



St Mary's C of E Primary School

Headteacher: Mrs M. Constantinou BEd

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www.stmarysen4-barnet.co.uk

Year 6 - Half Term Curriculum Plan - Home Learning Letter

Spring 1 – January 2024

Dear Parents/Carers,

We hope you have had a fun and festive Christmas break. Happy New Year! May 2024 bring health, happiness and prosperity to you and your families.

I would like to start by saying another big "THANK YOU" for your kindness. I received so many lovely cards and gifts, at the end of term, which were all very much appreciated ☺

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	We start the new year looking at a War of the Worlds excerpt. We will use this to discuss and identify the features of science fiction texts and to identify and explore unfamiliar vocabulary. We will create summary flowcharts then plan and write a continuation to the text. We will then move on to look at the features of newspaper reports, planning and writing our own articles. Although we will be looking at a wide range of grammar (further consolidating our KS2 knowledge) we will be particularly focusing on: adverbials, expanded noun phrases, speech and tenses.
Reading	We will continue to develop our reading fluency and comprehension skills this half term, with daily reading sessions. 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 and activities.
Maths	In maths this half term, we will begin by reviewing our assessments from the autumn term, identifying and setting individual target areas for learning. We will then continue to consolidate our place value knowledge within 1. We will look at rounding decimal numbers; adding and subtracting decimals; and multiplying and dividing by 10, 100 and 1000. We will then focus on multiplying and dividing decimals by integers. Later in the half term, we will look at the equivalence between decimals, fractions and percentages. We will also be having weekly arithmetic sessions to support our number fluency.
Science	During our new Science unit, 'Light Up Your World', we will be learning about what light is and how it travels. We will explore how we see objects and will investigate the size and shape of shadows. The children will be given opportunities to plan their own scientific enquiries to answer questions, including recognising and controlling variables where necessary. We will learn about refraction through practical activities and will explore how we see different coloured objects.



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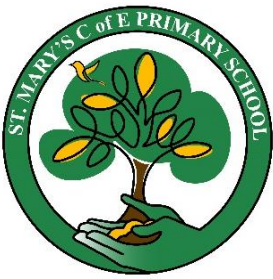
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<p>Computing</p>	<p>This half term, the main aim of our Computing sessions, is to provide opportunities to find out more about how networks work. We will look at how they can provide multiple services, such as the World Wide Web, and explore the opportunities they offer for communication and collaboration. We will look at key questions such as: What is the difference between the Internet and the World Wide Web? What is the difference between a LAN and a WAN? Who is Tim Berners Lee?</p>
<p>History</p>	<p>Our learning this half term is entitled 'Why should we thank the Ancient Greeks?' In this unit the children will learn about Alexander the Great and the Empire he built and they will compare and contrast what life was typically like in two different city states. Children will learn about the different types of Government and consider the impact this and some of the great minds from the era have had on our society today. We will be identifying other ways the Ancient Greeks have contributed positively to the modern day, for example the legacy of the Olympics.</p>
<p>PHSCE</p>	<p>This half term we will be introducing the topic 'Zones of Regulations'. The Zones of Regulation curriculum teaches children how to recognise and manage their emotions and energy levels in different situations. We will explore how children react to different emotions and compare these reactions with the size of the problem/issue. We will discuss the statement 'It's okay to not be okay' and support children in understanding and developing emotional resilience.</p>
<p>DT</p>	<p>Having done such a brilliant job with their design technology work last half term, Year 6 will now move on to a new art unit entitled 'Brave Colour'. We will begin by thinking about colour theory and then explore the work of some instillation artists. In this pathway the children will explore colour in a personal and intuitive way, thinking about feelings and emotions that colour evokes. We will be taking inspiration from artists who use colour, light and form to create immersive installations, and create our own mock-up artworks and models.</p>
<p>RE</p>	<p>In RE this half term, Year 6 will focus on the key concept question: "How does Tawhid create a sense of belonging to the Muslim community?" Learning in this unit is developed through an enquiry cycle. The children will begin by engaging with the idea that 'one thing' can have an affect which spreads. We will enquire into the idea that Tawhid is at the centre of Muslim faith. Next, we will explore ideas about Tawhid in Muslim stories; explore the ideas about Tawhid in Muslim community practice (the five pillars of Islam); and explore aspects of Tawhid in Muslim living. The children will compete the unit by evaluating and expressing their learning about the key concept question.</p>
<p>Music</p>	<p>We will be working on our ensemble skills in music lessons, playing together and ensuring we use dynamics and expression. We will practise skills such as follow the leader and reading musical notation. We will learn that by changing the dynamics of music, we can make the music more interesting. Sometimes, gradual changes from soft to loud ("crescendo") or from loud to soft ("decrescendo") can help make music more exciting.</p>



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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 afternoons. 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 **a 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, Miss Lindsey Salter, Mrs Lucy Richardson, Mrs Michelle Williams and Mrs Kika Chapman.