



Holy Family Catholic Primary School
Year 5 Curriculum Newsletter
Autumn | 2026



RE

In RE, our first topic 'Creation and Covenant' we will make links between the Ten Commandments and Jesus' summary of the law in Matthew's Gospel. Pupils will consider and reflect on what makes us truly happy and what it means to 'grow in virtue' and to be better neighbours.

Key Information

Class teacher – Miss Whitmore

Teaching assistant(s) – Mrs Knight

PE days – Wednesdays and Fridays

SCIENCE

As Scientists, our first topic focuses on properties and changes of materials. Pupils will be identifying materials based on their physical properties and developing their understanding of separation and dissolving. Students will learn about chemical reactions and why some changes are reversible and some are irreversible.

HRSE

In HRSE, our learning this half term will explore the joy and challenge of giving and receiving in relationships. We will be learning about the value of sharing and showing respect and care to others. Children will also consider where and how to seek support, including whom in school they should speak to if they are worried about themselves or someone else.

ENGLISH

As readers and writers, we will focus our first four weeks on understanding sentence structure and the grammatical terminology associated with the formation of sentences. Pupils will look at different types of nouns, verbs and objects. Following this we will begin our 'Reading to Writing' journey, focusing on instruction writing. Children will study the text type, in particular how to make instruction writing more formal and persuasive by using writer's tone, hooks and modal verbs.

Oracy skills will be developed across the curriculum and as part of National Poetry Day on 1st October 2026. Reading for pleasure will continue to be a focus and we will encourage pupils to bring their own reading material to school, if they wish.

GEOGRAPHY/HISTORY

As Geographers, we will be learning about trade links, exploring both imported and locally produced products. Pupils will be using atlases and map work to locate countries, linking to product origination and considering reasons for major trade. We will explore the effects of climate and globalisation whilst understanding trading changes throughout history. Pupils will also understand the Fairtrade logo and its principles.

ART/DT

As artists, we will be looking at the work of Andy Warhol and learning about his use of printing and a brief history of the artist and his famous pieces. Throughout our topic we will experiment with printmaking skills and investigating how we can use resources to print using a repeated pattern.

MATHS

As mathematicians, we will cover two units this half term; decimal fractions and money. We will focus on understanding tenths as part of a whole, representing and calculating mentally. Pupils will be describing, representing and comparing tenths as decimal numbers in different ways. Students will also be learning how to apply efficient strategies when calculating with money. Times tables will be practiced daily, focusing on increasing speed and accuracy of recall. Pupils will also undertake weekly arithmetic tests to help familiarise themselves with SATs style questions.

PE

As Sportspeople, we will focus on gymnastics and netball. As gymnasts, children will work on matching and mirroring their partners in group performances.

MUSIC/MFL

As musicians, Miss Mallinson will be supporting pupils in their musical education, focusing on performing in ensemble for our class mass. As linguists, our focus is 'The World Around Us' and we will focus on modes of transport.

WIDER OPPORTUNITIES

ASPIRATIONS, we will look at the job of a Fairtrade farmer, linked to our learning in our trade links topic this half term.
OPPORTUNITIES, we will visit Blackpool Tower, as part of our continued learning from year 4 local history.
COMMUNITY, we will support our local community by taking part in a litter pick with year 6. We will also be having a non-uniform day to raise money for Mary's meal.

COMPUTING

In computing, we will develop our understanding of computer systems and how information is transferred between systems and devices.

