



# St Mary's C of E Primary School

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## KS2 Half Term Curriculum Plan - Home Learning Letter Spring 1<sup>st</sup> Half Term: January 2023

### Year 6

Dear Parents/Carers,

We hope you have had a fun and festive Christmas break. Happy New Year! May 2023 bring health, happiness and prosperity to you and your families. I know I have already sent out a message, but I wanted to say another big "THANK YOU" for your kindness. I received so many lovely cards and gifts, at the end of term, which were all very much appreciated ☺

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	We start the new year looking at a War of the Worlds excerpt. We will use this to discuss and identify the features of science fiction texts and to identify and explore unfamiliar vocabulary. We will create summary story maps then plan and write a continuation to the text. We will then move on to look at the features of newspapers; planning and writing our own articles. Although we will be looking at a variety of grammar, further consolidating our KS2 knowledge, we will have a particular focus on: adverbials, subordinating conjunctions, subordinate clauses and active/passive voice this half term.
Reading	We will continue to develop our reading fluency and comprehension skills this half term, with regular reading sessions. Children will continue to use the Accelerated Reader resources, as well as further developing their understanding of predicting, questioning, clarifying and summarising with reciprocal reading sessions and activities.
Maths	In maths this half term, we will begin by consolidating our knowledge of place value with a focus on larger numbers and subtraction. We will then look at multiplication of decimals and fractions. Later in the half term we will be exploring 2D shapes and calculating angles. We will also be focusing on accuracy of calculations, ensuring that column addition, column subtraction, column multiplication and short division are being used effectively.
Science	During our new Science topic, 'Light Up Your World', we will be learning about what light is and how it travels. We will explore how we see objects and will investigate the size and shape of shadows. The children will be given opportunities to plan their own scientific enquiries to answer questions, including recognising and controlling variables where necessary. We will learn about refraction through practical activities and will explore how we see different coloured objects.

Computing	This half term, the main aim of our Computing sessions, are to provide opportunities to find out more about how networks work. We will look at how they can provide multiple services, such as the World Wide Web, and explore the opportunities they offer for communication and collaboration. We will look at key questions such as: What is the difference between the Internet and the World Wide Web? What is the difference between a LAN and a WAN? Who is Tim Berners-Lee?
History	Our learning this term is entitled 'Why should we thank the Ancient Greeks?' In this unit the children will learn about Alexander the Great and the Empire he built and they will compare and contrast what life was typically like in two different city states. Children will learn about the different types of Government and consider the impact this and some of the great minds from the era have had on our society today. We will be identifying other ways the Ancient Greeks have contributed positively to the modern day, for example the legacy of the Olympics.
PHSCE	Our Jigsaw PSHCE topic this half term is 'Dreams and Goals'. We will think about personal learning goals and steps to success, thinking about how we can be motivated to work on these. We will discuss our dreams for the world, identifying problems that concern us and think about how we can make the world a better place. Finally, we will discuss and identify our achievements and share ideas about what people like and admire about each of us as individuals.
Art	Having done such a brilliant job with their design technology work last half term, Year 6 will now move on to a new art unit entitled Brave Colour. We will begin by thinking about colour theory and then explore the work of some installation artists. In this pathway the children will explore colour in a personal and intuitive way, thinking about feelings and emotions that colour evokes. We will be taking inspiration from artists who use colour, light and form to create immersive installations and creating our own mock-up artworks and models.
Religious Education	In RE we will be continuing our work from last half term, further exploring the Understanding Christianity unit of Incarnation. The children look at bible stories and think about the question 'Do we need a messiah?' Later in the half term we will be thinking about the religion of Islam and thinking about the overarching question 'What is the best way for a Muslim to show commitment to God?'
Music	Our learning this term is entitled 'Understanding Structure and Form'. The children will understand and be able to talk about how a piece of music is organised into chorus, bridge and verses. They will build upon their knowledge of musical notation such as rests. Furthermore, they will have opportunities to explain the feelings a piece of music evokes in them, as well as having experience of playing new pieces on the glockenspiel and/or xylophone and singing them.

### **Home Learning**

Home learning will be uploaded on to Google Classroom each Friday. The set work should be completed and submitted to GC by the following Wednesday.

Weekly spellings will continue to be sent home on a Friday; spelling tests will take place on the following Friday. Please encourage children to practise their spellings regularly, ready for their weekly spelling test.

In addition to these home learning tasks, we recommend that children also engage with RM Easi-Maths and TT Rockstars on a regular basis. Please let a member of the Year 6 team know, if you need any help accessing these platforms or if there are any other home-learning issues.

### **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 each 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. It is also beneficial to read aloud to your children. At school, the children are using the Accelerated Reading scheme, taking quizzes on books they have read within school time. If your child finishes reading a book at home, they will have the opportunity to complete an Accelerated Reader quiz at school (if one is available). 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 coach-led PE session on **Friday** afternoons. The class will also have a PE slot on **Wednesday** afternoons. 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 and trainers. Please ensure all long hair is tied back. **Y6 children may wear their leavers' hoodies as part of the PE kit.**

### **What will my child need in school?**

- **Named** school jumper/cardigan/water-proof coat – additional layers during colder weather
- **Named** water bottle (water fountains are not in use)- children can refill bottles in class
- Children can bring in a small bag to carry packed lunches / school resources
- Your child will need a pencil case **containing pencils, handwriting pen, small ruler, eraser, sharpener (one that holds sharpenings), colouring pencils and a small glue stick**

If you have any questions, please contact the class team via the School Office email or send in a message / note with your child or the senior member of staff on gate duty in the morning. Please do not leave important messages on Google Classroom as these are not always flagged up and can be missed.

Many thanks for your continued support.

**The Year 6 Class Team**

**Mrs Jennifer Harris, Mrs Lucy Richardson, Miss Lindsey Salter and Mrs Michelle Williams.**