



# St Mary's C of E Primary School

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## KS2 Half Term Curriculum Plan - Home Learning Letter

**Year 6**

**Spring 2<sup>nd</sup> Half Term: February 2023**

Dear Parents/Carers, we hope you have had a good half term break. I can't quite believe we are half way through the academic year already!

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	During Spring 2 our Year 6 focus text will be a narrative poem, entitled The Highwayman. We will be exploring the text, story mapping, writing from character perspectives, producing a diary entry and looking at non-chronological reports. Using the narrative text, the children will also be consolidating key grammar knowledge, including: use of semi colons, modal verbs, relative clauses and perfect / progressive tenses. <b>Don't forget...</b> we also have our World Book Day on <b>Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> March</b> .
Reading	This half term, we are focusing on our comprehension skills, with regular group and independent reading sessions. We will look at different types of questions and ensure we are clear about how to answer particular questions. Using our focus text, we will be making deductions and infer meaning. 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.
Maths	In Maths this half term, we will begin by looking at the properties of circles and angles in polygons. Later in the half term, we will be looking at prime numbers, common factors and multiples, mean averages and division. We will finish the half term looking at line graphs, pie charts and coordinates. We will also continue with our weekly arithmetic sessions to develop our fluency in maths and consolidate core skills.
Science	In Science, the children will build on their knowledge of living things and how they are adapted to particular environments. We will learn about how inherited characteristics are passed on from parents to offspring and that environmental variables also affect how organisms look and behave. The children will explore Charles Darwin's theory of natural selection, including his studies on Finches. We will also learn about the process of fossilisation and how fossils provide us with information about living things that inhabited the Earth millions of years ago.

Computing	In Computing this half term, the children will use Purple Mash resources to create picture-based quizzes for a particular purpose. We will then learn how to use the different question types within 2Quiz. We will explore grammar quizzes and design and create quizzes that require the player to search a database.
TOPIC GEOGRAPHY	In Geography this half term, we are going to be focusing on Europe, in particular the Mediterranean region and Greece. Children will look at countries within Europe, their capital cities and key features such as landscape and climate. We'll explore tourism, migration and some of the factors that cause people to migrate; the landscape of Greece; features of Athens and compare life in Athens to other areas, such as London.
PHSCE	Our Jigsaw PSHCE topic this half term is 'Healthy Me' and we will be thinking about ways in which the children can take responsibility for their own health and well-being. We will discuss issues relating to drugs, exploitation, gangs, emotional health, mental health and stress. As always, the children will have the opportunity to share and discuss thoughts, ideas and questions within a safe and trusted space. We will also discuss where children can find further help, guidance and support if or when they may need it.
Art and Design	Year 6 will begin this half term by finishing off their 'Bold Colour' art unit. We will complete our mini installation artwork, photograph and evaluate it. We will then move on to a short design technology unit of work based around food. We will look at how food is processed into ingredients that can be eaten or used in cooking. We will also link to our PSHCE work and look at nutrition, recognising that different foods and drinks contain different substances needed for health.
Religious Education	In RE we will be continuing with our Understanding Christianity work and looking at the overarching question - What difference does the resurrection make to Christians? We will look at where incarnation and resurrection fit in to The Big Story and compare ideas about the resurrection accounts. We will be looking for connections between Luke 24 and the Christian concepts of sacrifice, resurrection, salvation, incarnation and hope; we will begin to explain why some people find belief in the resurrection makes sense and inspires them.
Music	In Music this half term, we will be building upon our knowledge of musical notation, looking at how we show louder / quieter, longer / shorter notes or higher / lower notation. We will also learn about the development of musical notation within different communities, for example drummers do not need to know about pitch and guitarists use chord charts and lyrics rather than standard notation.

### Home Learning

Home learning will continue to be set on Google Classroom. Home-learning will be uploaded on to Google Classroom every Friday, unless otherwise specified. Work should be completed and uploaded 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. Children should also be regularly practising reading and spelling of the Y5/6 statutory words (or Year 3/4 statutory words, if consolidation is needed).

In addition to these home learning tasks, we recommend that children also engage with TT Rockstars on a regular basis to support times tables fluency (it's important that children are confident with division questions as well as multiplication questions). Please let a member of the Year 6 team know, if you need any help accessing this platform 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 of 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. 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 are welcome 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 continue to have a coached PE session on Friday afternoons. The class will also have PE on a Wednesday. 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, jumper or hoodie and trainers (not plimsolls, due to possible wet weather).

### What does my child need in school?

- Named school jumper or cardigan
- Water-proof coat (essential with the changeable weather)
- Additional layers under uniform (if necessary)
- Named water bottle (water fountains are not in use)
- Children can bring in a small school bags if they need one
- Your child will need a plastic or metal pencil case **containing pencils, handwriting pen, small ruler, eraser, sharpener (one that holds sharpenings), colouring pencils and a glue stick – please replenish pencil case resources if needed**
- Small packet of tissues, and we also ask for any donations of larger tissue boxes for the classroom

If you have any questions, please contact the class team via the School Office email.  
Many thanks for your continued support,

*Mrs Jennifer Harris – Year 6 class teacher* 😊