

*Compassion, Courage & Respect*

# Silchester Church of England Primary School



## **Learning Overviews**

**Spring 1 – 2026**

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 will continue to subitise amount up to 5. Recognising the composition of numbers up to 10, show understanding that numbers are made up of other numbers. We will be counting to 20 and beyond. Within provision, there will be lots of opportunity to play with numicon to help children to better visualise the relationship and value of number.

### **Personal, social, emotional development**

The children will continue to remember and follow the school rules of 'we are safe', 'we are kind' and 'we are respectful'. We will also continue to look Boris by learning about how we are all special and looking at our special talents.

### **Physical Development**

This term, children will develop overall body-strength, balance, co-ordination and agility. Children will begin writing more and developing their handwriting with daily practice of our handwriting scheme 'kinetic letters'

### **Understanding the World**

We will continue to look at maps this half term, discovering where we are and where others have been. Comparing our local area and country with other countries.  
Being outside we will describe what we can hear, see and smell around us.  
We will again, take note of the season changing and how the weather is different from Winter.

## **Ladybirds Class**

### **Year R – Spring 1**

Each half term we start with a planned topic. However there is a strong emphasis in the Early Years Curriculum to follow the children's interests. So we will adapt our planning to meet their needs.

### **English**

This half term, children will be revising single letter sounds 'speedily' and begin learning 'special friends'.  
Children will continue to write words using their phonics knowledge and begin building sentences. They will also use their 'tricky word' knowledge to support. The children will be writing in small groups twice a week 😊

### **Expressive Art and Design**

Children will continue to hear lots of stories and have opportunities to act out and create stories with classmates using a range of resources. We will be introduced to helicopter stories and act these out together on our 'stage'. There will still be lots of opportunities for junk modelling and use of other creative resources.

### **RE**

We shall be looking at Jesus as a storyteller, listening to different stories and sharing our own experiences with stories. We will also attend more worships with the whole school.

### **PE**

During our outdoor PE lessons, we will be learning how to use balance bikes. Inside, we will continue with our gross motor carrying out obstacles and using the wall bars.

### **Communication and Language**

Our investigation tables provoke natural conversations by the children as they share their experiences.  
Children will be expected to listen more in whole class circle times and be able to wait their turn to share.  
Children will still be encouraged to talk about their feelings to support any problems in the classroom.

### **Mathematics**

As well as naming 2D shapes and finding half of these 2D shapes, we will continue to consolidate number bonds, one more/less, adding and subtracting, and solve problems using this knowledge.

### **PSHE**

"Too much selfie isn't healthy!"  
We will be looking at ways we can focus on others around us, and how we can help others and show appreciation for others. We will then put this into practice when playing some games together.

### **Computing**

This Spring term, we will have a focus on using BeeBots. We will explore how to use them, explain this to each other and then follow and work-out instructions. We will then design our own BeeBot worlds/maps and program the BeeBots to move around these worlds/maps.

### **Geography**

"Why is our world wonderful?"  
We will be looking at the five oceans of the world and the countries and capital cities of the UK. We will also be identifying human and physical features in our local area and in our school.

### **Music**

"Minibeasts on the Move!"  
This half term, the focus will be to respond to, use, recognise and distinguish between steady beat and rhythm pattern and how they fit together. The children will also demonstrate accuracy and control of correct technique on a range of untuned percussion instruments.

### **Science**

Science this half term is all about habitats! We will explore and compare things that are living, dead, and things that have never been alive. We will identify and name a variety of plants and animals in different habitats, as well as explore that most living things and their habitats depend on each other. Finally, we will look at a simple food chain to describe how animals get their food from other plants and animals.

## **Chestnut Class - Year 1**

### **Habitats**

### **Spring 1 2026**

### **RE**

RE this half term is all about "Creation". We will think about what a "creator" is and how some people believe God is the creator of the world. We will make connections between God as "creator" and thankfulness and looking after our world. We will also look at how this links to celebrating Harvest.

### **English**

Our first focus is "Caterpillar Shoes" (Literacy Shed). This is a fantastic visual story which contains no words but portrays an exciting story. We will use this story to create a narrative and a non-chronological report. We will then move on to "The Rainbow Bear" by Michael Murpurgo. We will be inspired by this book to make our own poetry based on colours, noun phrases and similes. We will also take inspiration from "A First Book of Nature" by Nicola Davies.

### **PE**

In Outdoor PE, we will be learning attacking skills and defending skills in team games.  
In Indoor PE, we will be doing circuit training by learning different skills to build overall fitness.

### **DT**

This half term we are going to create clay creatures! We will practise using our hands as a tool to shape clay, develop our pinching and joining techniques, design a clay animal, create it and then evaluate our final piece!

### **Mathematics**

In Maths, we are going to begin by focusing on place value and where a number belongs in the number system. We will move on to check and build on our knowledge of addition and subtraction so that we can move to apply this to more complicated problem solving and reasoning. We will also continue to practice our times tables most children are working towards their apprentice certificate (2s 5s 10s) and some are working towards their master certificate (3s 4s 8s 11s).

### **PSHE/RSE**

During our PSHE lessons, we will be learning how to stay safe online. We will also be using our HeartSmart program to learn about 'Too much Selfie isn't Healthy' encouraging children to think about others as well as themselves.

### **Spanish**

In Spanish this term, Year 3 children will learn Spanish greetings, numbers, months of the year and colours.

### **Music**

Our music topic this term is called 'Chinese Lanterns'. The children will listen to music from China and learn to play instruments and simple compositions on the pentatonic scale. We will focus on pitch and pattern.

### **Computing**

Our computing this half-term ties in with PSHE to ensure children recognise how to stay safe online., We will learn to recognise unkind behaviour online and how to report it. We will learn how to write, send and reply to an email and recognise when an email may be fake.

### **Geography**

Throughout Geography this half term we will become explorers and learn about rainforests. The children will learn where in the world rainforests are located and discover some of the features of the Amazon rainforest. They will learn about the layers of a tropical rainforest. They will find out about indigenous people living in the Amazon. They will learn the importance of rainforests and understand the threats to the Amazon. We will finish the topic looking at our local woodland.

## **Hazel Class Year 2/3 – Spring 1 Rainforest Rescue**

### **English**

We will enjoy reading *The Boy Who Grew Dragons* by Andy Shepherd and, for their next writing topic the children will write an interview with an animal in the style of Andy Seed's 'Interview with' series.

Next, we read *The Great Kapok Tree* as our stimulus. The children will describe different images of the forest using noun phrases, developing their vocabulary. They will develop their knowledge and use of verbs and adverbs to describe animals' manner, and conjunctions and prepositions to express time and place. They will write a description of the forest setting during the day and the night, conveying different viewpoints.

In Guided reading the children will finish their learning on George's Marvellous medicine before reading *Fantastically Great Women Who Changed the World*.

### **Science**

Our science topic this term is all about 'Light'. We will be recognising the importance of light to see things and notice how light is reflected from different surfaces. We will also think about how light from the sun can be dangerous and that there are ways to protect our eyes. The children will learn about shadows; how they are formed and they will investigate how shadows change.

### **RE**

This half term, we will be discussing why rules are important to themselves and others. We will start by thinking about rules we have in school. We shall learn about some Christian and Jewish rules and explore their importance in Christian and Jewish life.

### **PE**

During our outdoor PE lessons, we will be learning the rules and skills required for basketball. The children will continue to develop their passing skills and how to move around the space around them whilst still maintaining control of the ball. In our indoor PE lessons, we will be developing our gymnastic skills, focusing on creating different shapes and balances.

### **Art**

This term the children will learn about collage. Children will work collaboratively whilst learning techniques of overlapping, tearing, estimating, weaving, layering and selecting a range of materials.

### Mathematics

We will be learning about **fractions**, focusing on understanding fractions as part of a whole and part of a number. We will explore **unit and non-unit fractions**, compare and order fractions, and identify **equivalent fractions**. We will also link fractions to **decimals**, consolidating our understanding of **tenths and hundredths** and their place value.

### PSHE and RSE

We will look at ways to use **mobile phones and tablets responsibly**. We will explore how to recognise how someone is feeling through **facial expressions** and **body language**, and learn how to be **aware of others**, noticing when others are **in need**.

### Computing

**E-safety** – how to use **personal privacy settings** and how they keep our **information safe**.  
**Knowledge of computing** – we will learn to use **Scratch** as a **programming tool**. We will develop our understanding of the use of **variables** in programming and create a **personal quiz program**.

### Music – Lucy in The Sky with Diamonds

We will be developing our understanding of **rhythm** and the use of **steady beats**. We will develop **fluency** when using **instrumental skills and techniques** and play with **accuracy** and increased **musicality**.

### History

We will be further developing our understanding of **The Romans in Britain** by investigating **life in Ancient Rome**, focusing on **Roman buildings** and what they tell us about Roman society. We will investigate the **reasons for Roman invasion** and the **different responses to Roman settlements**. We will also research **life in the Roman Army** and explore the **impact** this had on **life in Britain**.

## Sycamore - Spring 1

### Why did The Romans invade and settle in Britain?

### English

We will be reading **The Firework Maker's Daughter** by **Philip Pullman**. We will make **inferences** about characters' **feelings, thoughts and motives** from their actions, using **evidence from the text** to justify these. We will create a **first-person narrative** and use a **dictionary** and a **thesaurus** to extend and improve our **vocabulary**. We will have the opportunity to **read our writing aloud** to a group or the whole class. Next, we will write a **persuasive speech** using **The Promise** by **Nicola Davies** and read the fantasy adventure book **Podkin One-Ear** by **Kieran Larwood**.

### Science

We will be learning about **classification** and developing our understanding of **habitats**. We will focus on **living things**, including **vertebrates, invertebrates** and **plants**. We will research **different habitats** and their **inhabitants** and look at the **human impact** on different habitats.

### RE

We will share our **special book** and discuss how we feel about our special book in **different situations**. We will describe ways in which the **Bible** is special to **Christians** and the **Torah** to **Jews**. We will describe the **value of these special books** to **believers**.

### PE

We will be learning to develop **attacking and defensive play** through **invasion games (hockey)**, focusing on **control, passing and teamwork**. We will also take part in **fitness circuits** to develop **strength, stamina and coordination**, building **resilience** and encouraging **teamwork**.

### Spanish

In Spanish, we will be using the story of '**El Monstruo**' to learn to **name parts of the body**, with a particular focus on the **head**.

### Art

We will be exploring **collage**, focusing on **layering, overlapping** and **tearing** materials to create **texture** and **pattern** in our artwork.

### **Mathematics**

In maths we will be learning to use effective written methods of calculation in problem solving. We will be revising the equivalence between percentages, decimals and fractions. We will recap our understanding of ratio and proportion and solve a variety of problems involving basic algebra.

### **Geography**

In this unit, the children find out about how goods and services are traded around the world. They will explore the UK's trade links today and in the past finding out about goods imported and exported and the methods of transport used. Through a more detailed look at one of the UK's trade partners, the children will learn about the benefits of trading internationally, as well as the risks to this area. The children will also learn about fair trade and why it is important in a global market.

### **Science**

We will look at identify the observable characteristics of an organism, group organisms based on their similarities and differences, identify scientific evidence that has been used to support or refute ideas or arguments and sort and group animals and plants using a classification key

### **Music**

We will explore different 'Cultures' in music. We will also experiment with creating and layering repeating patterns and develop our own musical compositions.

## **Year 6 – Spring 1 Trading and Economics**

### **RE**

We will investigate the concept of stewardship in relation to a variety of different creation stories.

### **PSHE**

We will be discussing what is meant by human rights. We will also look at prejudice, discrimination and valuing diversity.

### **English**

Our writing will focus on utilising a range of writing skills for a variety of purposes. We will begin by looking at Blue John a story set within the caves of Derbyshire and using it to write a descriptive story. Following this, the children will look at Ajay and the Mumbai sun, using this as a basis for a balanced argument on Fast Fashion. In reading, we will be analysing different types of texts and answering questions about them.

### **PE**

During our outdoor PE lessons, we will be learning to develop the use of attacking and defensive play in rugby. We will also be looking at the skills of matching and mirroring in gymnastic sequences.

### **Computing**

We will be creating our own programmes on 'Scratch'

### **Art and D.T.**

We will be creating collages using various materials.

### **Spanish**

We will be looking at recognising 2D and 3D shapes.

### **Mathematics**

In Maths we will develop our mathematical fluency using mental methods and making decisions about which method is best to use and why. We will secure formal methods of calculation, including use of decimals and applying these to problem solving. We will develop our understanding of the relationship between fractions, decimals and percentages.

### **PSHE**

We will learn how to show care, respect, and love for others, develop listening skills, manage feelings of loneliness, understand online safety, and explore how helping others benefits individuals and groups.

### **Computing**

In computing this half-term, we will be learning how to communicate appropriately online and what to do if we receive inappropriate communication. We will develop our understanding of programming through the use of MicroBits.

### **Music**

In Music this half term we will learn to identify pitch and rhythm of written notes and experiment with our own compositions. We will use staff notation to record our own pieces.

### **Geography**

In Geography we will use maps to locate countries and cities in South America, including the significance of latitude and longitude. We will use climate data to investigate and describe different climates in North and South America. We will describe the key physical and human features and how populations are distributed.

## **Beech Class - Year 5 – Spring 1**

### **Would you prefer to live in North or South America?**

### **English**

This term, we will develop our understanding of how language creates meaning by writing for a range of purposes. We will write a Ship's Log inspired by *Treasure Island* and create a non-chronological report about an insect of our own design, inspired by *Pandora*. Pupils will learn to use relative clauses and colons to make our writing more detailed and interesting. In reading, we will explore *Mysteries of the Universe* and *The Ship of Shadows*, focusing on our understanding of vocabulary, understanding character traits, and answering retrieval questions confidently.

### **Spanish**

This half term we will continue to improve our basic Spanish conversational skills through talking about where we live.

### **Science**

Throughout our science unit this half term we will be developing our understanding of living things and habitats. We will describe the differences in life cycles of amphibians, mammals, insects and birds. We will research and describe the life process of reproduction in some plants and animals.

### **RE**

In RE, pupils will explore what it means to be a Christian today, including how Christian beliefs about freedom and justice are put into action through the work of Christian charities.

### **PE**

For indoor PE, we will take part in a variety of exercises for upper body, lower body, and core strength. We will develop teamwork, sportsmanship, and respect in competition, plan our own exercise circuits, and reflect on our fitness progress. During our outdoor PE lessons, we will be refining our passing and dribbling skills and practising attacking and defending in basketball.

### **Art and Design**

Pupils will explore the work of Alexander Calder and learn techniques for creating wire sculptures and collages.

