.

Faith and the school year

RE follows Discerning Disciples through six branches: Creation and Covenant; Prophecy and Promise; Galilee to Jerusalem; Desert to Garden; To the Ends of the Earth; and Dialogue and Encounter. Children revisit these through increasingly detailed learning. Sacramental preparation is arranged through St Mary’s Parish.

Find out more

School website and subject curriculum pages • Half-term curriculum maps

Curriculum basis: St Mary’s subject progression documents (2026–2027), published RE branch planning, and the EYFS and National Curriculum frameworks. November 2026.