



ST MICHAEL & ST MARTIN CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

NURSERY CURRICULUM MAP AUTUMN TERM 2026



Learning our faith, living our faith, loving our faith

1. COMMUNICATION & LANGUAGE

- Listen and respond during stories, conversations and familiar routines.
- Talk about ourselves, our families and shared experiences.
- Learn, understand and begin to use new vocabulary linked to people, feelings, seasons and celebrations.
- Join in with songs, rhymes, repeated refrains and familiar stories.
- Develop confidence in taking turns, asking and answering simple questions and communicating ideas within a group.

2. PERSONAL, SOCIAL & EMOTIONAL DEVELOPMENT

- Build trusting relationships with familiar adults and children and develop a strong sense of belonging.
- Learn Nursery routines and expectations, becoming increasingly confident and independent.
- Recognise and name feelings and begin to manage emotions with adult support.
- Develop turn-taking, sharing, cooperation and kindness through play.
- Notice and celebrate similarities and differences between ourselves, our families and our traditions.

3. PHYSICAL DEVELOPMENT

- Move safely and confidently in different ways, developing balance, coordination and spatial awareness.
- Develop control of large movements through active play, dance and action songs.
- Strengthen hands and fingers through purposeful fine-motor experiences.
- Develop increasing control when using tools and materials for drawing, making and manipulating.
- Grow in independence with dressing, toileting, handwashing, eating and other self-care routines.

Our Autumn Journey

AUTUMN 1

Me and My Family



I wonder...
who am I and
who is important
to me?

AUTUMN 2

Sparkle and Shine



I wonder...
what lights up
our world?

4. LITERACY

- Enjoy, handle and talk about a growing range of stories, rhymes and information books.
- Recognise our own name and other meaningful print within the environment.
- Join in with rhymes, repeated language and familiar story sequences.
- Listen for and play with sounds in words through songs, rhymes and oral games.
- Make intentional marks for different purposes and talk about what our marks mean.

5. MATHEMATICS

- Develop confidence in counting through songs, stories, routines and purposeful play.
- Notice and compare amounts, using mathematical language such as more, fewer, same and different.
- Explore and compare size, length and other measures through everyday experiences.
- Notice, copy and continue simple patterns.
- Explore shape, space and position through construction, movement and play.

6. UNDERSTANDING THE WORLD

- Talk about our families, significant people and experiences, noticing similarities and differences.
- Explore Nursery, school and the immediate environment using our senses and experiences.
- Begin to talk about past and present through photographs, memories and familiar events.
- Observe and describe seasonal change as autumn moves towards winter.
- Investigate light, darkness and different materials through exploration and simple enquiry.
- Encounter and talk about different traditions and celebrations within our community and beyond.

8. RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

- **Creation & Covenant:** explore God's wonderful world, our uniqueness, belonging and giving thanks.
- Hear and respond to simple Scripture through story, prayer, talk and creative experiences.
- Celebrate Harvest and consider how we can care for God's world and one another.
- **Prophecy & Promise:** encounter Advent and the Nativity story.
- Explore waiting, preparing, giving and celebrating as we journey towards Christmas.

7. EXPRESSIVE ARTS & DESIGN

- Explore colour, texture, sound and movement using a growing range of materials and techniques.
- Represent ourselves, our families and familiar experiences through drawing, making and other media.
- Sing familiar and seasonal songs, learn rhymes and respond to music.
- Develop imagination through role play, small-world play and storytelling.
- Create collaboratively and contribute to shared celebration and performance.

STORIES WE'LL SHARE

AUTUMN 1 – ME AND MY FAMILY

- ♥ So Much!
- ♥ Once There Were Giants
- ♥ Hello, Friend!
- ♥ All Are Welcome
- ♥ The Rainbow Fish
- ♥ TBC



AUTUMN 2 – SPARKLE AND SHINE

- ★ Leaf Man
- ★ Peace at Last
- ★ Owl Babies
- ★ Whatever Next!
- ★ The Best Diwali Ever
- ★ The Christmas Story



EXPERIENCES THAT BRING OUR LEARNING TO LIFE



Family Photographs



Autumn Walks & Observations



Light & Dark Investigations



Celebrations & Traditions



Nativity & Performance

First-hand experiences • Curiosity • Exploration • Wonder

FAITH, SEASONS & SCHOOL LIFE

OUR FAITH JOURNEY

Creation & Covenant



Creation



Belonging

Harvest



Harvest

Prophecy & Promise



Advent



Nativity



Christmas

Daily Prayer • Collective Worship • Virtues in Action

The Prime Areas (Communication & Language, PSED and Physical Development) underpin all learning and development, supporting children to become confident, curious and capable learners.