St. Swithun's: Year 5/6 Curriculum Map – Autumn 1 2025

Major outcomes for the topic: Narrative short stories and non-fiction – instructions; alongside self imagery (portraits)

English

In Destination Reader, we will continue focus on reading skills, looking at a range of texts - starting by reading the Mermaid in the Mill Pond by Lucy Strange, where we will be developing our prediction and inference skills.

In our writing, we shall be looking at Macbeth and writing instructional texts inspired by the witches potions. After this we will be writing our own narrative with a focus on creating atmosphere through character and setting development. Our sentence work will focus on accurate use of conjunctions as well as ensuring vocabulary is precisely and carefully chosen for effect.

Mathematics

In maths this half term we will be reviewing our understanding of place value and extending it to focus on the value of numbers up to 1 million as well as decimals. We will also work on rounding numbers to the nearer 10, 100, 1000 and 100000.

Next, we will be reviewing the four operations, ensuring we fully understand the concepts, through the use of concrete resources and pictorial representations. As well as becoming more fluent in solving calculations, we will continue to apply our understanding to a wide range or problem solving and reasoning tasks.

Finally, we will continue to work on our mental maths, ensuring we fully embed our strategies as well as learning new ones.

Science

During Science we will be learning that materials can change their properties. We will compare and group together everyday materials on the basis of their properties, including their hardness, solubility, transparency, conductivity (electrical and thermal), and response to magnets. We will know that some materials will dissolve in liquid to form a solution, and describe how to recover a substance from a solution. We will use our knowledge of solids, liquids and gases to decide how mixtures might be separated, including through filtering, sieving and evaporating.

History

Subject taught next term.

Art & Design

In Art, we will be learning all about portraits and how they can take different forms beyond traditional self portraits. We will explore using mixed media to experiment with portraits, considering how to convey meaning as well as technique. We will look at artists such as Frida Kahlo and Rembrandt for inspiration in our own creations.

Design & Technology

Subject taught next term.

Geography

In geography, we will be looking at Tropical Rainforests. We will look at where they are in the world,

positively with others.

Computing

In computing, we will be focussing

on safety. We will be thinking

carefully about how communicate

with people online and what to do if

we are contacted by people we do

not know. We will also learn about

online communities and how these

can be used ot collaborate

Modern

Languages

In French, we are learning how to describe a town, places in town and what you can do there.

Physical

Education

In PE we will be rehearsing our Gym Skills so we can perform a range of bridge, shapes and balances correctly as well as likning them into smooth, controlled sequences. In games we will learn the basic skills of volleyball / tennis then use this to develop our receiving, striking and defending tactics via nets.

Music

We will be studying music theory as well as using melodies and developing accompaniments to work alongside them.

Education

Religious

During our Creation unit, we will be revising our school mission statement, its meaning and considering how people can demonstrate it through their actions. We will also be reading the stories of Moses and the 10 Commandments and Cain and Abel and considering their messages. We will be discussing how Catholic Social Teaching guides us to act.

Exciting beginnings / events/ theme days/ trips / visitors

Sponsored Sports Event

Text, videos, music, pictures to ensure experiences of rich and varied literary heritage

Herstory Macbeth

British Values

We will be following democracy and rule of law by choosing our own class rules and deciding what these will look like in our classes.