



St Mary's C of E Primary School

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KS2 Half Term Curriculum Plan / Home Learning Letter

Year 3

Spring 2nd Half Term: February 2023

Dear Parents/Carers,

We hope that you had a lovely half term break. We hope the children have had a chance to rest, relax and are looking forward to what we have planned for this half term. 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	Our focus texts this half term are 'The Promise' by Nicola Davies alongside a visual text 'Mega City'. We will be using these to help us focus on up-levering writing, using subordinate clauses and consolidating work on using inverted commas. Writing tasks this half term will include setting descriptions and narrative writing. There will be a continuing focus on punctuation, grammar and spelling; including subordinating conjunctions, prepositions and apostrophes of contraction and possession. We will also be continuing to work on the skills of proofreading to improve writing and focusing closely on individual joins to further improve cursive handwriting this half term.
Reading	We will be continuing to focus on reading to support learning across the curriculum. We will be continuing our focus on using the reciprocal reading strategies: predicting, questioning, clarifying and summarising. Please continue to support children to complete their home-school reading record each week with a sentence for each. We will be continuing with reading comprehension practice and there will be opportunities for children to read and discuss books in class. Children will continue to access reading books in school and should be bringing reading books to and from school each day.
Maths	We will be focusing on expanded column addition this half term. We will also look at telling time to the nearest minute. Then, revise subtraction by counting up. The children will continue weekly arithmetic practice. Using TT Rockstars and RM Easimaths at home, will further support their learning and understanding in Maths.
Science	In Science this half term and the first half of the summer term we are going to be considering 'How does your garden grow?'. We will be exploring different parts of plants and their functions including how these relate to their appearance and structure. Children will build on their experiences of identifying parts of the plant and growing plants in KS1. We will focus on the absorption and transport of water and nutrients and the role of the leaf in providing food for the plant.
Computing	In computing we will be looking at email, learning how to compose emails including attachments and using CC and BCC. We will also be learning how to use email safely.
Geography	In Geography this half term our topic is 'North America'. We will begin by locating North America on a World Map and identifying its countries as well as states within the USA. We will then move onto exploring the physical geography of the Rockies

	before looking at the effects of the Mount St Helen's eruption. We will complete our topic by comparing New York State, New York City and where we live.
PHSCE	In PHSCE we will be looking at how we can stay safe and healthy. We will consider the role of exercise and healthy eating. We will be discussing issues around drugs and medication safety. We will also be discussing how to keep ourselves safe including some risky scenarios and what we could do to stay safe if faced with those situations.
DT	In DT we will be creating a moving picture using levers and linkages.
RE	In R.E. we will be considering the big question: 'Why do Christians call the day Jesus died Good Friday?' We will revise the events of Holy Week and think how Mary may have felt during that time. We will explore how Christians today celebrate Holy Week and connect the emotions of Holy Week to times we may have felt the same emotions.
Music	This half-term, the Musical Spotlight is 'Sharing Musical Experiences' and learning about all the Foundational Elements of Music with a focus on experiencing music. We will share our thoughts and feelings about the music. Talk about what the music means. Identify some instruments we can hear playing and identify if it's a male or female voice singing.

Home Learning

Home learning will continue to be set on Google Classroom. It will consist of an English, Topic or Reading activity as well as a Maths related activity. 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, there will be a list of weekly spellings uploaded each **Friday** which will be tested in school the following Friday.

We recommend that children also engage with RM Easi-Maths and TT Rockstars or Emile Learning on a regular basis. Please let a member of the Year 3 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, 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 support them to write their four sentences in the home-school reading record each week and 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, a brief comment and any 'Accelerated Reader' quiz scores that they achieve; quiz scores will also be printed and stuck into children's home-school reading records each half term so they can share their successes at home. Please encourage children to hand in their reading records once a week to ensure we can review these in class and share the half-termly quiz scores.

P.E.

We will continue to have a coached PE session on **Friday**. The class will also have PE on a **Thursday**. 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 (not plimsolls, due to possible wet weather).

What does my child need in school?

- **Named** school jumper/cardigan/coat
- Named water bottle (water fountains are still not in use)
- Children may bring a small school bag or back pack to transport their reading books and reading records to and from school and any stationary they need.
- Children can bring in school book bags if they have them.
- Your child will need a plastic/metal pencil case containing pencils, handwriting pen, small ruler, eraser, sharpener (one that holds sharpenings), colouring pencils, small glue stick.

Please can you ensure this is able to **fit into their tray** as large pencil cases on desks make it difficult for children to concentrate on their work and can leave very little room for exercise books.

- Small packet of tissues, and we also ask for any donations of larger tissue boxes for the classroom.

Please continue to ensure children do not bring in jewellery, toys or trading cards as these can cause distraction in learning time and distress if lost or broken. Children are aware any such items will be removed if seen in learning time and returned at the end of the day. There are playground equipment boxes available for children at playtime so they do not need to bring in things from home.

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

Many thanks for your continued support.

Mrs Haggan and the Year 3 team