Year 2 Autumn Topic Web 2026

Religious Education

Branch 1 - Creation and Covenant

In Year 2, our ‘Creation and Covenant’ topic explores the Bible as a sacred book, learning how it is divided into the Old and New Testaments to tell the story of God’s people and the life of Jesus. The children focus on the story of Noah, discovering the meaning of a ‘covenant’ as a special promise from God and using the rainbow as a symbol of His mercy. This learning encourages the children to reflect on their own choices, the importance of saying sorry when they have turned away from God, and their responsibility as ‘stewards’ to care for plants, animals, and each other.

The children also delve into the Sacrament of Baptism, understanding it as a loving welcome into the Christian family. We explore the powerful symbols used during the ceremony—such as water, oil, the white garment, and the candle—and how these represent a commitment to carrying the light of Jesus in our daily lives. To conclude the unit, we look at the beauty of the Psalms, using these ancient songs and poems to express our own ‘awe and wonder’ and offer praise to God for the gift of His creation.

Branch 2 - Prophecy and Promise

In Year 2, our ‘Prophecy and Promise’ topic focuses on how God prepares His people for the coming of Jesus. The children will learn about the role of prophets like Isaiah and John the Baptist, who were chosen to listen to God and share His messages of hope. We will explore the story of John the Baptist’s birth and his father Zechariah’s prophecy, reflecting on how John’s mission was to "prepare the way" for the Lord. This learning encourages the children to think about how they can transform their own hearts to be ready for Jesus.

As we move into the season of Advent, the children will discover the meaning behind the candles of the Advent wreath and explore how different cultures around the world prepare for Christmas. Using Isaiah’s imagery of light and darkness, we will discuss Jesus as the ‘Light of the World’ who brings hope and guidance. Finally, we look to Mary as a role model of trust and faith, exploring her unique role as the Mother of God and her beautiful song of praise, the Magnificat.

At St Wilfrid's, we are very proud to be a part of the Building the Kingdom programme, the aim of which is to embed distinctive Catholic curriculum design for the transformation of society.

Through Building the Kingdom, we explore the big questions of purpose and meaning that arise throughout the Liturgical year, and then create lessons and events which engage students with the skills needed to be agents for a Spirit-fuelled transformation of society.

The Big Questions for this Half Term:

September - Who are the important women in our lives?

October - How can we care for God's world?

November - Is death the end or a new beginning?

December – Is the incarnation wasted on people today?

English	Maths	Humanities
Fiction, Non–fiction and Poetry writing Children will be asked to develop, recall and understand the language and organisational features of a range of text-types including: Narratives, Instructions and Calligram poems. **Grammar/Phonics**: English lessons will have a clear grammar and spelling element within them. This terms grammar focus includes: Noun phrases, commas in a list and different sentence types. Spelling will be taught using Spelling Shed to cover Y2 spelling rules.	**Place Value** Children revisit learning from Year 1 on numbers to 20. In Year 1, children mainly focused on being able to recognise numerals written as words. They now shift their focus to independently writing numerals as words and vice versa, which will be built upon later in the block. **Addition and Subtraction** In Year 1, children looked at number bonds both to and within 10 in detail. Children now have the opportunity to revisit and consolidate this learning, with a specific focus on number bonds to 10. **Shape** Before learning about the properties of shapes, children need to recognise and name both 2-D and 3-D shapes and differentiate between them. Children should begin to understand that 2-D shapes are flat and that the manipulatives they handle in class are representations of the shapes. Children should be able to recognise both standard and nonstandard representations of 2-D and 3-D shapes.	**History** This unit introduces children to the Romans and the Roman Empire, including the Roman invasion of Britain. They will also look closely at how the Roman Army was organised and evaluate what made them so successful. Children will learn about the significant rebellion led against the Romans by the Celtic queen of the Iceni, Boudicca. **Geography** Children will walk around their school site, noting the location of different parts of the school and will also think about direction using the four points of a compass. They will sketch a map of the school site before drawing a map with a key in the following lesson. Children will then look at Ordnance Survey maps and will begin to recognise symbols the symbols used. They will look for physical and human geographical features and how they are represented on a map

Science 1	Science 2	Art
The Human Body In this unit, children will have their first look at our digestive system, something they will return to in greater detail in Year Three and Year Four. They will learn that food gives us energy so we can move and grow. This connects to their learning in Year 1 about how living things need food to grow. They will begin to understand the digestive system sorts out the food we eat, taking nutrients and other essential things and leaving waste. Elaborating on their understanding of body systems, children will learn about the circulatory system which is made up of a complex network of blood vessels, arteries and veins. The role of the heart will be explored, and children will understand that blood is pumped around our bodies.	**Living things and their Environment** This unit helps children to understand the difference between things that are alive, things that are dead and things that are inanimate (have never been alive). Asking questions about the differences between these things will help children to think scientifically. Children will build on their substantive knowledge of different types of animals as they learn about habitats including rainforests, deserts, meadows and underground habitats. Some of these habitats will be familiar to children, others may not. Studying a variety of habitats helps children to ask and answer questions about habitats and their features and helps children to grow a body of knowledge in this area. Children will learn that microhabitats are habitats that are very small or limited, for example, under a log	**Colour, Shape and Texture** This unit builds on the previous unit, studying colour and shape together for three lessons, looking in detail at the late work of Matisse. By looking at Matisse's cut-outs the children revise what they have already learnt about shape and colour, are introduced to the use of colours that are complementary to each other and to the idea of composition

Computing	Technology
Computing is taught discretely through BGFL 365. Computing also takes a pivotal role throughout core and foundation subjects, where children are provided the opportunity to retrieve, record and publish work on computers. Children are taught to use computers and access the internet safely and appropriately through E-Safety lessons and during Safer Internet Day.	**Remarkable Recipes** **This project teaches children about sources of food and tools used for food preparation. They also discover why some foods are cooked and learn to read a simple recipe. The children choose and make a new school meal that fulfils specific design criteria.**

The Prayer of St Francis of Assisi

Lord, make me an instrument of your peace:
where there is hatred, let me sow love;
where there is injury, pardon;
where there is doubt, faith;
where there is despair, hope;
where there is darkness, light;
where there is sadness, joy.