

Samlesbury Church of England Primary School

Curriculum Newsletter



Spring 2024

Welcome to Spring Term 2024!

Please take the time to read this newsletter which contains overviews of what each class is learning about this term. We hope the information will help you to support your child with their learning, from chatting with them at night about what they've done that day, through to sharing homework expectations.

This newsletter provides just an outline of what the children will be learning but if you want to find out more about each curriculum area, please click on [this link](#) which will take you to the curriculum section of our website where you will find a wealth of information such as key skills and concepts.

As ever, please do get in touch if you have any questions or suggestions.

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 **Justice** and **Humility**.

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. <u>Children are invited to bring in achievements from home to share during worship, such as swimming certificates or player of the match trophies.</u>

We will also continue with the new styles of worship that we introduced last term meaning every class will take part in an outdoor worship, a Godly Play worship and a Forest Church worship each term.

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 will continue to welcome into school Rev Karen and Canon Daunton on a regular basis to lead our worships. As ever, everyone is warmly invited to the family service in church on the first Sunday of every month at 11am.

Infant Class

Our topics this term will be '**Dragons**' and '**Chocolate**'

It has been lovely to welcome the children back after the Christmas holidays and they have already been impressing us with how hard they have been working since we returned. We have a very busy and exciting term coming up with our fantastic learners!

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

Regular expectations...	
Reading	<p>Children in Reception and Year One will bring home phonics folders, containing 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 daily so that it can be exchanged for a new one.</p>
PE	<p>Please send your child to school in their PE kits on Mondays ready for their PE lessons.</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	We will continue to use Tapestry online learning journals for our Reception children 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)	<p>This half-term, our Year 1 and 2 children will be exploring fantasy stories, focused on the book 'Zog' by Julia Donaldson, and writing our own dragon adventure stories! Next we will be learning about recounts and how events can be retold through letters. We will be linking this to our History topic by writing our own recounts of the sinking of the Titanic.</p> <p>After the half-term break we will be moving on to stories by the same author, thinking about the similarities and differences between the stories.</p> <p>Within our 'Chocolate' topic, we will be creating adverts for our own chocolate bar inventions, looking at how we can use persuasive language to make our product stand out. We will also be learning to recite poetry by heart and will be performing this for the Juniors in one of our Friday worships.</p>
Communication and Language & Literacy (Reception)	<p>This half term, the Reception children will be developing their reading and writing skills by exploring fantasy stories about dragons, including Zog and Dragon Stew.</p> <p>After half term, we will read stories linked to our topic of 'Chocolate' and create recipes for our own chocolatey creations.</p>
Maths	<p>In Reception this half-term, the children will continue to build on their understanding of numbers within 10, including finding one more or less, combining two groups to find a total and learning number bonds to 10. They will also explore 3D shapes, mass and capacity, and length and height.</p> <p>Children in Year 1 will be building on their knowledge of place value using numbers within 50 and move on to addition and subtraction. They will also explore length, height, mass and volume.</p> <p>Children in Year 2 will be working on money this half-term, before moving on to multiplication and division. They will also explore length, height, mass, capacity and temperature.</p>

	Throughout the term, previous learning will be revisited as part of lesson starters and other activities to reinforce learning.
RE	<p>In Reception, we will exploring some stories from the Old Testament as we ask the question 'What stories did Jesus hear when he was a child?' before moving to the New Testament to hear about stories Jesus told.</p> <p>We will then explore why Christians believe that Easter is all about love.</p> <p>In Years 1 and 2, we will begin by exploring the Creation story and thinking about our favourite parts of our world. We will also be learning about what people of the Hindu faith believe about the creation of the world. After the half-term break we will be moving on to our Easter unit, discussing what we think is the most important part of the story.</p>
Science	<p>This half-term we will be beginning our unit about plants, exploring how plants mature and grow over time. We will be thinking about different types of seeds and bulbs and learn about the best times of year to plant these to grow healthy plants, as well as how seeds disperse to help wildflowers grow.</p> <p>After half-term we will start to look at living things and their habitats, discovering what makes different habitats suitable for the animals that live there and how it meets their basic needs for survival. We will also be learning about food chains and the impact this has on different creatures.</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 learning about computer systems and networks. We will be discussing how technology can benefit our world and think about how we can make sure we are using it safely.</p>
Art & Design	We will begin our collage unit in Art & Design, practising our skills to create our own collages based on the work of Hannah Hoch. We will also be using printing to create our own patterns to use within our final pieces.

DT	Within our DT topic, 'Moving Monsters', we will be learning about mechanisms. We will be exploring pivots, levers and linkages and how they move, then use this knowledge to design, make and evaluate our own monsters.
PE	During the Spring term, we will continue to develop our fundamental skills, including throwing, catching, bouncing, striking and fielding for Year 2. Year 2 will also be developing their dance skills.
History	This half-term, we will be finding out about the sinking of the Titanic. We will need to use our historian skills to answer questions about the reasons it sank, why more people were not saved and what needed to change to make sure this didn't happen again.
Geography	Our Geography topic next half-term is 'Would you prefer to live in a hot or a cold place?'. We will be using our map skills to locate the seven continents and locate the equator and North and South Poles. We will also compare living in the UK with life in Kenya and identify the differences between hot and cold places.
PSHE	Our PSHE topics this term will be based on the themes of 'Rights and Respect' and 'Valuing Difference'. The children will be exploring how it is good to be different, as well as the same, and what this means to them, school and the wider world. They will also be exploring how we care for ourselves and others; how we look after our money and our environment.
Music	<p>We will be learning about rhythm and structure within our 'Myths and Legends' unit this half-term, then use our skills to compose and perform group compositions.</p> <p>Next half-term we will continue to develop our understanding of dynamics and timbre within our 'Musical Me' unit and use letter notation to write and perform our own melodies.</p>

Year 3/4

Our topic this term is '**The world we live in**'.

What a fantastic time we had together last term! The children displayed resilience and a positive attitude towards their learning. We are already looking forward to another exciting and productive term as we explore our new topic 'The world we live in'.

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 will continue to use Spelling Shed (EdShed) to practise our spellings, with tests taking place each Friday. Login details are in the front of reading records so please encourage your children to log into this and use it regularly at home. We encourage children as much as possible with

	<p>learning spellings as we know it can be very tricky. We award 3 dojos to any child who has practised on EdShed on at least 3 different days during the week as well as rewarding children with dojos for achieving 9 or 10 out of 10 in their test. If your child is unable to log onto EdShed or prefers to practise on paper, we'll still award 3 dojos for regular practise if they bring in the paper on a Friday.</p>
Times Tables	<p>Please continue to encourage your child to work on 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) and the login information for this is in the front of your child's reading record. Other useful websites for times table practice are www.timestables.co.uk and 'Hit the Button'.</p>
Values Homework	<p>Our value for the first half-term is Justice and for the second half-term it's Humility. Homework will be set within the first week of each half-term linked to these values, which will then be displayed on our school values board.</p>
PE	<p>Children have both of their PE lessons on a Tuesday this term. They will need to come to school in their school PE kits and bring their swimming kit in a separate bag every Tuesday (see parent swimming letter for extra information about swimming kit). Please ensure they have suitable clothing for all types of weather. We will hopefully be outside for most PE lessons this term.</p>
Forest School	<p>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.</p>

This term's curriculum...

English	<p>'The Iron Man' by Ted Hughes & 'Stig of the Dump' by Clive King will be our class readers this term, and we will be looking at many other stories and extracts to help us to write fiction, non-fiction and poetry. We will be exploring shape poems, diaries and stories as a theme, as well as recounts and debates.</p>
Maths	<p>This term both year groups will be focussing on Multiplication and Division, Length and Perimeter & Fractions. Year 3 will then move on to Mass and Capacity while Y4 move on to Decimals.</p> <p>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 help them a lot with their maths lessons.</p>
RE	<p>We're going to start by looking at people 'Called By God' as we explore the stories of Moses, Elijah and Jonah before moving on to look at the story of Corrie Ten Boom and how she felt called to help people being persecuted during World War II.</p> <p>We will then look at betrayal and trust during the Easter Story. As part of this unit (but after the Easter holidays), we'll investigate the question – 'What do World Faiths say about forgiveness?'.</p>
Science	<p>We will start this term off looking at 'Living things and their habitats', exploring classification of animals and plants, and learning about the impact humans are having on habitats and environments. During the second half-term we will be focussing on 'States of matter' - exploring the best way to sort and describe materials, the water cycle and investigating materials as they change state.</p>
Computing	<p>We're going to use Scratch to explore sequencing in programming. We'll learn how to use motion, sound and event blocks to create our own programs featuring sequences. Our final project will be to make a representation of a piano.</p>

Art and Design	During our Art and Design lessons this term, we will be using paints to investigate light and dark, exploring tints & shades to give a three-dimensional effect, considering proportion & composition and recreating still life.
PE	We will be having our curriculum swimming lessons this term, where the children will be taught to swim competently, confidently and proficiently over a distance of at least 25 metres, use a range of strokes effectively and perform self-rescue in different water-based situations. We will also be playing creative games to learn how to dodge, catch, throw and roll a ball and using our class book 'The Iron Man' to create dance sequences for performance.
History	In History we will be finding out about what life was like during the Stone Age in Britain and how things changed as we move through the Bronze Age and into the Iron Age. This will include looking at Skara-Brae and Stonehenge.
Geography	'Food Distribution' is our Geography topic this term. We will be looking at how our food choices impact the environment, what trading responsibly means, where we get our chocolate from and investigating whether it is better to buy local or imported food.
PSHE	Our first topic is 'Valuing Differences' where we will celebrate our differences by looking at our family and friends, our community and how we can respect others. Then we'll explore the idea of 'Rights and Respect' where we'll discuss the importance of helpful volunteers, staying safe and earning money.
French (Year 3)	<p>We will learn how to say and write ten different activities that we can or cannot do using 'je peux...' or 'je ne peux pas...'.</p> <p>After half-term, we'll move on to learning the names of different fruits. We'll also ask each other which fruit we like using the question 'Est-ce que tu aimes...?'.</p>
French (Year 4)	We will learn how to say 'I would like...' using 'je voudrais...' followed by a flavour of ice-cream. We will also learn how

	<p>to say whether we would like our ice-cream in a cone, a pot and how many scoops.</p> <p>After half-term we will learn the names of ten different shapes as well as how to describe them using simple information such as how many sides they have.</p>
Design Technology	<p>This term we will be creating pavilions that are strong stable and aesthetically pleasing. To do this, we will be exploring frame structures, creating a design in accordance with a plan, selecting appropriate material for the task and building our frame structures using reinforcements and cladding.</p>
Music	<p>First we will be listening to, and finding out about, the history of rock and roll music. Then we will be looking at bass lines and performing as part of a group, in time with a beat and accurately.</p> <p>After half-term we'll be exploring haiku, music and performance, focussing on the natural beauty of blossom and the wonderful features of haiku poetry to create a musical performance.</p>

Year 5/6

Our topic this term is **'Around the world in 80 (ish)days...'**

Welcome back! I hope everyone had a wonderful New Year and a good break over Christmas. It's the start of a new year and I'm excited to welcome you all back to school. I hope you are ready to get back into school and getting stuck into a term full of exciting and fun learning! If you have any questions, comments or would like to talk to me, please contact school or email me at: 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	<p>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 PE sessions.</p>

This term's curriculum...

English	We have kicked off this term looking at the poem Jabberwocky by Lewis Carroll. As part of this we are learning how to write simile sentence starters and writing and dramatic retelling before creating our own poetry based on Jabberwocky. Moving on from this we are going to be looking at legends, particularly from the British Isles with the goal of writing our own legend.
Maths	This term, we will be finishing our work on fractions - learning how to multiply, divide and find fractions and percentages of amounts. After this we will be moving onto ratio and seeing how this can be applied to real life situations. Following this, we will look at decimals and percentages and how these all link up with fractions. We'll then move on to algebra (don't be scared it's not as bad as it sounds!) before finishing the term with converting between units of measure and finally calculating area, perimeter and volume.
RE	<p>'Why is the Exodus such a significant event in the Jewish and Christian history?' is our main driver question for the first half term followed by a closely linked unit looking at the eucharist (Holy Communion, as it is also known).</p> <p>After half-term, we will be working though the question: 'Why do Christians believe that Easter is a celebration of victory?'</p>
Science	<p><u>Evolution and Inheritance</u> We will be learning about characteristics passed from one generation to the next and how species have adapted to suit their environments. Next we will move on to learn about the process of natural selection and the theory of evolution.</p> <p><u>Living things and their habitats - classifying organisms</u> We will recap our knowledge from Years 3/4 about large groups of organisms before diving deeper to take a more detailed look at the Linnaeus classification system, how it works and how different species of organisms which are closely related can be identified.</p>
Computing	<p><u>Computing Systems and networks - systems and searching</u> In this unit we will be developing our understanding of computer systems and how information is transferred between different systems and devices.</p>

	<p><u>Creating media - web page creation</u></p> <p>We will be introduced to the creation of websites for a chosen purpose. We will identify what makes a good web page and use this information to design and evaluate our own sites using Google Sites.</p>
Art and Design	<p><u>Drawing: Architecture</u></p> <p>We will be exploring the architecture of our local church and looking at other architectural designs by Friedensreich Hundertwasser and Zaha Hadid. We will then be developing our drawing skills by learning how to create different tones experimenting with pencil grips and pressure before applying this to sketching stones, wood and glass. All this will then come together in creating a drawing of a part of our church.</p>
PE	<p><u>Spring 1 -Dance and Orienteering</u></p> <p>We will be creating our own dance to a theme of heroes and Villains, linking into our English with Jabberwocky and Legends, while also learning orienteering skills with maps, setting courses and routes and solving problems with maps.</p> <p><u>Spring 2 - Dance and Athletics</u></p> <p>We will move onto our second dance unit of the year, based around the theme of the seaside, making sure to incorporate character to dance moves, balances and travelling sequences. In Athletics, we will be developing skills for running, throwing, jumping and various combinations of jumps.</p>
History	<p><u>Children in Victorian Britain</u></p> <p>Having spent a lot of our history in the distant past, we will be moving closer to our present times. We will discover what it would have been like to have been born in the 19th century and compare things between poor and rich Victorian children. As part of this we will be having a Victorian school day and seeing how this compares to our school day today.</p>
Geography	<p><u>Energy</u></p> <p>We will be investigating the question: 'Why do oceans matter?'. Starting with a reminder about what the oceans are called we will think about how we use our oceans and look at the Great Barrier Reef. We will also learn about how our oceans are suffering and what we can do to help them before taking a trip to our local beach to see how littered our local marine environment is, by collecting data and then presenting our findings.</p>

PSHE	<p><u>Valuing Differences</u> We will be learning about the qualities of friendships, how to have kind conversations, being happy as ourselves, thinking about living together harmoniously in a diverse multi-cultural society, and recognising that the person we show others is not always who we really are.</p> <p><u>Rights and Responsibilities</u> We will be learning about our health and wellbeing around issues in the media, talking about the difference between fact and opinion, biased reporting and thinking critically about the things we are reading, learning about voluntary groups and the work they do, learning about rights, responsibilities and duties and the difference between them before finishing with spending money wisely.</p>
French	<p><u>The Planets</u> In this unit children will learn a key set of adjectives and will apply knowledge of adjectival agreement to describe the Solar System. They will also work on creating longer and more detailed sentences, with conjunctions.</p> <p><u>At the weekend</u> Children will learn ten phrases for activities they may do at the weekend. They will also learn more about telling the time and using their own opinions. They will be creating more detailed and personalised responses by the end of the unit.</p>
Design Technology	<p><u>Digital world: Navigating the world</u> We will be writing our own design brief and criteria based on a request by a client, writing a program to include multiple functions (as part of a navigation device), developing a sustainable product concept and learning to create a 3D CAD virtual model before pitching our product in a Dragon's Den style presentation.</p>
Music	<p><u>South and West Africa</u> We will learn 'Shosholoza', a traditional South African song and how to play the accompanying chords using tuned percussion.</p> <p><u>Transposition: Pop Art</u> We will explore the musical concept of 'theme and variations' and discover how rhythms can 'translate' onto different instruments.</p>