

St Francis' Catholic Primary School

CURRICULUM CYCLE B YEAR 5/6 BEACON

2025-26

	Autumn 1	Autumn 2	Spring 1	Spring 2	Summer 1	Summer 2
	Life as We Know It		Living Things	Electricity	Evolution (How have things evolved over time?)	
School Value <i>CARE & COMPASSION, RESPECT, ASPIRATIONS, RESILIENCE</i>	Resilience	Aspirations	Care & Compassion	Respect	Resilience	Aspirations
Big Question Ethical Thinking <i>LIVING, FEELING, DREAMING</i>	Does everyone have a fair start in life?		How can we look after nature? Are zoos ethical and moral – should they be shut down or there to educate?	Do we need electricity to survive?	Has our society evolved too quickly in the 21 st century?	
Topic Hook	Visit Lancashire Archives to look at St. Francis school census from the 1800s – what can it tell us about our own history?		Animal Roadshow visit	Electricity North West workshop visit	Mozaik 3D App – Human Evolution	
Extraordinary Ending	Create a blog for the website on Floella Benjamin and her life		Knowlsey Safari Park visit	Doodler demonstration and workshop for younger children	Natural History Museum – Evolution Virtual Workshop	
English	<p>Stories on a Theme: Difference Using <i>The Proudest Blue</i> and <i>The Boy at the Back of the Class</i>, explore the theme of difference. Use noun phrases to write evocatively. Write formal and informal letters before planning and writing a story on this theme.</p> <p>Recounts: Races in Frozen Places Explore the frozen wilds! Examine text organisation in <i>Shackleton's Journey</i>, write evaluatively using modal verbs and punctuate lists. Summarise events depicted in <i>The Great Serum Race</i> and write a newspaper recount.</p>	<p>Adventure Stories: The Girl Who Stole an Elephant Explore this exciting adventure story, examining characterisation and descriptive language. Learn how to integrate dialogue and to use expanded noun phrases. Improvise, draft, write and perform a playscript based on the book.</p> <p>Biographies: The Undeclared Starting with the excellent <i>Undeclared</i> explore the biographies of black sports people, activists and authors. Learn about cohesion and explore the subjunctive in formal writing before studying <i>Coming to England</i> and writing a short biography of Floella Benjamin.</p> <p>Poems on a Theme: Hope Using the superb <i>Book of Hopes</i> this block teaches poetry terminology and appreciation. Use relative clauses to create</p>	<p>Short Stories: African Stories Taking inspiration from <i>Chasing the Sun</i>, study what makes a great short story. Examine characterisation, setting, structure and story 'hooks'. Revise relative clauses and formal and informal language.</p> <p>Reports: Re-wilding Starting with Catherine Barr's stunning book, <i>Fourteen Wolves</i>, learn about re-wilding. Revise paragraphs, cohesive devices and active and passive voice. Research and write a report about the reintroduction of a UK species.</p> <p>Persuasive Writing: Advertising and Influencing Take a closer look at the persuasive language used by influencers and advertisers. Look at how degrees of possibility are created and the use of the</p>	<p>Fantasy: Howl's Moving Castle Explore the characterisation and settings in the text and film of <i>Howl's Moving Castle</i>. Compare and contrast the two versions. Write film reviews and fantasy stories. Revise relative clauses and cohesive devices.</p> <p>Poems on a Theme: Portrait Poems Using Rachel Rooney's collection, <i>A Kid in my Class</i>, study different poetic forms. Revise adverbs of possibility and modal verbs and use these to write school reports. Write portrait poems in response to those read.</p>	<p>Graphic Novels: When Stars are Scattered Explore the brilliant graphic novel <i>When Stars are Scattered</i>, learning about how characters are developed through images and words. Grammar includes writing speech as well as adverbs of possibility and modal verbs.</p> <p>Information Texts: History of Kings and Queens Discover more about kings and queens of Britain and write an information text about a chosen monarch. Look at formal and informal writing in different texts and learn about the active and passive voice.</p>	<p>Adventure Stories: The Explorer Get lost in Katherine Rundell's wonderful book <i>The Explorer</i>, focusing on character and plot. Revise relative clauses and formal and informal language. Write an exciting new chapter inspired by the book.</p> <p>Instructions and Explanations: Fake News Tackle the tricky issue of Fake News with this excellent block. Learn technical vocabulary, examine texts, carry out fact-checking and write a guide to help others. Incorporates modal verbs and adverbs and organisational devices.</p> <p>Poems on a Theme: Migration 1 week Using Michael Rosen's moving collection of poetry <i>On the Move</i>, spend time appreciating the poems and understanding the story behind them. Be</p>

		magical places, revise commas and colons and work together to create a class Book of Hopes. Essential Texts: <i>The Book of Hopes</i> edited by Katherine Rundell	subjunctive. Write persuasively and create blog posts. Optional Text: <i>Made You Look: How Advertising Works and Why You Should Know</i> by Shari Graydon			inspired by Quentin Blake's illustrations to write poems on the themes in the collection.
English Key Texts	<p>Essential Texts: <i>The Proudest Blue</i> by Ibtihaj Muhammad; <i>Perfect</i> by Nicola Davies <i>The Boy at the Back of the Class</i> by Onjali Rauf</p> <p>Essential Texts: <i>Shackleton's Journey</i> by William Grill <i>The Great Serum Race: Blazing the Iditarod Trail</i> by Debbie S Miller Optional texts: Any reference books on Polar travel and exploration</p>	<p>Essential Text: <i>The Girl Who Stole an Elephant</i> by Nizrana Farook</p> <p>Essential Texts: <i>The Undefeated</i> by Kwame Alexander and Kadir Nelson <i>Coming to England</i> by Floella Benjamin Optional Texts: <i>Little Leaders – Bold Women in Black History</i> and <i>Little Leaders – Exceptional Men in Black History</i> both by Vashti Harrison <i>Black Heroes: A Black History Book for Kids</i> by Arlisha Norwood <i>Young, Gifted and Black</i> by Jamia Wilson</p>	<p>Essential Texts: <i>Chasing the Sun: Stories from Africa</i>, Edited by Véronique Tadjo. Optional Texts: <i>The Book of Hopes: Words and Pictures to Comfort, Inspire and Entertain</i> Edited by Katherine Rundell Any reference books on Africa, including atlases, and those on native animals and physical geography</p> <p>Essential Text: <i>Fourteen Wolves</i> by Catherine Barr and Jenni Desmond</p>	<p>Essential Texts: <i>Howl's Moving Castle</i> by Diana Wynne Jones <i>Howl's Moving Castle</i> Studio Ghibli Animated Film (90 minutes)</p> <p>Essential Text: <i>A Kid in My Class</i> by Rachel Rooney, illustrated by Chris Riddell</p>	<p>Essential Text: <i>When Stars Are Scattered</i> by Victoria Jamieson and Omar Mohamed</p> <p>Essential Text: <i>Tony Robinson's Kings and Queens</i> by Tony Robinson</p>	<p>Essential Text: <i>The Explorer</i> by Katherine Rundell</p> <p>Essential Texts: <i>Breaking News: How to Tell What's Real from What's Rubbish</i> by Nick Sheridan Optional Texts: <i>Fake News: True or False Quiz Book</i> by Clive Gifford <i>Question Everything: An Investigator's Toolkit</i> by Susan Martineau</p> <p>Essential Texts: <i>On the Move</i> by Michael Rosen, illustrated by Quentin Blake <i>The Missing</i> by Michael Rosen</p>
English Class Reads	A Day in the Life Of... A Journey To Discover Our Global Family - Loris Wright		My Mother Saw a Dancing Bear – Charles Causkey	Percy Jackson and the Lightning Thief - Rick Riordan	The Ever-changing Earth – Grahame Baker-Smith	
Maths	Place Value Addition & Subtraction	Multiplication & Division A Fractions A	Multiplication & Division 2 Fractions B Decimals A	Area, Perimeter & Volume Decimals B Fractions, Decimals & Percentages	Ratio Algebra Shape	Position & Direction Statistics Converting Units
RE Branches	Creation and Covenant	Prophecy and Promise	Galilee to Jerusalem	Desert to Garden	Ends of the Earth	Dialogue and Encounter
Science	Living things and their habitats: Life Cycles & Reproduction	Forces, Earth & Space: Unbalanced Forces	Living Things & their habitats: Classifying big and small	Energy: Circuits, batteries & switches	Living things & their habitats: Evolution & Inheritance	Animals, including humans: Human timeline

Geography	What is life like in the Alps?		Would you like to live in the desert?		Energy: Where does our energy come from?	
History		What can a census tell us about Britain and our local area?		What did the Greeks do for us?		Significant people in British history – who should be on the next £10 note
Art	Sculpture & 3D: Interactive Installations		Craft & Design: Photo opportunity			Sculpture & 3D: Making Memories
DT		Structures: Designing a new playground		Electrical systems: Doodlers	Digital World: Navigating the World	
Computing	Coding	DL: Online Safety DL: Blogging	CS: Using External Devices	CS: Networks	IT: Quizzing	
PSHE	Rules & Diversity	What can we do about bullying?	How can I help myself and others?	What jobs would we like?	How can money affect us?	How can I help myself and others?
HRSE		MOD 1 UNIT 1 UKS2 Calming the Storm	MOD 1 UNIT 2 UKS2 Me, My Body, My Health	MOD 1 UNIT 3 UKS2 Emotional Wellbeing	MOD 1 UNIT 4 UKS2 Human Life Cycle	MOD 3 UNIT 1 UKS2 Catholic Social Teaching MOD 3 UNIT 2 UKS2 Reaching Out
Music	Music & Technology	Sing & Play in Different Styles	Creative Composition	Enjoying Musical Styles	Improvising with Confidence	Battle of the Bands!
PE	Invasion Games – hockey	Invasion Games	Gymnastics	Invasion Games	Fielding & Striking	Outdoor Adventure
	Dance	Gymnastics	Creative Games	Net & Wall	Dance	Athletics
French	French Transport	In My French House	French Music Celebrations	French Verbs in a Week	Visiting a French Town	French Sports at the Olympics