



St Mary's C of E Primary School

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KS2 Half Term Curriculum Plan / Home Learning Letter

Year 3

Spring 1st Half Term: January 2024

Dear Parents/Carers,

We hope that you had a lovely Christmas break and wish you all a happy New Year. On behalf of the whole Year 3 team, we would like to thank you for your very kind and generous gifts, cards and good wishes.

We hope the children have had an enjoyable Christmas break 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 text this half term is Anthony Browne's 'Into the Forest'. We will be using this to help us focus on sentence structure, using conjunctions, adverbs, expanded noun phrases and prepositions to make our writing more detailed and interesting. Writing tasks linked to 'Into the Forest' will include a setting description of the forest and a recount of the boy's adventure. There will be a continuing focus on punctuation, grammar and spelling including, in addition to the above; correct use of irregular past tenses, commas in lists and a recap of inverted commas. We will also be continuing to work on the skills of proofreading to improve writing and cursive handwriting.
Reading	We will be continuing to focus on reading to support learning across the curriculum by using the reciprocal reading strategies: predicting, questioning, clarifying and summarising. Children will continue to access reading books in school and should be bringing reading books to and from school each day. Please continue to support children with their reading at home.
Maths	We will begin by multiplying and dividing 2 digit numbers by a 1 digit number before moving onto a unit on length and perimeter. The children will continue to benefit from our regular arithmetic practice tests which consolidate the skills we are covering in Maths lessons. Using TT Rockstars at home, will further support their learning and understanding in Maths.
Science	In this module children will work as 'Rock Detectives' establishing knowledge and understanding of rocks, their relationship to soils and how fossils have formed over time. In learning about rocks, children will identify and name them. They will identify ways in which rocks are used in the local environment and suggest why the properties of certain rocks make them suitable for particular purposes. They will consider how rocks are affected by weathering over time. In learning about soils, children will explore a variety of soils making the link between soils of different types and the rocks from which they are partly made. They will learn about what happens to cause rocks to break down and become soil particles and about the organic matter that is an essential part of a healthy soil. In learning about fossils children will discover what a fossil is and how they came to be formed from animal and plant remains. They will learn the names of a variety of common fossils, and about the stages of the fossilisation process. They will also find out about where and how fossils can be found and safely collected.

Computing	In computing we will be focusing on developing and practising the skill of touch typing.
History	Our History topic this half term is 'The Railway Revolution'. We will begin by finding out how transport changed during the Industrial Revolution and learn about the development of the first steam-powered railways in Britain. We will then discover the way rail travel changed the lives of people living in Britain since 1830.
PSHE	In PSHE our focus will be on the Zones of Regulation, which is a framework that helps children develop emotional self-regulation skills. It is designed to help children recognise and manage their emotions, thoughts, and behaviours in a healthy way.
DT	This half term, we will be making a moving picture using pulleys. We will be exploring how products are designed, made and what materials and components are used and select suitable tools and materials to make our pictures.
RE	In R.E. we will be focussing our leaning on Hinduism and thinking about the question: Why does a Hindu want to collect good karma? The children will learn that Hindus believe we collect good and bad karma through our actions which always have consequences. They will begin to describe what Hindus might learn from one of their stories about living the right way. They will also think about how Karma influenced Ghandi.
Music	This half term, we will be using our imaginations to create compositions. We will be thinking about how music can make the world a better place.

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 Wednesday.

We recommend that children also engage with TT Rockstars on a regular basis. Please let a member of the Year 3 team know, if you need any help accessing this platform.

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 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.

P.E.

We will continue to have a PE lesson on **Monday and** continue to have a coached PE session on **Tuesday**. 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). This term we are developing our gymnastic skills. Please ensure that children do not wear tights on PE days.

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

Many thanks for your continued support.

Mrs Prados, Mrs Kokkinos and the Year 3 team