

Compassion, Courage & Respect

Silchester Church of England Primary School



Learning Overviews

Autumn 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 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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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

"As Cold as Ice"

We will be exploring, responding to and recognising simple structures including, beginning-middle-end, responses and the use of introduction and repetition.

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.



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!

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.

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.

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 number can be represented as tens and ones through different representations. We will also look briefly at measurement and money, before then having a big focus on addition and subtraction of one- and two-digit numbers.

PSHE

This half-term, our Heartsmart theme is 'Get Heartsmart'. Children will be encouraged to think about their choices and how they affect themselves and others. We will discuss kindness, power, responsibility and strategies for managing feelings.

Computing

In computing this half-term, we will be exploring what a computer is by understanding how computers are used in the wider world. In small groups, children will use word processing to create a fact poster about Silchester using fonts, colour and inserting a picture.

Music

This term, the unit is called 'The Old Castle'. Children will focus on listening and recognising rhythmical patterns. They will then practise and perform using a steady beat and word rhythm patterns, creating and performing a sequence of rhythm patterns.

Geography

Throughout Geography this half term we will be looking at our local area. We will do some local field work looking at land use, mapping and physical and human features of Silchester. As well as aerial views, the children will have the chance to create a collaborative project 3d map of Silchester (or at least some of it!) Please get collecting some recycling.

Hazel Class - Year 2 – Autumn 1

Super Silchester!

(Local Area)

English

Our focus in English will begin by looking at what a noun, adjective and verb is. We will then start to look at how nouns and adjectives put together can create expanded noun phrases. This will then help us write interesting character descriptions and sentence focussed work based on our first story called 'The Everywhere Bear' by Julia Donaldson. Our second text-based study will focus on the story 'Our Tower' by Joseph Coelho. We will delve into retrieval and inference questions to help us with our comprehension of the story. We will focus on setting descriptions, then create a story map before writing our own version of the narrative.

Science

Throughout our science unit this term the children will be learning all about materials. We will look at comparing what things are made of and how this affects their texture, transparency, weight and flexibility. Children will think scientifically about the purpose and properties of items and the materials they are made of – particularly focussing on giving reasons and explanations.

RE

The children will be exploring the theme of community. We will learn about Harvest and Jewish thanksgiving festival Sukkot. Children will explore how important it is that we support others as a community.

PE

During our outdoor PE lessons, we will be learning the rules and skills required for multi-skills, throwing and catching. In our indoor PE lessons, we will build upon prior learning of movement – how to use space, shape, sequences, travelling actions and their body to move to express ideas, character or feeling.

Art

This term the children will study the artist Vincent Van Gogh and the painting 'The Starry Night'. They will learn different painting and brush stroke skills to create a colour wash and painting in the style of an artist.

Mathematics

In Maths, we will develop our understanding of **number and place value**, exploring different ways to represent, compare, order, estimate and round numbers. We will build **counting fluency** and develop efficient **mental calculation strategies**, before applying our number knowledge to **problem solving**. Throughout the term, we will also consolidate the **2, 5 and 10 times tables**, while confident learners will explore **multiplication and division fact families** and the relationships between known facts.

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

In History, we will travel back in time to discover **Roman Silchester** and explore what life was like at **Calleva Atrebatum**. We will become **archaeologists**, examine evidence and ask what artefacts, buildings and ruins can tell us about the past. Romans left. Best of all, we will take our learning beyond the classroom with a **local history walk**, exploring the remains of Roman Silchester!

Sycamore Class

Year 3 & 4 Autumn 1

Why are we called Silchester?

English

We will firstly be reading *The Green Ship* by Quentin Blake and exploring the **characters, setting and events** within the story. We will develop our descriptive writing, using **expanded noun phrases**, carefully chosen vocabulary and **conjunctions** to add detail. We will use the story as inspiration for our own **creative writing**. In guided reading, we will read *The Wild Robot* by Peter Brown and *Cinnamon* by Neil Gaiman, developing our **visualisation, retrieval and inference** skills and identifying **main ideas** across a text. Kinetic Letters will be practised **daily** and a targeted spelling lesson will occur 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 become **matter detectives**, investigating the fascinating world of **solids, liquids and gases**. We will explore their different properties and discover how **particles** behave in each state. Through drama and practical investigations, we will observe what happens when materials are **heated and cooled** and explore **melting, freezing, evaporation and condensation**. Finally, we will meet some rather curious materials that don't behave quite as expected and ask: is **everything really a solid, liquid or gas?**

RE

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 focus on learning how to **communicate, cooperate and encourage** one another through a range of physical challenges. We will also develop our **gymnastics** skills, exploring jumps, rolls, balances and controlled movements. We will practise **teamwork, resilience and trust**, learning that being successful isn't always about being the fastest or strongest, but about **working together and helping everyone succeed**. Where possible we will also collaborate with our Year R Buddies, developing our **leadership** and positive **role-modelling** skills.

Art

In Art, we will explore the work of **Georgia O'Keeffe**, and how she used **colour, shape and scale** to transform natural objects into works of art. We will experiment with **colour mixing**, different **tints and shades**, and how different brushes and painting techniques can create interesting **textures and effects**. We will then use these skills to create our own **O'Keeffe-inspired artwork**.

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

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

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 4/5 – 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. In outdoor PE, we will be developing teamwork and problem-solving skills. We will also develop map work skills in orienteering activities.

Spanish

This half term we will be revisiting and developing basic Spanish conversational skills as well as developing vocabulary to talk about ourselves.

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 & 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.

Computing

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

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.