

## Year 2 Class Curriculum Letter: Spring Term

17<sup>th</sup> January 2025

Dear Parents/Carers,

Happy New Year! I hope you all had a lovely and restful Christmas and New Year with your families. Below you will find an outline of the curriculum areas we will be covering up until Easter. This information should assist with your child's home studies, extending and enhancing their learning in the following areas.



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Executive Head: Geraldine Hampton  
Head of School: Tony Lynch  
Assistant Head: Marily Troyano

### English:

#### Reading:

Reading remains a vital aspect of your child's education. It becomes very evident in children's writing when they read regularly. Thus, to best support your child, **please ensure they read at home every evening**. This can be from a variety of texts including news articles and picture books.

Your child will be issued with a reading folder, a 'free reader/reading for pleasure' book that they will independently choose from the class library, as well as 1 or 2 levelled reading books. In addition, they will take home their yellow Reading Record, which will have a list of recommended reading books inside. I kindly ask if you could listen to your child read and sign these Reading Records regularly (**at least three times every week**). Listening to your child read and asking questions will support their comprehension and retrieval skills and progress can only be made with this invaluable parental support. These records will be checked **every Friday**. **Folders must be brought in everyday** and new books will be issued each week.

**Shared Texts in Class:** The children will read and study a variety of texts from a range of genres including fiction and non-fiction.

#### Guided Reading:

There will be regular guided reading lessons where a text is discussed and reading skills are developed.

#### Writing:

Children will be given the opportunity to develop their own creative writing and evaluate their own work. We will continue to work on basic skills, which will include regular handwriting practice, work on phonics, spellings and vocabulary as well as working on grammar and punctuation.

Children will learn how to write sentences using their writing rules to support (think it, say it, write and read it). They will use images to support their writing in order to tell stories and will re-read what they have written to check it makes sense. They will discuss and evaluate their own work with their peers and myself. Children will write for different purposes as well as learn how to plan their writing by either discussing their ideas or noting down key words.

#### Phonics:

Children will continue to receive daily phonic lessons using the Essential Letters and Sounds Phonics Programme (ELS). We use a simple, consistent approach to teaching phonics. Your child will experience the same classroom routines within each lesson which reduces cognitive load and maximises the chances of success. **Review, Teach, Practise, Apply, Review**. All children are supported within the lesson, and throughout the day, to use their new phonic knowledge independently. In every single ELS lesson, your child will make the direct application to reading in order for them to read well quickly.

#### Spellings:

Children will be given weekly spellings to learn and practise at home in preparation for a spelling quiz on Friday.

## **Maths:**

The topics we will be covering this term are:

**Completing Multiplication and Division – 2, 5 and 10:** •Calculate the times tables of 2, 5, and 10 by skip counting  
•Relate the 2 times table to doubling •Explore representations of multiplication and division •Commutativity.

**Time:** •Tell the time on an analogue clock: quarter past, quarter to and five minute intervals •Calculate durations of time in minutes and seconds •Sequence daily events •Minutes in an hour and hours in a day

**Fractions:** •Part-whole relationships •Fractions as part of a whole or a whole set •Relate to division •Equivalent fractions

**Addition and Subtraction of 2-digit numbers:** •Illustrate, represent and explain addition and subtraction involving regrouping including 'Make Ten', 'Round and adjust' and near doubles strategies

**Money:** •Recognise coins and notes •Use £ and p accurately •Add and subtract amounts •Calculate change

**Face, shapes and patterns; lines and turns:** •Explore, sort and describe 2-D shapes •Lines of symmetry in 2-D shapes •Identify 2-D shapes on 3-D shapes •Compare and sort 2-D and 3-D shapes •Use language to describe position, direction and rotation to follow a route.

## **Science:**

**Uses of Everyday Materials** – Children will learn about the uses of everyday materials including wood, plastic, metal, glass, brick, paper and cardboard. Children will compare the suitability of different everyday materials for different purposes. They will explore how objects made of some everyday materials can change shape and how the recycling process is able to reuse some everyday materials numerous times. A range of learning activities are used in this unit including discussions and debates. Children will work scientifically to identify the uses of everyday materials around them.

## **RE:**

This term we will be covering the following topics:

### **Spring 1: Galilee to Jerusalem**

- In this topic, pupils will deepen their knowledge about who Jesus is and understand how he teaches about the nature of God through parables and miracles. Pupils will look at the baptism of Jesus and think about how Christians use prayer as a way of turning back to God alongside the symbolism of water as a sign of cleansing and new birth.

### **Spring 2: Desert to Garden**

- In this branch, pupils in Year Two will listen to scripture to consolidate learning about the events of Holy Week. They will make links between the forgiveness Jesus shows at his Crucifixion and the ministry of Jesus studied in the previous topic. They will also explore how Lent is a time of reconciliation and forgiveness for Christians because they want to restore their relationship with God to be ready to celebrate the Resurrection. They will develop an early understanding of the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

The Wednesday Word is also available online each week. Please spend some time sharing it with your child and discussing the Gospel of that Sunday and its message for us.

## **Topic:**

### **Geography (Australia):**

Children will spend the first half term focussing on the topic 'Australia'. They will use maps/atlas to discover where in the world Australia is located as well as how it is split up into states and territories. They will also learn about the weather, landmarks and native animals. Finally, children will compare Australia to the UK and identify differences and similarities between the two.

### **History (Real Life Superheroes):**

After half term, children will focus on the topic 'Real Life Superheroes'. During this topic, they will learn about special people such as Florence Nightingale and Mary Seacole and the important events in their lives. They will also identify school and local heroes.

### **Art:**

Children will look at the unit of work: Portraits and Self-portraits. They will evaluate and analyse creative works using the language of art, craft and design, be taught to improve their mastery of art and design techniques, including drawing and painting and be taught about great artists in history

### **Design and Technology:**

Children will learn about structures: houses and homes where they will investigate, plan, design, make and evaluate their own houses out of recycled items.

### **Computing:**

This half term, children will be learning that algorithms are precise instructions that need to be in the correct order. They will be following algorithms and using their understanding to create their own clear and precise algorithms. After half term, children will be learning about data handling by creating and labelling images, collecting and inputting data into a spreadsheet, interpreting data from a spreadsheet and learning how computers are used in the wider world.

### **Music:**

In "Exploring Pitch 2: Dot Notation", and "Musical Conversations", Year 2 learners shift their focus to pitch exploration using dot notation. This unit aligns with the curriculum's objective of further developing pitch concepts. Students continue to refine their pitch recognition abilities, preparing them for more complex pitch-related activities like singing and playing melodies with confidence. Pupils will be able to compare and contrast high and low sounds in various contexts, including music and everyday sounds. They will be able to sing songs with a slightly wider pitch range of do-so, and follow simple dot notation pictures and symbols to guide singing and playing melodies. Pupils explore creating music that involves dialogue and interaction, enhancing their creative and expressive musical skills. This unit builds a strong foundation for more advanced composition work in Key Stage 2.

### **Spanish:**

This term children will begin to learn basic vocabulary relating to members of the family and the days of the week. They will sing songs to support the learning of vocabulary.

### **PSHE & RSE:**

Children will explore the topics of Emotional Wellbeing. They will gain a religious understanding of being created to live in a community as well as living in the wider world. Children will look at the importance of respecting others, even when they are very different from them (for example, physically, in character, personality or backgrounds), or make different choices or have different preferences or beliefs. They will also learn about their own mental wellbeing, feeling and being safe as well as having caring friendships.

Children will also explore 'What's on in the news?' where we will keep up with some of the important current affairs stories.

### **PE:**

This half term, children will take part in dance and gymnastics on Tuesday afternoons. The children will be expected to arrive in school on the day of their PE sessions in their full St Charles PE kit; which is a St Charles/plain white t-shirt, navy shorts/bottoms and trainers. Children are **NOT** to wear football kits. After half term, the children will take part in gymnastic sessions, where again, the children will be required to wear their full St. Charles PE kit. Please ensure your child has a bottle of water.

### **Stationery and Uniform:**

It is helpful for your child to have a pencil case containing the following equipment: pencil, rubber, sharpener, coloured pencils, ruler and 1 glue stick. Please ensure full school uniform is always worn and is **clearly labelled** with your child's name as well as any equipment your child may bring in, including water bottles.

### **Collection and Home Time:**

Regarding children being collected, please ensure you have called the office or notified the teacher if there is somebody different due to collect your child. We will not be able to dismiss your child for child protection reasons without this information.

### **Homework:**

Children will usually be set formal homework twice a week as follows:

- Spellings on a Monday to be tested on Friday, Please ensure your child brings their folder and red spelling book to school every Friday so that books and spellings can be updated. Advice for completing spelling homework will be outlined on the inside cover of your child's red spelling book.
- English/Grammar and maths on a Friday to be completed by the following Friday.

On some occasions, unfinished class work may be sent home to be completed for the next day

This work will be explained to your child in class, but I would appreciate it if you could supervise the task, drawing attention to issues such as handwriting, presentation and content. Each piece of work should take no more than 20-30 minutes.

If you do have any concerns, please do contact me and we can arrange a time to speak. You can reach me at [class2c@st-charles.rbkc.sch.uk](mailto:class2c@st-charles.rbkc.sch.uk)

This email address is not for informing the school of absence; the main office must be contacted in that instance. Please remember that as I am in class teaching during the day, I may not be able to reply instantly, but will get back to you as soon as possible. If you have an urgent concern, please phone the school directly on 020-8969-5566.

Kind regards,

Miss S Coughlan  
Year 2C Class Teacher