



St Mary's C of E Primary School

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Year 6 - Half Term Curriculum Plan - Home Learning Letter

Autumn 2 – November 2023

Dear Parents/Carers,

We hope the children have had an enjoyable half term break. We have been so pleased with how well the children have settled in to Year 6 and look forward to discussing their progress with you, at the upcoming Parent Consultations. This coming half term is set to be a very busy, and we are very excited to begin rehearsals for our Junior Nativity Production!

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	This half term our focus text will be Romeo and Juliet. We will further develop pupils' understanding of the plot, characters, themes and language in this classic Shakespeare play. The children will be producing writing using different genres, including a recount, diary and non-chronological text. There will also be opportunities for drama and reading aloud, so that the children can gain a true experience of the text as a play for performance. The teaching of grammar and punctuation is embedded within the analysis of the language and structures used to tell the story. This half term we will be focusing on editing writing, different types of sentences, relative clauses and using the progressive tense.
Reading	Year 6 will be focusing on their Reciprocal Reading 'fab four' strategies this half term: predicting, questioning, clarifying and summarising. Alongside our Romeo and Juliet focus text, the children will be involved in small group reading comprehension tasks and will further develop their independent reading skills using the Accelerated Reader scheme.
Maths	In maths this half term, we will be focusing on fractions. The children will look at equivalent fractions and simplifying fractions. We will be comparing, adding and subtracting fractions, and also looking at improper fractions and mixed numbers. Later in the half term, the children will look at multiplying fractions by integers and also other fractions. We will also be consolidating knowledge of finding fractions of amounts. Later in the half term, we will look at calculating and converting measures.

Science	Our Science topic this term will be 'Electricity, Danger Low Voltage!'. The children will develop their understanding of electrical circuits and how electricity flows through them, by constructing their own. They will learn to use the recognised electrical symbols to record circuits and will investigate how series and parallel circuits work. The children will plan and carry out practicals, which will investigate how different components can affect the brightness of a light bulb; they will be encouraged to record and explain results using scientific vocabulary. The children will also learn how voltage and resistance affects the flow of electricity around a circuit.
Computing	In computing, we will be having a discussion to further develop the children's knowledge and understanding about their digital footprint. We will then use Purple Mash resources to evaluate and build on children's coding skills. The children will revise and consolidate their knowledge of objects, actions and events; use repeat, if and if/else statements when coding and creating.
Geography	During our topic lessons this half term, Mrs Williams will look at the Geography unit 'United Kingdom'. In this unit, the children will investigate what the unique differences are between each of the UK's countries, the physical features of the UK, how humans change the UK's landscape, how the UK produces its energy and the advantages and disadvantages of each of these methods. The topic will encourage investigation, broadening of the children's geographical vocabulary and debating of the issues affecting the UK.
PHSCE	Celebrating differences is our focus for PSHCE this half term. During this unit, the children will consider that there are different perspectives about what 'normal' means. We will begin to think about how being 'different' can affect people's lives and look at how people are sometimes treated badly or excluded because they are seen as 'different'. We will discuss the term 'bullying' and consider reasons why some people might use bullying behaviours. We will also discuss strategies for managing feelings and find out about people with disabilities, who lead amazing lives. We will begin to explain how differences can be a source of conflict and also a source of celebration.
DT	We will be linking our Autumn DT project with our current science topic. The children will use their knowledge of circuits to help them make a 'light up' Christmas decoration. They will experiment with and create their own designs to individualise their Christmas decoration; add in their own electrical circuits and make and evaluate their work, ready for Christmas!
RE	In RE we are thinking about incarnation. We will be re-enacting the transfiguration and translating artwork into words. We will think about the term 'peace maker' and consider what this means. We will be creating posters advertising child sponsorship; we will conclude by debating the question "Does the world need a messiah?"
Music	We will be very busy preparing for our Junior Christmas Productions during our music sessions this half term. We look forward to welcoming you in to school to watch the Junior Production on Monday 18 th and Tuesday 19 th December.

Home Learning

Home learning will usually be set via Google Classroom and Maths.co.uk. It will usually consist of a literacy task, maths task and a set of weekly spellings to learn. Home-learning will be set on a **Friday** and needs to be completed and turned in by **the following Wednesday**. Spelling tests will take place on Friday mornings. In addition to these home learning tasks, we recommend that children also engage with TT Rockstars on a regular basis. Regular practise of timetable and division facts up to x12 is essential.

Reading

One of the most important ways in which you can support your child's learning at home, 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 unfamiliar words and **clarify** meaning, and encourage them to **summarise** a paragraph or page that they have just read. These strategies will help to support their developing comprehension skills.

P.E.

We will be having a coach-led PE session on **Friday** afternoons. The class will also have a teacher-led PE session on **Thursday** afternoons. Year 6 children will need to **come in to school wearing their PE kit every Thursday and Friday** (unless otherwise notified). Please ensure all long hair is tied back.

What will my child need in school?

- **Named** school jumper/cardigan/water-proof coat
- **Named** water bottle (water fountains are not in use). Children can refill bottles in school
- Children can bring in a rucksack/backpack to carry packed lunches / school resources
- Your child will need a pencil case **containing: pencil, handwriting pen, small ruler, eraser, sharpener (one that holds sharpenings), colouring pencils and a small glue stick**
- Small packet of tissues.
We would also welcome any donations of larger tissue boxes for the classroom

If you have any questions or queries, please contact the class team via the School Office email or leave a message / note with the senior member of staff on gate duty in the morning.

The Year 6 Class Team

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