



St. Bede's Catholic Infant School

'Love to Learn, Learn to Love'.

Reception Classes: Orange, Red, Purple

2024-2025

At St. Bede's the Catholic ethos of the school permeates the whole curriculum.

'The curriculum, and all its aspects, must reflect the fact that Christ is the foundation of the whole educational enterprise in Catholic School.' (The Catholic School Paragraph 33).

The aim is to nurture a quality, caring, supportive Christian environment in which all pupils are healthy, positive, confident and independent and reach their full potential as active members of society.

To achieve this we provide a quality education which achieves a broad, balanced and relevant curriculum; a creative and enjoyable knowledge and skills based curriculum; and a curriculum which acknowledges the uniqueness of each individual.



EYFS Curriculum Curriculum Content

The children's first year in school is the final year of the Early Years Foundation Stage. There are seven areas of learning and development in the EYFS that must shape educational programmes in Early Years settings. All areas of learning and development are important and inter-connected.

The Prime Areas

Three areas are particularly crucial for igniting children's curiosity and enthusiasm for learning, forming relationships and thriving.

Characteristics of Effective Teaching and Learning

Communication and Language:

Including:
Listening, Attention & Understanding
Speaking

Personal, Social and Emotional Development:

Including:
Self Regulation
Managing Self
Building Relationships

Physical Development:

Including:
Fine Motor Skills
Gross Motor Skills

Playing and Exploring:

Children investigate and experience things, and 'have a go'.

The Specific Areas

Children are also to be supported in four specific areas, through which the three prime areas are strengthened and applied.

Active Learning:

Children concentrate and keep on trying if they encounter difficulties, and enjoy achievements.

Literacy:

Including:
Comprehension
Word Reading
Writing

Mathematics:

Including:
Number
Numerical Pattern

Understanding the World:

Including:
Past & Present
People, Culture and Communities
The Natural World

Expressive Arts and Design:

Including:
Creating with Materials
Being Imaginative

Creating and Thinking Critically:

Children have and develop their own ideas, make links between ideas, and develop strategies for doing things



EYFS Curriculum Overview - Autumn Term 1

Getting to know you.

The Prime Areas

• Communication and Language:

- Contributing to discussions – expressing ideas and thoughts.
- Using talk to develop relationships.
- Joining in with rhymes and songs.
- Listening carefully and following instructions.
- Understanding the purposes of objects.
- Building new vocabulary and developing their understanding of it.
- Responding appropriately to questions.

Personal, Social and Emotional Development:

- Creating an environment for children to feel happy and secure.
- Support to build positive new relationships.
- Becoming familiar with new environments and daily routines.
- Choosing the most appropriate behaviour in environments.

Physical Development:

Gross Motor Skills

- Using a wide range of objects to develop control.
- Introduced to outdoor equipment.
- Develop safe use of space in different environments.
- Develop independence when putting on and taking off coat.

Fine Motor Control

- Exploring a wide range of media, materials and tools.
- Developing hand control and pencil grasp.
- Introduction to formation of letters and numbers.
- Introduction to name formation.
- Introduction to line drawings of self.

Religious Education - To know You more Clearly

Branch 1 - Creation and Covenant - Children will learn how God created the world and everything in it. They will learn to appreciate their own uniqueness and the uniqueness of others.

Branch 6 - Dialogue and Encounter - Judaism - Children will learn how people of Jewish faith celebrate at Hanukah.

The Specific Areas

Literacy:

- Learn and practise Nursery Rhymes
- Introduction to Phase 2 Jolly Phonics.
- Introduction to Tricky Words.
- Introduction to weekly individual reading within school and to share at home.
- Introduction to weekly shared *Super Sentences* and opportunities to apply these skills through continuous provision.

Mathematics:

- Introduction to *Mastering Number*, where they will learn number knowledge and skills.
- Weekly focus on specific number – beginning with 0, 1 and 2...
- Practise of general counting skills.
- Begin to *subitise* small groups of numbers how many they can see without counting.

Understanding the World:

- Learning about respecting each other for their differences and uniqueness.
- Reflecting on own awareness of the past and the present by making comparisons between now and then e.g. nursery/home/school/holiday.
- Explore seasonal change and signs of Autumn.
- Learn about their world and make links to RE (Creation Story).

Expressive Arts and Design:

- Experimenting with new tools and materials.
- Exploring sounds using different items and materials.
- Engaging in imaginative role play.
- Developing imagination through small world play.
- Experimenting with colour mixing.



EYFS Curriculum Overview - Autumn Term 2

Traditional Tales / Christmas

The Prime Areas

Communication and Language:

- Making contributions to discussions about Traditional Tales characters.
- Recalling repeated phrases from Traditional Tales.
- Continue to communicate with others to develop relationships.
- Listening carefully to Traditional Tales.
- Developing vocabulary.
- Continuing to give appropriate responses to questions.

Personal, Social and Emotional Development:

- Continue to develop happiness and security in the children's environments.
- Continue to develop new relationships.
- Support independent knowledge of daily and weekly routines.
- Support children in using appropriate behaviour for environments.

Physical Development:

Gross Motor Skills

- Continue using a wide range of objects to develop control.
- Use outdoor equipment with more confidence and independence.
- Continue to travel safely in space.
- Becoming more independent putting on and taking off coat.

Fine Motor Control

- Practicing with a wide range of media, materials and tools.
- Developing better hand control and pencil grasp.
- Continuing to form letters and numbers.
- Regular name formation practise.
- Continued line drawings of self.

Religious Education - To know You more Clearly

Branch 2 - Prophecy and Promise - Children will learn how Mary was blessed with the special baby, Jesus. They will learn that Christians celebrate Advent, the time leading up to Jesus' birthday, and Christmas, the day Jesus was born.

The Specific Areas

Literacy:

- Learn Traditional Tales.
- Progression of Phase 2 Jolly Phonics and Introduction to Phase 3.
- Continued practice of Tricky Words.
- Continued weekly individual reading within school and to share at home.
- Progression of weekly shared Super Sentences and opportunities to apply skills through continuous provision.
- Opportunities to write Christmas lists and letters.

Mathematics:

- Continuation of Mastering Number programme with progression of number knowledge and skills.
- Continued weekly focus on numbers from 3 to 4.
- Continued practice of general counting skills.

Understanding the World:

- Continue to learn about respecting each other for their differences and uniqueness.
- Reflecting on own awareness of the past and the present by learning about our birthdays, the day that we were born.
- Explore seasonal change from signs of Autumn to signs of Winter.
- Learn about the celebration of Christmas, linking to RE (Advent/Nativity).

Expressive Arts and Design:

- Using a variety of materials to build secure houses and bridges – links to Traditional Tales.
- Retelling Traditional Tales through role play and small world opportunities.
- Accessing a variety of materials, media and tools.



EYFS Curriculum Overview - Spring Term 1

Traditional Tales / Christmas

The Prime Areas

Communication and Language:

- Talk about feelings and emotions.
- Introduce new language and build vocabulary about feelings and emotions.
- Use language to resolve misunderstandings effectively.
- Talk about feelings of characters and reasons for how feelings have changed throughout stories.
- Develop descriptive language.

Personal, Social and Emotional Development:

- Support understanding of different feelings and emotions through shared stories and real experiences.
- Develop ways to resolve misunderstandings and conflicts with growing independence.
- Build bank of ideas to regulate emotions and behaviour.

Physical Development:

Gross Motor Skills

- Continue using a wide range of objects to develop control and coordination.
- Use a range of outdoor equipment to gain control and balance.
- Develop a range of movements to different themes of music.

Fine Motor Control

- Use a wide range of media, materials and tools with independence.
- Develop good hand control and pencil grasp.
- Forming clearer letters and numbers.
- Continued name formation practise.
- Continued line drawings of self that show development of detail and skills.

Religious Education - To know You more Clearly

Branch 3 - Galilee to Jerusalem - Children will learn about the Wise Men visiting Jesus with gifts and will remember that Jesus was born at Christmas time. They will also learn how Jesus is special to people and it is important to show love to everybody as Jesus has done.

The Specific Areas

Literacy:

- Sharing a variety of stories about feelings and emotions.
- Continue to learn Phase 3 phonics.
- Continue to apply phonics knowledge with independence.
- Continue to practice Tricky Words.
- Continue to read individually and introduce some elements of guided reading when necessary.
- Continue to progress with weekly shared Super Sentences and opportunities to apply skills through continuous provision.
- Opportunities to write using adjectives.

Mathematics:

- Continuation of Mastering Number programme with progression of number knowledge and skills.
- Continued weekly focus on numbers from 5 to 6.
- Continued practice of general counting skills and subitising dice patterns.

Understanding the World:

- Reflecting on own awareness of the past and the present by learning about our birthdays, the day that we were born.
- Explore the season of Winter and recognizing different signs.
- Learn about how special Jesus is to people, linking to RE (the Epiphany).

Expressive Arts and Design:

- Exploring emotions through role play.
- Using simple drawing techniques to show specific emotions.
- Using a variety of materials and to create emotion based art.



EYFS Curriculum Overview - Spring Term 2

Growing and Changing

The Prime Areas

Communication and Language:

- Talk about growing up.
- Introduce new language and build vocabulary about growing up.
- Use language to resolve misunderstandings effectively.
- Talk about characters and the stages of growing up, considering what has changed and why.
- Continue to develop descriptive language.

Personal, Social and Emotional Development:

- Support understanding of growing up and changing through shared stories and real experiences.
- Continue to develop ways to resolve misunderstandings and conflicts with growing independence.
- Continue to build bank of ideas to regulate emotions and behaviour.

Physical Development:

Gross Motor Skills

- Continue using a wide range of objects to develop control and coordination.
- Continue to use a range of outdoor equipment to gain independence with their control and balance.

Fine Motor Control

- Continue to use a wide range of media, materials and tools with independence.
- Continue to develop good hand control and pencil grasp.
- Practise forming clearer letters and numbers.
- Continued name formation practise.
- Continued line drawings of self that show development of detail and skills.

Religious Education - To know You more Clearly

Branch 4 - Desert to Garden - Children will learn about the events of Holy Week and how Jesus died on Good Friday and rose again on Easter Sunday. They will learn about the religious symbols of Lent and Easter.

The Specific Areas

Literacy:

- Sharing a variety of stories about growing up and life cycles.
- Continue to learn Phase 3 phonics.
- Continue to apply phonics knowledge with independence.
- Continue to practice Tricky Words.
- Continue to read individually and shared guided reading when necessary.
- Continue to progress with weekly shared Super Sentences and opportunities to apply skills through continuous provision.
- Opportunities to write about growing up using a variety of language.

Mathematics:

- Continuation of Mastering Number programme with progression of number knowledge and skills.
- Continued weekly focus on numbers from 7 to 8.
- Continued practice of general counting skills and recognising whether a number value is 'more than' and 'fewer than' the value of another number.

Understanding the World:

- Reflecting on own awareness of the past and the present by learning about the ages and stages of growing up.
- Explore how the season changes from Winter into Spring.
- Learn about the religious symbols of Lent and Easter, linking to RE.
- Children will follow the programme a Journey in Love.

Expressive Arts and Design:

- Children will role play different family scenarios and personalities of people at different ages and stages.
- Children will apply colour mixing skills to create rainbows.
- Children will draw themselves and friends.
- Children will practice basic sketches of sign of Spring.



EYFS Curriculum Overview - Summer Term 1

Growing

The Prime Areas

Communication and Language:

- Talk about how and why things grow.
- Introduce new language and build vocabulary about growing and develop language linked to instructions.
- Use language to resolve misunderstandings effectively.
- Continue to develop descriptive language.

Personal, Social and Emotional Development:

- Support understanding of how things grow and developing patience and care whilst waiting for plants to grow.
- Continue to develop ways to resolve misunderstandings and conflicts with growing independence.
- Continue to build bank of ideas to regulate emotions and behaviour.

Physical Development:

Gross Motor Skills

- Continue using a wide range of objects to develop control and coordination.
- Continue to use a range of outdoor equipment to gain independence with their control and balance.

Fine Motor Control

- Continue to use a wide range of media, materials and tools with independence.
- Continue to develop good hand control and pencil grasp.
- Practise forming clearer letters and numbers.
- Continued name formation practise.
- Continued line drawings of self that show development of detail and skills.
- Use precision skills to plant seeds.

Religious Education - To know You more Clearly

Branch 6 - Dialogue and Encounter - Families - Children will learn about the Pope's message, Fratelli Tutti, and how it is the responsibility of everybody to promote the common good. Supports *A Journey in Love*.
Branch 6 - Dialogue and Encounter - Islam - Children will learn about the objects that are special to the Muslim faith.

The Specific Areas

Literacy:

- Sharing a variety of stories about growing.
- Continue to learn Jolly Phonics.
- Continue to apply phonics knowledge with independence.
- Continue to practice Tricky Words.
- Continue to read individually and shared guided reading when necessary.
- Continue to progress with weekly shared Super Sentences and opportunities to apply skills through continuous provision.
- Opportunities to write about growing using a variety of language.

Mathematics:

- Continuation of Mastering Number programme with progression of number knowledge and skills.
- Continued weekly focus on numbers from 9 to 10.
- Continued practice of general counting skill.
- Building children's confidence recalling number bonds to 10.

Understanding the World:

- Reflecting on own awareness of the past and the present by learning by exploring changes of plants.
- Explore how the season changes from Spring to Summer.
- Learn about how Sunday is a special day for Christians celebrating in Church, linking to RE (the Holy Spirit).

Expressive Arts and Design:

- Children will a variety of role play ideas e.g. garden centre, bug investigation etc.
- Children will practice independent skills of sketching, colour mixing and painting.



EYFS Curriculum Overview - Summer Term 2

Animals

The Prime Areas

Communication and Language:

- Talk about animals and their habitats, using a variety of adjectives.
- Introduce new language and build vocabulary about animals and their habitats.
- Continue to use language to resolve misunderstandings affectively.

Personal, Social and Emotional Development:

- Support understanding of different animals and their habitats.
- Continue to develop ways to resolve misunderstandings and conflicts with growing independence.
- Continue to build bank of ideas to regulate emotions and behaviour.

Physical Development:

Gross Motor Skills

- Continue using a wide range of objects to develop control and coordination.
- Continue to use a range of outdoor equipment to gain independence with their control and balance.

Fine Motor Control

- Continue to use a wide range of media, materials and tools with independence.
- Continue to develop good hand control and pencil grasp.
- Practise forming clearer letters and numbers.
- Continued name formation practise.
- Continued line drawings of self that show development of detail and skills.

Religious Education - To know You more Clearly

Branch 6 - Dialogue and Encounter - Our World and Conservation - Children will learn about the Pope's message, Laudato Si, and how it is the responsibility of everybody to take care of our planet.

The Specific Areas

Literacy:

- Sharing a variety of stories about growing.
- Continue to learn Jolly Phonics.
- Continue to apply phonics knowledge independently.
- Continue to practice Tricky Words.
- Continue to read individually and take part in shared guided reading.
- Continue to progress with weekly shared Super Sentences and opportunities to apply skills through continuous provision.
- Opportunities to write about animals using a variety of language.

Mathematics:

- Continuation of Mastering Number programme with progression of number knowledge and skills.
- Consolidation of number knowledge.
- Deepen understanding of 'fewer than', 'more than' and 'equal to'.
- Children will explore capacity.
- Children will build confidence in recognizing numbers beyond 10.

Understanding the World:

- Reflecting on own awareness of the past and the present by exploring animals that are endangered and extinct.
- Explore signs of Summer.
- Learn about conservation and our world through Catholic Social Teaching.

Expressive Arts and Design:

- Children will explore different environments that animals may live in through role play.
- Children will practice using techniques and skills to create animal crafts, paintings and drawings.