



St Mary's C of E Primary School

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Y3 Half Term Curriculum Letter – April 2024

Dear Parents/Carers,

We hope that you had a lovely Easter break and that the children are rested, relaxed and 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.

Subjects	Focus of Learning
English	Our focus text this half term is 'Grandpa Chatterji' by Jamila Gavin. We will be focusing on the characters and how the author uses language to create a character description. We will be discussing how the language used helps us to make inferences about the characters and how they might behave. There will be a continuing focus on punctuation, grammar and spelling, including using commas, apostrophes, inverted commas and subordinate clauses. We will be continuing to develop our proofreading skills to improve our writing and having regular handwriting practice sessions.
Reading	We will be continuing to use the reciprocal reading strategies: predicting, questioning, clarifying and summarising to support reading our class text. Children will continue to access reading books in school and should be bringing reading books to and from school each day. Children on accelerated reader should have an accelerated reader book and will have opportunities to complete the quizzes on these books in school. Please continue to encourage children to read these with you regularly at home.
Maths	We will begin by adding and subtracting fractions. We will then move onto our unit on money, where we will be converting pounds and pence, adding and subtracting amounts and finding change. We will then focus our learning on time, telling the time to 5 minutes and to 1 minute and reading times on digital clocks.
Science	We continue our unit 'How does your garden grow' further investigating parts of a plant and their functions.
Computing	We will be learning about branching databases. We will be using Yes / No questions to create a classification key. Children will be creating their own branching database to classify a group of objects.
History	We will be exploring our new topic 'Anglo-Saxons, Picts and Scots'. We will begin by studying the archaeological evidence at Sutton Hoo in order to ask and answer questions. We will use various historical sources to find out about Anglo-Saxon life, who the Anglo-Saxons, Picts and Scots were and where they came from. We will explore the spread of Christianity in Britain and then to finish, we will draw conclusions about who was buried at Sutton Hoo.
PHSCE	We will be looking at relationships. We will be discussing relationships with family, with friends and online. We will begin to discuss the influence people around the world can have on our lives and how our needs, rights and lives compare to children around the world.

Art	We will be looking at the works of Henri Matisse and Claire Willberg. Using collage and simple printmaking methods, we will explore how we can use shape, colour and positive and negative shapes and spaces to create our own compositions.
RE	Our focus this half term will be on Islam. We will be exploring the question 'How does a Muslim show their submission and obedience to Allah?' We will learn about the things Muslims believe in and do in their everyday lives to show their commitment to God.
Music	We will be practising our May Day dancing as well as learning the songs that we will sing on May Day.

Home Learning

Home learning will continue to be set on Google Classroom. It will consist of an English or topic 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 **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.

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 3 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, 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 child. 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 coached PE session on **Tuesday**. **For this half term, our second PE lesson of the week will be on a Wednesday (not 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).

What does my child need in school?

- **Named** school jumper/cardigan/coat
- Named water bottle
- Children may use a small backpack or a school book bag
- Your child will need a pencil case containing pencils, handwriting pen, small ruler, eraser, sharpener (one that holds sharpenings), colouring pencils and a small glue stick.
- Small packet of tissues, and we also ask for any donations of larger tissue boxes for the classroom.
- Children having packed lunch – a lunch box/bag

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