



St Gregory's Catholic Academy Curriculum Newsletter Year 2

Autumn Term



ClassDojo

We will be using Class Dojo to share homework, letters, and other key updates. It's a great way to stay informed and involved in your child's learning.

RSE/PHSE

This term, the children will explore how we are each uniquely created by God with a special purpose. Through stories and discussions, we'll celebrate our similarities and differences, learn to value ourselves and others, and understand how to care for our bodies as gifts from God by making healthy, respectful choices.



English

This term, we will be exploring two exciting books to inspire our writing. Our first text will be *Look Up!*, which we will use to write a diary entry. During this unit, the children will focus on using accurate punctuation and extending sentences with conjunctions, adjectives and noun phrases. Later in the term, we will use *The Owl Who Was Afraid of the Dark* to help write a non-chronological report. Alongside our writing, we will be working on spelling, focusing on Year 1 common exception words and Year 2 spelling rules. In reading, we will continue to develop key comprehension skills, including retrieval, prediction and inference. We will also enjoy sharing and discussing stories together to nurture a love of reading.



Science/Computing

In science this term, the children will explore Living Things and Their Habitats, learning to identify what is alive, dead, or never alive, and understand the importance of habitats. Later, in Animals Including Humans, they'll learn about basic needs, growth, and caring for themselves and others.



In computing, the children will explore how technology is used in everyday life and learn to use it responsibly. Later in the term, they will develop their creativity by learning how to take and edit digital photographs, using devices safely and thoughtfully.



The Arts

This term we will develop our drawing skills by focusing on the use of tone. The children will explore using tonal shading to convert 2D objects into 3D objects (e.g. circle into sphere). They will develop pencil control by practising drawing techniques and they will refine their drawing skills through manipulation of line.



In DT, we will explore and use different fabrics to create puppets. We will cut and join the fabrics with simple techniques.

In Music, we will use our voices expressively and creatively by singing songs in our Christmas performance.



Religious Education

Our first topic in RE is 'Beginnings' here we will be learning about the Creation Story and starting each day with prayer, thanking God for our own beginnings. We'll then explore Judaism, gaining insight into another faith tradition.



Next, in Signs and Symbols, we will learn about the Sacrament of Baptism and its meaning within the Catholic Church. We'll finish the term with Preparations, discovering the season of Advent and how Catholics prepare to celebrate Christmas.

Maths

Initially our focus will be on Place Value. The children will count, write, and understand numbers up to 100. They will also practise counting in multiples of 2s, 5s, 10s, and 3s and will explore number patterns by identifying 10 more and 10 less. We'll also compare and order numbers to strengthen their understanding of number relationships. As the term progresses, we'll move on to addition and subtraction, building fluency and developing problem-solving skills. Pupils will also begin learning about money, recognising different coins and notes and understanding their values in everyday contexts.



History / Geography

In History, the children will learn about two fascinating explorers: Captain James Cook and astronaut Dr Nicholas Patrick. They will discover who they were, what inspired their adventures, and the incredible achievements they made. We will also compare their journeys—by sea and by space and explore the different places they visited across the globe and beyond!



In Geography, we will take a closer look at our amazing planet. We will use world maps to locate and name the seven continents and begin to identify key features of each one. We will also explore the difference between a continent and a country.

PE

PE will take place every **Monday**. We will begin by focusing on ball skills, using both our hands and feet to develop coordination and control.



As the term progresses, our focus will shift to gymnastics, here the children will explore movement, balance, and simple sequences through fun and active sessions.



Phonics

This term, we will continue to build on the children's phonic knowledge, focusing on blending sounds to read new and more challenging words with confidence. Regular practice at home helps strengthen these skills, so we kindly ask that you continue reading regularly with your child at home.