

Saint Norbert's Catholic Voluntary Academy

Curriculum Newsletter

Advent Term 2025 - Reception

Subject	Curriculum	Overview
Literacy	Comprehension Word Reading Writing	We will be continuing to build our love of reading and learn adventurous new vocabulary throughout CUSP structured story time texts. For this term, our texts are: • What makes Me a Me • Standing up to Racism - Dr Pragya Agarwal • The Squirrels Who Squabbled - Rachel Bright • Celebrations from Around the World - Katy Halford We will also continue to explore other texts based on our topic and the children's own interests. The children will continue to develop their phonic skills and knowledge by using RWI. We will be focussing on oral segmenting and blending and Set 1 sounds. We will begin to use our knowledge of Set 1 sounds to segment and blend simple words to read. We will be developing our writing skills through the 'Drawing Club' approach using the following texts: • Funnybones • Little Red Hen • The Colour Monster • Guy Fawkes • CBeebies Poppy Fields • Rama and Sita In writing, we will be working on correct letter formation, pencil grip and name writing. We will also be focusing on using our phonic knowledge to write some of our Set 1 sounds, and will begin to write simple words and captions.
Maths	Number Numerical Patterns	 We will be: Matching, sorting and comparing Talking about measurements and patterns Focusing on a sound knowledge of numbers 1 - 5 Using mathematical vocabulary to describe circles, triangles and 4 sided shapes. To further consolidate our knowledge and understanding of number, we will be developing: Subitising within 3 Counting skills Composition of numbers 3 and 4 Comparing sets and using language of comparison Explore the concept of 'whole' and 'part. Object counting skills/ Matching numerals to quantities within 10. Verbal counting beyond 20.

Expressive Art	Creating with Materials	The children will be experimenting with paint and will focus on colour
and Design		mixing. They will use different tools for painting such as fingers, hands, paint brushes and sponges. Children will begin to learn to choose and use colours for a particular purpose.
		Children will learn to mark-make using a variety of different media with control.
	Being Imaginative and Expressive	Children will learn different techniques to join materials and will learn to chose their techniques for a purpose. They will learn the correct names for tools and equipment, and how to use them safely. Children will be learning songs for Harvest and Christmas and will be focusing on copying melody and matching pitch.
Physical	Gross Motor Skills	We will be taking part in weekly PE lessons which will be split into two topics:
Development		 Introduction to PE - Children will spend time learning basic principles of a PE lesson such as safely using space, stopping safely, using and sharing equipment and working individually, with a partner and group. They will take part in activities which will develop fundamental movement skills such as running, jumping and skipping. Children will also play simple games and begin to understand and use rules.
		Dance - Children explore space and how to use space safely. They explore traveling actions, shapes and balances. Children choose their own actions in response to a stimulus. They also are given the opportunity to copy, repeat and remember actions. They continue to use counting to help them keep in time with the music.
		One of our main focuses for the first half term will be dressing and undressing independently. Particularly putting on coats including zips.
	Fine Motor Skills	To further develop our fine motor skills, we will continue to build the strength in our hands and fingers through daily fine motor activities.
Understanding the World	People, Culture and Communities	We will be exploring and learning about our own community. We will visit and learn the names of key locations around school, as well as some familiar places in Crowle. We will be discussing similarities and differences between our own lives and the lives of others, and will talk about key customs, routines, special times, events and celebrations for different families / religions / cultures.
		We will explore and learn about different occupations linked to people in the community and those who help us.
	The Natural World	We will be learning about the changing seasons throughout the year, discussing weather, changes to nature and clothes we may wear during these times.
		During our 'All About Me' topic, we will be learning body parts and exploring our different senses.
	Past and Present	We will be learning days of the week, months of the year and also learning some simple words to describe the passing of time.
Communication and Language	Self-Regulation	Throughout the year, we will continue to support children to recognise and discuss their own emotions and the emotions of others. We will work with them to find and develop strategies to manage these emotions appropriately.
	Managing Self	We will support the children to build new relationships with their peers in class.

	Building Relationships	We will be supporting children to see themselves as a valuable individual, and to be able to discuss their many strengths. We will be working with the children to build resilience and perseverance in the face of a challenge. We will support children with their relationships with peers, and develop an understanding of what makes a good friendship.
Personal, Social and Emotional Development	Listening, Attention and Understanding Speaking	Throughout the year, we will be working with children to develop their concentration span, listening and understanding skills. We will be working on understanding simple instructions and following them. Through our structured story time, nursery rhymes and song, we will continue to build the children's vocabulary and communication skills.