



St Mary's C of E Primary School

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KS2 Half Term Curriculum Plan / Home Learning Letter

Spring 1st Half Term: January 2023

Dear Year 4 Parents/Carers,

We would like to thank you for your kind gifts and cards. We hope that you had a lovely Christmas break and wish you all a happy New Year.

Please refer to the table below, for a brief overview of the learning experiences that the children will have in each subject, during this half term.

Subjects	Focus of Learning
English	<p>This half term, much of our English work will be based around our focus text 'The Miraculous Journey of Edward Tulane', which is a poignant adventure story set in North America. We will be reading and discussing the text, which explores the themes of friendship and loyalty, looking at how the key character changes through the course of the story. We will be tracking the story through story mapping and writing our own chapter.</p> <p>Over the half term, we will also be continuing to practise our cursive handwriting.</p> <p>We will be looking at a variety of spelling patterns, for example word endings such as -ture, -tion and -cian and the prefixes anti- and inter-. Our focus grammar areas include the use of apostrophes and adverbials.</p>
Reading	<p>The children will be reading on a regular basis, continuing to develop their fluency and broadening their vocabulary. When reading and through different curriculum topics, children will be encouraged to ask relevant questions to extend their understanding and knowledge. We will continue to work on reading further 'exception' words and applying growing knowledge of root words, prefixes and suffixes to support reading. The use of dictionaries is encouraged to find the meanings of unfamiliar words.</p>
Maths	<p>Our learning will include: subtracting pairs of 3-digit numbers; multiplying 3-digit numbers by 1-digit numbers; finding equivalent fractions and simplifying fractions; comparing different types of angles, identifying perpendicular & parallel lines and recognising and drawing lines of symmetry.</p> <p>We will continue to practise the times tables.</p>
Science	<p>This module introduces the concept of states of matter. Children will learn the characteristic properties of solids, liquids and gases, first through physically exploring typical materials and then by classifying examples, such as powders and very viscous liquids, which are harder to classify. Using first-hand experience and secondary sources they will learn about changes of state and begin to understand freezing and boiling points as identifying characteristics of a material. They will learn the names of some common gases. They will have the opportunity to explore the expansion of liquids and gases when they are heated. They will also learn about the water cycle, modelling it in different ways and further developing their understanding of changes of state. This module focuses on reversible changes.</p>

Computing	This term's unit is titled 'Spreadsheets'. We will be learning how to format numbers, create line graphs and learn how to use spreadsheets for budgeting.
PSHE	Our PSHE topic this half term is 'Dreams and Goals. We will start by thinking of our own hopes and dreams and understand that sometimes we can feel disappointment when they don't come true. We will be discussing ways to help overcome these disappointments including showing resilience and having a positive attitude.
History	Our History topic this half term is 'The Railway Revolution'. We will begin by finding out how transport changed during the Industrial Revolution and learn about the development of the first steam-powered railways in Britain. We will then discover the way rail travel changed the lives of people living in Britain since 1830.
D&T	This half term we will be designing and making pencil cases. We will start by researching existing products and then design our own, considering who will be using the pencil case. We will accurately measure and cut the necessary materials before assembling and joining them to create our pencil cases. We will then evaluate the finished product.
RE	In RE we will be thinking about the key question, 'How special is the relationship Jews have with God?' We will begin by discussing what expectations there are when you make an agreement. We will be focussing on the Ten Commandments and learn about the ways in which Jewish people show their relationship with God through worshipping in the synagogue and at home.

Home Learning

Home learning will continue to be set on Google Classroom. It will consist of a Maths and English/Topic task, spellings and focus times tables. It will be set on a **Friday** and needs to be completed and turned in by **Wednesday**. A photo can be taken of the learning and then uploaded and submitted to Google Classroom.

In addition to these home learning tasks, we recommend that children also engage with RM Easi-Maths, TT Rockstars and IDL on a regular basis. Please let a member of the Year 4 team know if you need any help accessing these platforms

Reading

One of the most important ways in which you can support your child's learning is to ensure that they engage with 10-15 minutes reading every day. It is really helpful if you can take some time to read with your child and discuss what they have read. Whilst reading, it would be great if you could encourage your child to make **predictions** and **ask questions** about the text. Try to help them identify and **clarify** words or phrases that they are unsure about and encourage them to **summarise** a paragraph or page that they have just read. This will help to support their developing comprehension skills. It is also beneficial to read aloud to your children. When your child finishes reading a book, they will have the opportunity to complete an Accelerated Reader quiz at school. The children will keep a reading record (paper copy) in school, on which they will record the book titles they are reading and any 'Accelerated Reader' quiz scores that they achieve.

P.E.

We will be having a coached PE session on Tuesdays. The class will also have PE on Mondays. This term we will be learning gymnastics. On these days, children will need to **come in to school wearing their PE kit**. This should consist of their school PE t-shirt, jogging bottoms/PE shorts and trainers. If your child has long hair, please ensure that it is tied back on P.E. days.

What will my child need in school?

- **Named** school jumper/cardigan/coat

- Named water bottle (water fountains are still not in use)
- Children may bring to school a small school bag if they wish or a school book bag.
- Your child will need **one** pencil case containing pencils, handwriting pen, red pen, small ruler, eraser, sharpener (one that holds sharpenings), colouring pencils, small glue stick.
- Small packet of tissues, and we also ask for any donations of larger tissue boxes for the classroom please.

If you have any questions, please contact the class team via the School Office email.

Many thanks for your continued support.

Mrs Prados and Mrs Oliver