

Compassion, Courage & Respect

Silchester Church of England Primary School



Learning Overviews

Autumn 1 – 2025

We want to ensure that all children learn through a rich, exciting, and engaging curriculum.

Please have a look through to discover an overview of your child's learning for this term.

Mathematics

In Maths we are focussing on learning 1, 2 and 3, focusing on what they look like and what they are made up of.
We will teach subitising and we will count with 1:1 correspondence.

Personal, social, emotional development

This half-term is all about forming positive relationships with their new teachers and classmates.
We shall support taking turns and sharing resources.
We will be learning how to follow the class and school rules.

Physical Development

This term, children will be looking at how to negotiate spaces safely.
They will use a variety of tools effectively, including pencil, scissors, and cooking equipment.
They will begin to form some letters correctly.
They will start to learn how to take care of their own belongings and develop their independence when dressing and undressing.

Understanding the World

The children will get to talk about memorable past events in their own lives and how to prepare for a party.
They will begin to know about similarities and differences between themselves and others and among families and communities.

Ladybirds Class Year R – Autumn 1

Ladybirds tend not to follow a topic and each week will be planned around their interests or of an important event. Planning will be adapted to meet the needs of the cohort.

English

This half term, children will be introduced to all the first single letter sounds in phonics. They will link sounds to letters and listen out for initial sounds in words. They will be taught how to orally blend and read three sound words.
Children will spend this half term learning how to write their name and writing simple words using their phonics knowledge.

Expressive Art and Design

This half term is all about mark making and mixing colours.
We will create some self-portraits.
Children will also be hearing lots of stories and have opportunities to act out and create stories with classmates using a range of resources such as story spoons, story pebbles or dressing up.

RE

Throughout RE, the children will be exploring how we are all special. We will look at what things are special to each other and how they can be the same and different to one another.

PE

During our outdoor PE lessons, we will be learning how to use tricycles safely.
Inside PE we will be using bar equipment climbing, jumping and balancing.

Communication and Language

Developing good listening skills is key which we will practise in small groups.
We will learn how to follow instructions and practise speaking clearly to our classmates.

Mathematics

In Maths, we will be focusing on Number and Place Value to start with, looking at representing number using objects, pictures and different representations. We will explore ordering numbers and comparing numbers, before moving on to learning and recalling our number bonds to 10 and 20.

PSHE

"Get Heartsmart!"

We will explore how our choices affect others and how we can feel different emotions. We will begin to identify people that we are grateful for, as well as discuss healthy choices for our minds and our bodies.

Computing

This half term, we will be focusing on using the software, "Paint", on the laptops. We will generate ideas of what to create on Paint relating to our topic and become familiar with the Paint tools we could use. We will also be introduced to how to be safe when using the laptops.

Music

"Toys"

We will be exploring dynamic and tempo this half term. We will listen and respond to recordings and then get creative making our own toy music.

Geography

"Would you prefer to live in a hot or cold place?" We will be learning and recalling the location of the seven continents, the North and South Poles, and the equator. We will compare similarities and differences between the weather in the UK and other parts of the world, before using all our knowledge to justify why we would prefer to live in a particular place.

Science

We will be learning all about "Seasonal Changes". We will be recalling what we already know about the weather, exploring how the day length changes from season to season, and monitoring the weather across the weeks using our outdoor windsocks, rain gauges and thermometer.

Chestnut Class - Year 1 Changes Autumn 1 2025

RE

Our theme this half term will be "Belonging and Protection" with specific focus on the Hindu festival "Raksha Bandhan". We will learn about what protection means to us as well as to Hindus.

English

This half term, we will be focusing on becoming familiar with traditional tales. First, we will look at the stories based on Little Red Riding Hood and specifically look at the version by Lari Don. We will be writing a WANTED poster to describe the wolf, after building vocabulary and writing noun phrases or expanded noun phrases. We will then look at stories based on Rapunzel. We will explore what is the same and different about them, before changing the story ourselves and writing our own innovate narratives!

PE

We will begin this year in outdoor PE by exploring basic ball handling skills focusing on throwing, catching and bouncing. In indoor PE, we will focus on gymnastics – learning how to move in different ways at different levels and create different shapes with their bodies.

Art

We will be learning all about the artist "Georgia O'Keeffe" and her artwork. We will explore using different media and mark-making techniques, as well as primary and secondary colours, before making our own art piece inspired by her.

Mathematics

In Maths, we are going to begin by focusing on number and place value, particularly on how numbers to 100 (Yr2) or 1000 (Yr3) can be represented as hundreds, tens and ones through different representations. We will learn to identify 1, 10 or 100 more or less than a number. We will focus on adding and subtracting within 20 using known number facts and using related facts up to 100. We will apply our learning to money and measurement.

Computing

In computing this half-term, children will be learning about e-safety. Knowing what to do if they access inappropriate content online and learning to question the validity of what they see on the internet. They will be practising their word-processing skills beginning to type with 2 hands.

Music

The children will begin by listening to music by Edvard Greig called "In the Hall of the Mountain King". The children will explore duration and the gradual increases of dynamics and tempo and its effect on the character and mood of music. They will compose their own rhythms within a simple structure, performing them with gradual changes of dynamics and tempo and recording their ideas using traditional notation.

Science

In Science we will be learning about Everyday Materials. We will conduct a variety of experiments to test how the shapes of materials can be changed by squashing, bending, twisting and stretching.

Geography

The children will be finding out which Biome they would most like to live in. They will begin finding what a Biome is and then get their hands dirty in our local woods identifying plants and animals to find out which biome we live in. They will then go on a journey to different biomes such as deserts and grasslands before doing a design task to promote their favourite biome.

Hazel Class Year 2/3 – Autumn 1 Brilliant Biomes

English

In Guided Reading the children will be reading 'The Whisperer' by Nick Butterworth, 'The Owl who was afraid of the Dark' by Jill Tomlinson and 'Hampsted the Hamster' by Michael Rosen. Across the week they will learn and use new vocabulary, practise fluency when reading and answer questions from what they have read.

In English will be using 'The Egg' by M.P Robertson to write a diary entry. Then we will use 'The Nightbox' by Louise Greig to write poetry. Over the term we will focus on using co-ordinating conjunctions (e.g. but, and) and subordination (because) to link their ideas. They will be including noun phrases to add interest to their writing. We will be practicing proofreading to check for errors.

PSHE

The children will be introduced to our new Heart Smart programme. They will consider how what is in our hearts is played out in our words and actions. They will identify special people to them and how they show them love.

RE

The children will explore the meaning of rituals. They will begin by identifying rituals that they are familiar with in their own lives e.g. lighting candles on a birthday cake. Then they will be finding out about Sukkot in the Jewish faith and the significance of ritual in this religious celebration.

PE

During our outdoor PE lessons, they will be developing skills within the context of invasion games. They will be introduced to passing, receiving, moving and begin shooting and scoring.

In our indoor PE lessons, the children will be exploring their own health and wellbeing. The focus is on identifying how we feel in our minds and in our bodies. They will learn a variety of relaxation techniques through activities focussing on breathing and balance.

Art

This half-term the children will be painting. They will be mixing colours, using primary colours to create secondary colours. They will be using black/white paint to change the tint of a colour. They will be exploring the work of Vincent Van Gogh and creating texture in their own painting.

Mathematics

In Maths we will start with the **place value** of 3 and 4-digit numbers and learning about **negative numbers**. We will then practice a range of written and mental methods for **addition** and **subtraction**. Afterwards, we will relate addition and subtraction to a range of **problem solving** activities using measurement, money and length. Throughout the term, we will be consolidating our **multiplication** and **division** knowledge.

PSHE and RSE

Get Heartsmart! - We will discuss ways to show love and to consider the consequence of words. We will consider trust and who to trust, as well as exploring family life. We will explore what affects mental health and will reflect how we care for our hearts.

Computing

E-safety – we will discuss social networking sites and features built into other platforms.

Knowledge of computing – We will learn to navigate to a blog and to understand that it can be updated from a range of devices. We will investigate a variety of blogs and discuss what would be appropriate on a class blog.

Music

The children will explore different rhythm patterns in different metres and will learn to read and compose their own grid notations. They will perform a 4-beat pattern and listen and respond to a song.

History

We will **investigate** the role of an archaeologist in discovering about life in the past. We will find out what evidence has been discovered at Calleva Atrebatum and what this tells us about life in this Roman town. We will begin to understand the **impact** of Roman occupation on the existing British inhabitants, how Silchester developed over time and what happened when the Romans left Britain.

Sycamore Class

Year 3 & 4 Autumn 1

Why are we called Silchester?

English

We will firstly be reading *Winter's Child* by Angela McAllister and writing a **character description**. We will learn how to use expanded-noun phrases to add description. We will then read part of *Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secrets* by J. K. Rowling and develop our **letter writing** skills. In guided reading, we will read *The Wild Robot* by Peter Brown and *Cinnamon* by Neil Gaiman. Using these books, we will **identify main ideas** drawn from more than one paragraph, discuss words that capture our interest and develop our **retrieval** and **inference** skills. Handwriting and spellings will be practiced weekly.

Spanish

In Spanish we will learn to follow basic **classroom instructions** and name items of **classroom equipment** in Spanish. We will also learn **numbers** to 100 in Spanish.

Science

In Science, we will be learning about the **states of matter** – what are the properties of solids, liquids and gases? How do particles behave inside solids, liquids and gases? what happens when you heat or cool each state of matter? How can we measure the melting and boiling points of a substance? Which substances do not fit into one state of matter?

RE

Purim - We will discover the meaning of *identity* and how Jews express the concept of *identity* at Purim. We will discuss the value of *identity* for their own lives and communities and describe how their *identity* affects theirs and others' lives.

PE

In PE, we will be developing our **gymnastics** skills through a range of floor and vault movements, including rolls, jumps, cartwheels and vaulting techniques, while focusing on flexibility, strength and control. We will also work collaboratively to create and perform our own routines. Alongside this, we will take part in **outdoor adventurous activities**, building teamwork and problem-solving skills through map work, directional language and orienteering challenges.

Art

In art we will be looking at the work of **Georgia O'Keeffe**. We will mix colours and create **tints**. We will investigate brush size and how to use them effectively to create **textures**.

Mathematics

In Maths this half term we are developing our understanding of place value to help us to read, write, order and compare larger numbers. We develop our fluency of mental methods of calculation and apply these skills to measuring and calculating the area and perimeter of composite shapes. We will learn the vocabulary of prime numbers, prime factors and composite numbers.

PSHE

This term, we will learn ways to show love and care for ourselves and others. The class will also consider how powerful people can influence others and what it means to be a positive leader. We will discuss how to make wise choices about what we watch and learn and about the importance of good-quality sleep for our health.

Computing

We will be learning how to stay safe and responsible online, with a focus on protecting our passwords and personal information. We will understand why privacy matters and how to make sensible choices when using technology. In addition, we will develop our digital presentation skills by using PowerPoint to create an effective and engaging presentation.

Music

In Music this half term we will be developing an understanding of pentatonic scales, creating our own scales to create musical interpretations of animals and fantastical beasts.

Geography

In Geography this half term we will be asking the question 'Where does our energy come from?' We will research renewable and non-renewable energy sources, where they come from and their impact on society, the economy and the environment. Throughout the topic we will be discussing the benefits and drawbacks of each type of energy and the best ways to generate energy.

Beech Class - Year 5 – Autumn 1

Where does our energy come from?

English

We will begin by reading *The Whale* by Ethan and Vita Murrow, using it as inspiration to write a news report. We will also focus on using **modal verbs** and **relative clauses** to enhance our writing. Next, we will explore the lives of extraordinary women, both past and present, through *Good Night Stories for Rebel Girls*, and use this research to plan and write our own biographies. In guided reading, we will read *Tom's Midnight Garden*, focusing on key reading skills such as vocabulary, fluency, and comprehension, with an emphasis on making inferences, retrieving information, and summarising key points.

Science

Throughout our science unit this half term we will be developing our understanding of materials and their properties. We will learn about reversible and irreversible changes. We will work scientifically by writing methods, making predictions and analysing our results. We will identify the types of variables to be able to make sure a test is fair.

RE

In RE we are exploring the theme of *belonging*. We will reflect on our own experiences of belonging and look at how religious identity is shown, using Islam as a focus. We will explore symbols and artefacts that connect Muslims globally. Finally, we will evaluate what belonging means to us.

PE

In indoor PE, we will explore a variety of jumps and start to use our jumping skills to create sequences of movement on the floor. We will use apparatus to create moments of flight.

Spanish

This half term we will be revisiting and developing basic Spanish conversational skills as well as describing the weather linked to the seasons and telling the time to the nearest half hour.

Mathematics

In maths we will be learning to read, write, order, and compare numbers to 100,000. We will be looking at adding and subtracting numbers both mentally and with written methods. We will also be learning to use written methods of multiplication and applying these to finding the areas of different rectangles.

Geography

We will consider the climate of mountain ranges and why people chose to visit The Alps. We will look at Innsbruck and the human and physical features that attract tourists. We will investigate tourism in the local area and compare it to that in The Alps.

Science

We will look at the pathway of light. How shadows change when we manipulate the light source. We will investigate how a periscope works followed by making our own and conveying messages in a 'trench'. Finally, we will investigate what affects the angle of the reflected ray.

Music

We will consider and respond to 'Short Ride in a Fast Machine' by John Adams. We will explore the composer's use of a steady beat, rhythm patterns and the structure of the music before using these to inspire original compositions.

Oak Class

Year 6 – Autumn 1

What is life like in The Alps?

RE

We will be discussing The Kingdom of God and looking at what kind of King the bible tells us Jesus was.

English

Our writing will focus on utilising a range of our writing skills for a variety of purposes. We will begin by looking at The Way Home and creating some persuasive writing as well as narratives. Following this, the children will read extracts from Son of the circus and using this as a basis for report writing. In reading, we will be analysing different types of texts such as poetry and information.

PE

During our outdoor PE lessons, we will be learning to develop the use of attacking and defensive play in invasion games. In our indoor PE lessons, the children will be developing their individual fitness through a variety of fitness circuit activities.

PSHE

We will be learning to resolve conflict through negotiation and compromise. We will also learn about respect and develop an understanding that everyone deserves to be respected.

Art

We will look at a Frida Kahlo's work and compare this to other artists self-portraits. The children will then create their own self-portrait in the style of Frida.

Spanish

We will be revisiting and practising the Spanish phrases and conversation we have learnt so far.

Computing

We will be considering how important it is to stay safe online and identify a range of ways to report concerns about content.