

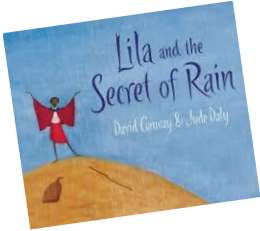


St. Paul's C.E. Primary School

Year 2 Curriculum Overview 2025-2026

Autumn 2



English	Mathematics	Religious Education
This half term we will be exploring the texts 'Lila and the Secret of Rain' by David Conway and 'Meerkat Mail' by Emily Gravett. Lila and the Secret of Rain is the lovely story of Lila, who sets out to save her Kenyan village from drought using the secret of rain. We will be picture detectives using the super illustrations to make predictions and infer meanings. We will use this information to write a description of the setting and we will finish the text by retelling the story.  We will continue the theme of Africa by looking at Meerkat Mail, which tells the story of Sunny who sets off in search of the perfect place to live and sends postcards home to tell his family all about his adventures. We will use the text to write our own postcards and will also create a fact file all about meerkats. 	This half term we will be completing our work on place value by counting in steps of 2, 3, 5 and 10. We will then focus on addition and subtraction. In this unit, children will build their confidence in adding and subtracting numbers using a variety of methods. They'll move from using practical resources and pictures to working more mentally and using written methods. They will recall and use number bonds to 10, 20 and 100. They will add and subtract one-digit and two-digit numbers (for example, $23 + 5$ or $46 - 20$) using tens and ones to help them calculate both practically and by drawing them. They will practice solving real-life problems using addition and subtraction and begin to use and explain different strategies to check their answers (for example, using the inverse operation). You can help at home by practising quick recall of  number bonds (to 10 and 20) and by bringing mathematical problems into everyday situations.	This half term in Religious Education, children will be exploring the key question: 'Why does Christmas matter to Christians?' We will revisit the story of the birth of Jesus and recognise that Jesus is 'God on Earth'. We will explore the nativity scene and look in detail at the characters involved and think about how they might have been feeling, and what they might have said. We will also discuss how Advent for Christians is a time of getting ready for Jesus coming, and how the weeks of advent are represented.  Reminders - PE is on Monday and Thursday - Reading records are to be returned every day. Reading books will be changed on Wednesday. - Library is on a Thursday if the children wish to change their books. Healthy snacks only, no chocolate, nuts, sugary snacks or packaged bars. - Hair fastenings to be neutral or blue to match school colours. No elaborate hair bands or bobbles.

Science	History	PE	Art
Animals including Humans This half term, children will be learning about animals including humans. We will be looking at how they grow and change as well as what they need to survive.  We will begin by looking at lifecycles, both those of humans and of different animals. We will be looking at how they grow and  change as well as matching offspring to their adults and look at how these can differ. As part of our learning, we will conduct a simple investigation to observe and measure growth in humans and we will gather data to help us draw conclusions. We will also do research to identify the basic needs of animals for their survival. We will finish this topic by exploring the importance of exercise, hygiene and diet on maintaining a healthy lifestyle.	How was school different in the past? During this topic children will learn about schools in the past, identifying similarities and differences and sequence these on a timeline. They will begin by looking at photographs of schools in the past and use these to deduce how schools were different years ago. We will use these photos as a prompt to create enquiry questions that we will ask to a visitor who attended St. Paul's school in the past.  We will also use different sources to investigate what schools were like beyond living memory and use the information we gather to compare schools in the 1900s to schools today. Finally, we will compare three periods of time and identify similarities and differences between them. The children will then decide whether they would rather go to a modern-day school or a school in the past.	Gymnastics & Golf On Mondays our specialist PE coach, Mr Morrell, will be teaching golf to the children. They will learn to use the golf clubs to move the ball at different speeds by pushing and rolling. They will learn the correct techniques they need to push, chip and putt the ball with increasing accuracy. They will then move towards using those skills in a competitive way by playing simple games against each other. In gymnastics the children will develop their control,  agility and coordination. They will learn to travel in different ways thinking about the shapes they can create using their bodies. The children will also practice a variety of different balances, rolls, jumps and leaps. The children will end the unit by working together to create short sequences, showcasing everything they have learned.	Craft and design – Map it Out This topic focuses on teaching children to explore and create maps through various art forms, including drawing, working in relief, printmaking, and designing stained glass.  Initially the children will investigate how maps can be real or imaginary and will then create a 'map' of their journey to school, thinking about what they pass on their way and how they will represent this on their maps. They will then move on to creating a relief version of map drawings inspired by artist Emma Johnson.  They will also learn about abstract art and will use what they have learned to create maps in the style of stained-glass art. We will bring this unit together to create a class gallery of all the art work produced by the children.
Music	PSHE	Computing	Phonics
Instruments - Musical Storytelling In music this term the children will be using instruments to explore musical storytelling. The unit helps the children learn how events, actions and feelings within stories can be represented by pitch, dynamics and tempo. They will begin by exploring and analysing a piece of music to understand how different musical elements, such as instruments, tempo and dynamics, help convey the story of the three bears. We will extend this theme by exploring how music and sound effects can tell a story. The children will then build towards creating their own soundscapes. 	Ravi's Roar by Tom Percival  In PSHE we will be continuing the Story Project using the text 'Ravi's Roar'. The story is about a boy called Ravi who is in a rage, and how he learns how to manage this better! Through this story we will explore the range and scale of emotions that the children might experience in different situations. We will cover how to judge whether what they are feeling and how they are behaving is appropriate and proportionate, as well as look at different things they can do to manage big feelings, calm themselves down or change their mood when they don't feel good.	Programming 1: Algorithms and debugging Our unit this half term is all about understanding algorithms and breaking them down into smaller chunks. The children will have to use algorithms to play a dinosaur themed game. They will also develop their understanding of algorithms to write a set of instructions to guide a rabbit through a maze.  The children will also use their knowledge of algorithms to be able to debug a set of instructions.	Bridge to Spelling This half term we will be moving onto the bridge to spelling unit part of Little Wandle, which begins to explore the Year 2 spelling rules as well as recap some of the trickier sounds we have learned previously. We will learn when we need to double letters when adding the suffixes -er and -ing. We will also learn when we swap the 'y' for an 'i' when adding the suffix -ed and when we drop the 'e' when adding the suffix -ing? We will also look at plurals and learn the rule for when we add an 's' or 'es'.