

Samlesbury Church of England Primary School

Curriculum Newsletter



Autumn 2023

Welcome to Autumn Term 2023!

This newsletter contains key information regarding the curriculum content for all the classes in our school which we hope will not only give you an overview of current topics but also help you to support your child's learning at home.

We've also included other information which you may find useful and links to the school website to provide you with more information about key skills and concepts.

We hope that you will find the curriculum news useful – if you've any comments regarding it please let us know so we can make it as useful as possible.

If you would like to see what your child will be learning for the rest of the year, please [click here](#).

Samlesbury School Uniform – 2022/2023

- * Blue v-neck sweater or sweatshirt or cardigan. Plain or with the school badge.
- White shirt and school tie.
- Grey trousers/shorts/skorts/knee length skirts/pinafore dress
- Plain grey socks or tights
- Black shoes with moderate sole thickness. Shoes should not be slip on shoes so that children can run safely. (Trainers are not permitted but these can be brought to change into at lunchtimes if required during the summer months when children can go on the field).



Additional Optional Summer Uniform (which may be worn during the summer term):

- *A blue school polo shirt, with or without the school badge.
- A blue gingham dress.
- Plain white socks – ankle or full length – to wear with skirts/dresses.
- Plain grey socks still to be worn with other uniform.

PE Uniform (children should come to school in PE uniform on their PE days):

- *A plain, unbranded light blue PE T-shirt, with or without the school badge.
- Navy-blue shorts and/or navy-blue joggers or leggings for the cooler months/days.
- *A plain, unbranded royal blue PE hoody, with or without the school badge.
- Trainers.
- Plain, white socks.

*Please note, all items marked with * are available with the school logo from our school uniform shop or if you prefer, you may buy from alternative suppliers without the logo, providing it is of the same colour and style.*

Samlesbury School Uniform suppliers are SMART UNIFORM located on Lancaster Road in Preston town centre.

<https://www.schoolwearpreston.co.uk/>

We also provide a free uniform exchange rail located in our school foyer. We would love all parents to use this and to take uniform as they need it, then donate it when their child has outgrown items.

Hairstyles

- Long hair which covers the face or is longer than shoulder length should be tied back.
- Hair accessories should be sensible and match school uniform colours.
- Hair should not be dyed/coloured and should be of a natural colour.
- No shaved patterns.
- Hair should not be shaved any shorter than a number 2 blade (the only exception to this is children who have returned from pilgrimage and have had their hair shaved).
- Extreme hairstyles are not permitted.

Jewellery

Children must not wear jewellery apart from a wristwatch. Any smart watch/device with internet connection is not permitted.

One pair of small, plain, metal single stud earrings can be worn (only one stud per ear - no other piercing is permitted). *Please note: children must be able to take ear studs in and out themselves; they are not to be worn on PE days unless it is within 6 weeks of the ears being pierced. If studs are in for a PE day following a recent piercing, then plasters must be worn. Parents must supply these and the child must be able to apply them independently.*

Nail Varnish and Make-up

No nail varnish or make-up is permitted (the only exception to this is when children have henna designs as part of religious observance).

Reading

We are a reading school and recognise that reading is a fundamental building block for success. Reading in some guise features on every one of our class timetables each day because regular reading is proven to improve long-term outcomes for pupil achievement (not to mention the simple fact that reading is fun and takes us on great adventures!). Children in KS2 are given individualised reading targets each term and success made towards these is celebrated during Friday Worship, whilst Infants share reading success with a 'Reader of the Week' certificate.

Did you know that a child who reads for 20 minutes every day will have read on average a massive 1,800,000 words per year and by the end of Year 7 would have read for an equivalent of 60 school days. Regular reading throughout primary school has also been proven to lead to higher GCSE and A' Level results, so prioritising reading is vital.

How can you help at home?

Infants – please read with your child for at least 10 minutes every day and talk about what you have read. Children bring home reading books that are linked to the phonics they've been learning in school as well as a reading for pleasure book, which are books they can enjoy reading with an adult but will be unable to read independently.

Juniors – children may begin to read independently as they reach the juniors but it is still important to talk with them about what they have read. You might ask them questions such as 'How did the story make you feel?', 'Does it remind you of any other story?', 'Were there any parts that surprised you?' etc

No matter which class your child is in, please sign their reading diary regularly and add a comment if needed.

If you have any questions about reading or would like some more guidance about how to support your child with reading at home, please contact your child's class teacher or take a look at the [reading pages](#) of our school website. There is also an information sheet about Accelerated Reader on there for our KS2 parents.

Spellings

Our infant class use Floppy's Phonics programme which includes spellings but weekly lists won't be part of their spelling provision just yet.

Key Stage 2 are given weekly spelling lessons, with lists to learn for a test each Friday. We use EdShed and all children in KS2 have their own logins which can be found in the front of their reading records. On EdShed you will find the list of spellings for your child to learn each week, along with fun games and activities they can complete to practise their spellings.

Please use the links below to see common exception word and statutory word list for each year group. These are words which your child should know by the end of the year group given. These are included as part of English lessons and spelling lists through the year.

Link to Common Exception Words for Year 1: [CLICK HERE](#)

Link to Common Exception Words for Year 2: [CLICK HERE](#)

Link to Spelling Appendix for Year 3/4: [CLICK HERE](#)

Link to Statutory Word list for Year 5/6: [CLICK HERE](#)

Link to the spelling appendix from the National Curriculum: [CLICK HERE](#)

Link to Oxford Owl for information on how to support your child with spelling: [CLICK HERE](#)

Christian Values & Collective Worship



Our School Ethos



Learning, Growing and Inspiring others through God's Love
and Grace

- Live as a light to others
- Live to do good
- Live to love God

‘Let your light shine so that together in God's Love and Grace
we learn, inspire others and grow’

Based on Matthew 5: 14-16

¹⁴You are the light of the world. You cannot hide a city that is on a mountain. ¹⁵Men do not light a lamp and put it under a basket. They put it on a table so it gives light to all in the house. ¹⁶Let your light shine in front of men. Then they will see the good things you do and will honour your Father who is in heaven.

In school we have a daily act of worship, focussing on the value of the half-term and how it links to our other Christian values and British values too. This term our Christian values are **Forgiveness** and **Reverence & Respect**.

Day	Worship focus
Monday	Whole-school exploring our value of the half-term, usually through a Biblical text. We also welcome visitors into school to lead our worship such as Rev Karen or Canon Daunton.
Tuesday	Whole-school worship through singing.
Wednesday	Whole-school worship looking at God's Big Story, exploring in order key stories within the Bible and linking them to the Big Frieze.
Thursday	Key stage worship using Picture News, exploring recent events happening in the news.
Friday	Whole-school worship led by Years 5 & 6 to celebrate some of the many achievements of our pupils that week. Children are invited to bring in achievements from home to share.

We will also be introducing some different styles of worship this year, such as worship outdoors or using Godly Play.

In every class there is a reflection/prayer area, which children can use to have a moment of reflection or to say a prayer. Having this quiet space within a classroom is an important part of supporting all our children's well-being and/or religious development.

We have a close relationship with St Leonard the Less and are always delighted to pass on the warm welcome to everyone involved with school to the family service which is on the first Sunday of every month at 11am.

Infant Class - Curriculum News

Autumn Term 2023

*Our topics this term will be **'Marvellous Me'** and **'Wild Weather'***

We are excited to welcome our new Reception children this term and they have had a wonderful start to school at Samlesbury. We are also thrilled to welcome back our Year 1 and 2 children and continuing their fantastic work!

If you have any questions, comments or worries please come in to speak to Miss Wallace, Mrs Kearns or Miss Myerscough or email lolawallace@samlesbury.lancs.sch.uk

Regular expectations...	
Reading	<p>Children in the Infants class will be bringing home phonics folders, continuing their work from phonics sessions and we would love it if you could practise these with your child at home to help reinforce their learning. Please make sure the folders are brought back into school every day so that the new phonics sounds sheets can be added in.</p> <p>Children's reading records are checked regularly in school. Children are expected to read daily and this should be recorded in their reading record. Please ensure it has a parental signature once they have read part or all of a book. Reading books will be changed twice weekly.</p> <p>All children have a reading for pleasure book, which is changed weekly. Please bring your book on your allocated day so that it can be exchanged for a new one.</p>
PE	<p>PE Lessons take place on a Monday. Please send your child to school in their PE kits.</p>
Forest School	<p>On Wednesday afternoons, each year group will take turns on a weekly rota to visit Forest School with Mrs Kearns. Please ensure children have a pair of wellies and waterproofs in school ready for these sessions.</p>
Values Homework	<p>All children will be given a piece of work to complete linked to our school Christian Value each half-term.</p>

Tapestry	Our Reception children will have Tapestry online learning journals to show their learning over the year. Parents are also able to contribute to these with children's experiences at home.
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This term's curriculum...	
English (Years 1 & 2)	This half-term, our Year 1 and 2 children will be retelling the story of 'Funnybones', then plan and write their own adventure for the skeletons. Following on from this, we will learn about recipes and their features before writing our own milkshake recipes. After half-term, we will be exploring stories linked to Autumn, such as 'The Leaf Thief', write non-chronological reports about different types of weather and learn to recite poems about winter.
Communication and Language & Literacy (Reception children)	This term, the Reception children will be developing their confidence when communicating with new friends. There will be a focus on role play, encouraging the children to act out experiences together. We will also be taking part in story sessions each day, encouraging the children to share their thoughts on the books and start to retell stories using small world characters.
Maths	In Reception this half-term, the children will master numbers to 5, including comparing and representing numbers and beginning to find one more and one less. Children in Years 1 and 2 will be focussing on place value and addition and subtraction. Throughout the term, previous learning will be revisited as part of lesson starters and other activities to reinforce learning and identify areas of 'catch up' needed.
RE	In Reception, we will be talking about Harvest and why we thank God for the world around us. We will explore what makes each of us special and celebrate our differences. We will also be learning about Christmas and how and why we celebrate Jesus' birthday. In Years 1 and 2, we will begin by learning about baptism, as well as looking at how other faiths welcome new babies. We will also be exploring Christmas and discussing why the birth of Jesus was such good news!

Science	<p>This half-term we will be discovering the uses for everyday materials and conducting investigations to find how properties can affect how the materials are used.</p> <p>Next half-term we will be exploring seasonal changes, looking at how weather changes across the year and the impact this has on humans and animals.</p>
Computing	<p>Children in Reception will be exploring different technology in the classroom, such as the laptops and the Bee-Bots, using these to explore programmes and games linked to our different curriculum areas.</p> <p>Y1/2 will be building on their basic skills and develop their use of Purple Mash. They will continue to learn about how to keep safe online and why this is so important.</p>
Art & Design	<p>We will be using a variety of media to explore how they can be used to create different effects, such as charcoal, pastels and chalks, and learn how to create texture in our drawings. We will then use these techniques to draw characters and illustrate a story.</p>
PE	<p>During the Autumn term, we will continue to develop our fundamental skills, including hopping, running and jumping.</p>
History	<p>We will be focussing on the life of Learie Constantine, finding out why he is an important person in our local history.</p>
Geography	<p>Our Geography topic is 'What is the weather like in the UK?', where we will explore the countries of the UK and identify their weather patterns.</p>
PSHE	<p>Our PSHE topics this term will be based on the themes of 'Me and My Relationships' and 'Keeping Myself Safe', where the children will explore topics such as how to be a good friend, how we express different emotions and what to do if they feel unsafe.</p>
Music	<p>We will be developing our musical skills in exploring pulse and rhythm through our 'All About Me' unit this half-term.</p> <p>Next half-term we will be using vocal and body sounds to make music with our 'By the Sea' unit.</p>

Year 3/4 Class Curriculum News

Autumn Term 2023

*Our topic this term is: **Sparks Might Fly!***

Welcome to Years 3/4. We're so happy to see all the children back in school. During the hot weather this week, they have all been working very hard, and have shown us how responsible and independent they are already.

We hope the following information will give you an overview of our aims during the term, but if you have any questions, comments or worries please don't hesitate to contact us. Miss Green is the class teacher and works with the class on Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays whilst Mrs Quayle teaches the class on Fridays.

You can email us at 'rachelgreen' or 'mrsquayle'

@samlesbury.lancs.sch.uk or message us via ClassDojos. Alternatively, you can leave a message via the school office.

Regular expectations...

Reading

Children should be reading **at least five times a week** and recording what they have read in their reading record, which parents are asked to sign at least once a week. Reading records are checked weekly, and Dojos are awarded to regular readers.

Individual reading targets are set for each child in Key Stage 2 to encourage them to read regularly. Certificates are presented in Friday worship, as children make progress towards their targets. When a child finishes their book, they should complete an AR test (login details are in the front of reading records) which allocates points towards their termly reading target.

Spelling

We use Spelling Shed (EdShed) which is an online spelling programme designed to support children with learning their spellings in a fun way. Login details are in the front of reading records so please encourage your children to log into this and use it regularly at home. Ten new spelling words

	will be introduced on a Friday, then tested in class the following Friday.
Times Tables	It's also really important for children to practise their times tables regularly so that they can recall the facts of all the times tables up to 12x12 by March of Year 4. We have access to TTRS (Times Table Rock Stars). The login information for this is in the front of your child's reading record. Other useful websites for times table practice are Purple Mash or www.timestables.co.uk .
Values Homework	Our value for the first half-term is Forgiveness and for the second half-term it's Reverence & Respect. Homework will be set within the first week of each half-term linked to these values, which will then be displayed on our values board within school.
PE	Children should come to school wearing the school PE kit on both Tuesdays and Wednesdays this term. Please ensure they have suitable clothing for all types of weather. We will hopefully be outside for most PE lessons during the first half-term.
Forest School	Children in KS2 have blocks of lessons at Forest School on a Tuesday afternoon. Please take a look at the school calendar to see when it's your child's turn as they will need to bring suitable outdoor clothing, especially as the colder weather arrives.

This term's curriculum...

English	The 'Highland Falcon Thief' by MG Leonard and Sam Sedgman & 'The Santa List' by Kieran Crowley will be our class readers this term, and we will be looking at many other books and stories to help us to write fiction, non-fiction and poetry. We will be exploring fables, poems and persuasive adverts as well as issues & dilemmas and explanation texts.
Maths	This term we are focussing on understanding our number system. We will be starting with Place Value using Base Ten to ensure the children have a secure knowledge and understanding of number and place value. We will then move onto Addition & Subtraction and Multiplication & Division.

	It is important children know their times tables up to 12x12 as soon as possible so any help you can give to help your child in this area would be appreciated.
RE	Harvest is our first topic as we find out about harvest celebrations around the world and explore the Jewish festival of Sukkot. Then we'll move on to explore the big question 'What is Prayer?'. After half-term we'll begin by looking at the symbolism of light at Christmas time and the Jewish festival of Hanukkah.
Science	We will start this term off looking at electricity during science lessons. We will be finding out how electricity is used and how to build our own simple electrical circuits. We will use our investigative skills to make working circuits based on scientific drawings. During the second half-term we will be focussing on 'light' - exploring where lights comes from and how we are able to see it.
Computing	As always in September, we begin by spending time talking about how to keep ourselves safe when we're online. Next we'll develop our ability to use the internet to safely search for reliable information. We'll finish the term by thinking about how we can edit things such as font size and style to change the impact of the text as we consider how to write for different audiences.
Art and Design	During our Art and Design lessons this term, we will be using tone to create 3D effect, exploring proportion, using shading techniques and developing ideas into prints.
PE	During PE we will be working on our netball and gymnastics skills in the first half-term, then moving onto target games and dance in the second half-term.
History	Our history topic this term is Railways. We will make links to this wherever possible in all of our subjects but we will especially look at the development of railways and the impact this had on the lives of people living at the time.
Geography	'Antartica' is our geography topic this term. We will be looking at climate zones and where Antartica is located on the globe. We will also investigate who lives there and who Ernest Shackleton is.
PSHE	Our first topic is 'Me and My Relationships' where we'll discuss a wide range of things from co-operation and

	collaboration in teams to relationships with friends. Then we'll explore the idea of 'Keeping Myself Safe' where we'll discuss what makes a situation 'safe' or 'unsafe' and the difference between a 'risk' and a 'danger'. We'll also spend one lesson introducing some basic facts about alcohol and cigarettes.
French (Year 3)	<p>We will learn how to ask somebody how they are feeling and what their name is as well as how to reply to these questions. We'll also ensure we can count to ten as well as being able to read, write, say and recall ten different colours.</p> <p>After half-term we will name and recognise up to ten animals in French and try to spell some of these. We'll also pretend that we are a particular animal as we practise the 1st person singular form of the verb être (to be) and je suis (I am).</p>
French (Year 4)	<p>We begin our French by learning the names of the four seasons and a short phrase about each one. We'll learn how to say which is our favourite season and why, using the conjunctions 'et' and 'car'.</p> <p>After half-term we will learn the names of up to ten vegetables in French and we'll learn simple vocabulary to be able to take part in a role play about buying vegetables from a market stall.</p>
Design Technology	We will be looking at electrical systems during our DT lessons this term. We will learn about electrical circuits and design a torch product that fits a set of specific user needs.
Music	We're going to be listening to music and thinking about the story it could tell before creating our own compositions to accompany an animation. After half-term we'll be exploring the music and culture of South America, focussing on samba and carnivals.

Year 5/6 Class Curriculum News

Autumn Term 2023

Our topic this term is: ***The good, the bad and the debatable***

Welcome to the start of a brand new school year! Everyone has made a great start with lots of hard work and getting our brains back 'into gear' after a well-deserved summer break. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact me via Class Dojo messages or on my email:

chrisgill@samlesbury.lancs.sch.uk.

Regular Expectations...

Homework	<p>Homework will be set weekly, going home on a Friday. As part of this there will be a maths task, a reading comprehension and some grammar. Weekly spellings will also be set via spelling shed (EdShed) each Friday and there will be a spelling test the following Friday. There will be a homework clinic during Monday lunch break for anyone wishing to complete homework in school or get a bit of help. If homework is incomplete by Wednesday morning, children will be asked to stay in on Thursday lunch break to complete their tasks.</p> <p>Occasionally, there may be individualised homework sheets sent out on any night of the week (for the purposes of boosting and catch-up), we ask that these be done on the night they are given and handed in the following day.</p>
Reading	<p>Reading records are checked daily in school. Children are expected to read for at least 20 minutes <u>daily</u> and record it in their reading record. Please ensure it has a parental signature at least once a week. If children do not read, they will be kept in during breaktime to make this up.</p>

PE	Children should come to school wearing their school PE kits on Tuesdays and Wednesdays. Please be aware that we intend to be outside as much as possible and your child should have suitable clothes for outdoor winter PE sessions.
Forest School	Children in KS2 have blocks of lessons at Forest School on a Tuesday afternoon, starting with Year 6. Please take a look at the school calendar to see when it's your child's turn as they will need to bring suitable outdoor clothing, especially as the colder weather arrives.

This term's curriculum...

English	Christmas is already in the shops and is beginning to come early in Y5/6 with our class novel, 'A Christmas Carol' by Charles Dickens. This will lead us up to writing a prequel chapter - the story of how Marley died. Within this unit we will be writing diary entries in character, newspaper articles about events in the story, a book review and character descriptions. After this we will move onto formal reviews, creating a formal review of one of the Christmas Carol versions. Our final unit will be a poetry unit, learning about songs and lyrics before trying our hand at creating a Christmas version of 'What a Wonderful World'.
Maths	This term we will be spending time looking at place value, using the four operations in mathematics, as well as covering fractions. In our study of place value, we will be dealing with numbers up to ten million. Then we will be working on fluency and accuracy when using the four operations (add, subtract, multiply and divide). Finally, we will be developing our knowledge of fractions.
RE	<p><u>How and why do Christians read the Bible?</u> We will be examining this question and looking into why there are so many translations of the Bible as well as looking at the holy books of other faiths.</p> <p><u>Christmas: how do our celebrations reflect the true meaning of Christmas?</u></p>

	We will look at the nativity story from a Biblical perspective before moving on to learning about the true meaning of Christmas and how this fits into God's Big Story.
Science	<p><u>Light</u> We will be studying shadows, learning how the eye sees, how rainbows are made and taking a look at the creator of Cat's Eyes: Percy Shaw.</p> <p><u>Electricity</u> We will be looking at circuits, but learning how to adapt it to change the brightness of a lightbulb or the speed of a motor as well as learning how to scientifically draw circuits. Our scientist for this topic is Edith Clarke, an electrical engineer.</p>
Computing	<p><u>E-safety</u> After learning about the benefits and risks of giving personal information and device access to different software, we will learn more about our digital footprint and the importance of balancing game and screen time with other parts of our lives.</p> <p><u>Spreadsheets</u> We will learn about what a spreadsheet looks like and how to enter data into cells before moving on to creating formulae to help speed up calculations. We will also use spreadsheets for certain situations.</p>
Art and Design	<p><u>Painting and Mixed Media: Artist Study</u> We will explore a selection of paintings through various activities and collect ideas in our sketch books before planning for a final piece after researching the life, techniques and artistic intentions of an artist, covered in our unit (David Hockney, Paula Rego, John Singer Sargent, Fiona Rae and Lubaina Himid) that interests them.</p>
PE	<p><u>Autumn 1—Gymnastics and Netball</u> We will have an external coach coming in to teach us gymnastic skills. In netball, we will be learning about different passes (chest pass, shoulder pass and bounce pass), tactics within a game and playing games.</p> <p><u>Autumn 2—Teamwork & Problem Solving and Football</u> In teamwork & problem solving, we will be working on communicating effectively, listening attentively, working as a</p>

	team, sharing ideas confidently and recognising everyone's role within a team. In football, we will be working on dribbling, travelling with a ball, sending balls, shooting skills and playing a modified version of the game.
History	<u>Ancient Greece</u> We will asking the overall question: what did the Greeks ever do for us? As part of this we will be investigating the city-states of Athens and Sparta to identify similarities and differences between them, learning about democracy and assessing the legacy of the Ancient Greeks.
Geography	<u>Energy</u> We will be investigating the question: where does our energy come from? We will learn about renewable and non-renewable energy sources, where they come from and their impact on society, the economy and the environment.
PSHE	<u>Me and My Relationships</u> We will be working on our communication and give and take within relationships. In addition, we will also be learning about ourselves as friends, what things friendships need and how to be assertive. <u>Keeping Myself Safe</u> After looking at decision making and sharing things, we will learn about peer pressure in social settings before learning about vaping and examining whether it is healthy or unhealthy.
French	<u>Phonics and the date</u> After learning days of the week, months of the year and numbers one to thirty-one, we will move on to saying the date and our birthdays in French. <u>My Home</u> We will learn how to describe (orally and in written form) where we live and which rooms we have and do not have in our homes.
Design Technology	<u>Structure: Playgrounds</u> After researching existing playground equipment and their different forms, we will then design and develop a range of apparatus to meet a list of specified design criteria.

MusicLooping and re-mixing: dance music

We will learn about how dance music is created, focussing particularly on the use of loops.

Baroque

We will explore the music and composers of the Baroque Period and investigate the structural and stylistic features of their work.