



St Mary's C of E Primary School

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KS2 Half Term Curriculum Plan / Home Learning Letter

Year 5

Spring 2nd Half Term: February 2024

Dear Parents/Carers,

I hope that you have had an enjoyable half term break. We have many exciting things happening this term in our learning. Year 5 have thoroughly enjoyed learning how to play the Djembe and we will be continuing with our weekly drumming lessons. Towards the end of term, we will be inviting you to watch the 'final performance' which is an opportunity for us to showcase the fantastic learning which has happened this term. More information to follow. We are also looking forward to Mars Day, skipping day, World Book Day, Science week with the theme all about 'Time' and we will be welcoming ducklings back to St Mary's. What a jam packed 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	<p>This term we will be reading Louis Sachar's, 'There's a Boy in the Girl's bathroom'. We will be exploring the text and its characters in some detail and be thinking about using and gathering evidence to support our analysis. We will be summarising chapters and exploring vocabulary. We will also be writing a diary and have an opportunity to write our very own 'I am poem'.</p> <p>Children will also have the opportunity to include the grammar which they have learnt so far whilst also recapping work on adverbial phrases, relative pronouns apostrophes and commas.</p> <p>We will continue to revisit words from the year 5 and 6 spelling list and look at words spelt 'ei' and 'ie' words.</p>
Reading	<p>We will be continuing to use the reciprocal reading strategies: predicting, questioning, clarifying and summarising to support reading. Children will continue to benefit from reading comprehension practice with a focus on how to answer reading comprehension questions effectively. There will be opportunities for children to discuss books they have read and recommend books to each other. Children will continue to access reading books in school and should be bringing reading books to and from school each day. Children will access accelerated reader and can search the app for any titles they have read at home so they can complete quizzes on these. They will have opportunities to complete the quizzes on these books in school. Please continue to encourage children to read with you at home so they have the opportunity to use the fab four reciprocal reading strategies at home as well.</p> <p>In addition, I will be asking children to write four sentences in a reading record each week demonstrating the reciprocal reading strategies for the book they are currently reading. They will make a prediction, ask a question about what they have read, clarify a word or idea and write a short summary each week.</p>
Maths	<p>In Maths this half term we will be looking at decimals. We will be looking at the equivalent fractions and decimals before learning how to compare, order and round decimals. We will then make the link between equivalent fractions, decimals and percentages. We will then move onto a measurement block where we will revise</p>

	perimeter and area before ending the term with a statistics block looking at line graphs, tables and timetables.
Science	This unit focuses on properties of materials and children will further develop their knowledge and understanding of materials, achieving an in-depth knowledge of the properties of certain materials and how and why those specific properties make them suitable for particular uses. They explore familiar objects in detail and find out about accidental scientific discoveries, and how properties of 'super absorbent powders' can make them useful in everyday life.
Computing	This term we will be creating our very own computer maze game. We will be designing the game by thinking about the scene, the game environment and quest. We will be evaluating our work at each point. We will also be evaluating and sharing our games.
History	In History this half term, we will be continuing to explore our topic 'Zulu Kingdom'. We will begin by understanding where the Zulu Kingdom is in history and learn about what the Zulus were known for. We will then look critically at sources and make connections between the Zulu Kingdom and British history.
PHSCE	The theme of our PHSCE learning is all about a 'healthy me'. Children will be looking at health risks of factors such as smoking and the misuse of alcohol. They will also be learning about keeping calm in an emergency situation and looking at healthy body image.
DT	This term, we will be using cams to make a toy with a moving component. Children will be looking at what a cam is and how it works. They will be thinking about the entire design process from start to finish. We will also evaluate our final cam.
RE	This half term in RE we will be exploring the big question 'What is the great significance of the 'Eucharist' to Christians?'. We will think about thankfulness and thanksgiving before exploring the narrative about the Last Supper on which the Eucharist is based. We will look at the Anglican Eucharist service and why Christians believe it is important to 'give thanks'.
Music	In Music this half term we will be continuing whole class ensemble tuition for Djembe (West African Drums). This will be led by a specialist Djembe teacher provided by the Barnet Education Arts Trust. We look forward to inviting parents to experience a demonstration of what the children have learnt towards the end of the term.

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 the following **Tuesday**. 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 Friday.

In addition to these home learning tasks, we recommend that children also engage with TT Rockstars on a regular basis. Please let a member of the Year 5 team know, if you need any help accessing these platforms

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 support them to write their four sentences in the home-school reading record each week and 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. Please encourage children to complete and hand in their reading records once a week to ensure we can review these in class.

P.E.

This year, our PE days will be every **Monday** and **Friday**. Our coached PE sessions with Mr Kerr will take place on a Friday. The class will also have a teacher lead PE session on a Monday. 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. Please bear this in mind as the weather starts to get colder. Children should bring a rainproof coat every day.
- **Named** school jumper/cardigan/coat
- Named water bottle (water fountains are still not in use)
- Children may use a small backpack or plastic bag if they'd like to bring anything in. Please make sure that this is not too big to avoid hazards in the cloakroom.
- Children can bring in school book bags if they have them.
- Your child will need a pencil case containing pencils, handwriting pen, small ruler, eraser, sharpener (one that holds sharpenings), colouring pencils, small glue stick. Please can you ensure this is able to **fit into their tray** as large pencil cases on desks make it difficult for children to concentrate on their work and can leave very little room for exercise books.
- Small packet of tissues, and we also ask for any donations of larger tissue boxes for the classroom.
- Please replenish handwriting pens, pencils and glue sticks as the term goes on.

Please name or distinguish any equipment brought from home. Children often have the same pens or felt tips and it is impossible to reunite lost articles with their owners if these are not named, which can cause distress.

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

Many thanks for your continued support.

Mrs Haggan and the Year 5 team