



St Mary's C of E Primary School

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KS2 Half Term Curriculum Plan / Home Learning Letter

Year 4

Autumn 2 Half Term: November 2023

Dear Parents/Carers,

We hope the children have had an enjoyable and restful half term break. We are so pleased with how they have settled into Year 4 and are looking forward to the very busy weeks ahead. We have many We have already kick started the term with our Shakespeare workshop and are very much looking forward to all the exciting activities as we approach the Christmas holidays.

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>Our focus text this term is an adaptation of Shakespeare's 'Romeo and Juliet'. Children have already watched an exciting performance by the Young Shakespeare Company to support their learning and understanding of this text. We will be using our Fab 4 reading strategies and completing summarising activities. We will be writing a party invitation to the masked ball and be writing a monologue. Children will also be learning about William Shakespeare and the historical context which surrounds his literature. Our grammar focus is recapping apostrophes, using brackets (specifically as stage directions), pronouns and prepositions.</p> <p>Our spelling focus for the term will be looking at year 3 and 4 words, homophones, apostrophes and looking at some suffixes.</p>
Reading	<p>Our reading focus this term will focus on our 'Fab Four Reading strategies'. Children will be using their sequencing and clarifying skills as well as making predictions and raising queries about texts and ask questions to improve understanding. We will also be looking at the author (in this case, director's) viewpoint of the text and identify the effect of context of a text.</p>
Maths	<p>In maths, we will continue to focus on addition and subtraction including looking at subtraction with multiple exchanges, estimating our answers and checking strategies to add and subtract. There will be a focus on measurement, which looks at area. We will then complete the term with looking at multiplication and division. We will have a focus on looking at the 3,6,9,7 and 11 times tables. There will include learning about multiples, multiplication and division facts and multiplying 3 numbers together,</p> <p>Multiplication underpins much of the learning in maths. Fluency in times tables is an extremely important feature in year 4. Children will be regularly logging in to platforms such as TT rockstars and Mymaths at school. You can also access other times table games on line such as timestables.co.uk. It is essential that children are engaging and using these at home where possible to consolidate and support their learning.</p>
Science	<p>In science the children will be introduced to the main body parts of the digestive system and learn that the role of the digestive system is to break down the food we eat so that the nutrients, energy and other requirements we derive from it can be used in</p>

	the rest of the body. They will learn in more detail about the roles of the different types of teeth in breaking food down, and how to care for their teeth. They will also learn about milk teeth and permanent teeth. Finally, they will explore what animals eat and how the teeth of animals are adapted to the type of food that they eat.
Computing	This term in computing, Year 4 are coding. We will be learning how to make a simple computer programme as well as thinking about using statements to code, using coordinates and creating a playable game, which we have coded.
Geography	Our Geography learning this term is focussed around rivers. Children will be learning about how people use rivers, what journeys rivers make, how people change rivers and how flooding can affect people.
PHSE	In PSHE we are celebrating difference. We are learning to accept people's differences and accepting people for who they are. We will also be looking at external influences and how these affect our assumptions. We will also be exploring bullying and thinking about the question, 'what is special about me?'. We also will be celebrating children's mental health week and looking at lots of different activities which can help us.
DT/Art	To start with, we will be finishing our DT projects, which we started last term. We will then move on to a very exciting art project called 'Festival Feasts'. In this unit, we will be exploring the work of artists Claes Oldenburg, Lucia Hierro and Rowan Briggs. We will use these artists as inspiration to make our own festival feasts out of mod roc.
RE	In RE, we are exploring Incarnation and our unit question for this term is entitled 'what is the trinity?' We will be exploring different ways God is represented in the Gospel, how baptism today is connected to the baptism of Jesus and thinking about different ways in which we can represent the Trinity.
Music	Our music learning this term will be focussed on learning the songs to support the Christmas Production, 'Bethlehem the Musical'. We will be focusing on demonstrating good singing posture, singing with awareness of following the beat and singing with attention to clear diction.

Home Learning

Home learning will continue to be set on Google Classroom. It will consist of a piece English and Maths homework. It will be set on a **Friday** and needs to be completed and turned in by **Tuesday**. 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 TT Rockstars and Times table games on Purple Mash, on a regular basis. Please let a member of the Year 4 team know, if you need any help accessing these platforms.

Please note that although I will look at all home learning, you will not always comment unless necessary. We will go over any common mistakes or things we find tricky in class. I may return your work so you know I have looked at it.

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, a brief comment and any 'Accelerated Reader' quiz scores that they achieve.

P.E.

Year 4 PE days are: Wednesday and Friday

We will continue to have a coached PE session on Friday. 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/PE shorts and trainers (not plimsolls, due to possible wet weather). **Please also ensure that any long hair is tied back for all PE lessons.**

What does my child need in school?

- As the weather is often unpredictable, please ensure your child is wearing layers as the classroom windows will remain open for ventilation throughout the year.
- **Named** school jumper/cardigan/coat
- **Named** water bottle
- Children **may** bring a bag to school. Please make sure that this is not too big to avoid hazards in the cloakroom
- Your child will need a **small plastic/metal pencil case** containing pencils, handwriting pen, small ruler, eraser, sharpener (one that holds sharpenings), colouring pencils, small glue stick. **All equipment should be able to fit inside children's trays.**
- Small packet of tissues for your child to keep in their trays. **We also kindly ask for any donations of larger tissue boxes for the classroom.**
- Please replenish **handwriting pens, pencils and in particular, glue sticks**
- Children should not be bringing in toys/bits and pieces from home to keep in their trays or in their bags. Please refrain from bringing personal items to school. Please encourage your children to leave such items at home and not in their pencil cases or bags.

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

Many thanks for your continued support.

Philippa Georgiou