



# St Mary's C of E Primary School

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## KS2 Half Term Curriculum Plan / Home Learning Letter

Year 5

Autumn 1st Half Term: September 2024

Dear Parents/Carers,

We would like to wish all of the children a very warm welcome back to school and into Year 5. We hope that you had an enjoyable and relaxing summer break and that children are looking forward to an exciting year ahead!

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
<b>English</b>	<p>Our focus text this half term is the inspiring picture book 'Flotsam' by David Wiesner. We will be using this to enhance our inference and predicting skills to reveal the story; revisiting narrative writing, to tell the story from the point of view of the main character. We will also be using the text as inspiration to explore the history of cameras, researching and writing a non-chronological report. Our final writing focus will be persuasive writing as we encourage people to keep our beaches clean.</p> <p>Our punctuation and grammar focus this half term is on adding extra detail to our writing. We will explore two ways to do this. The first by creating complex sentences using subordinating conjunctions and relative clauses. Second by using parenthesis and focusing on how we punctuate this to ensure our meaning is clear. We will be continuing to work on the skills of proofreading to improve writing and spelling. We will also be continuing to focus on neat cursive handwriting. Our spelling focuses this half term will be the Year 5 / 6 statutory spellings alongside words with the letter string 'ough', words containing silent letters and words ending in '-able' and '-ible'.</p>
<b>Reading</b>	<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 and there will be opportunities for children to discuss books they have read. 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. 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>
<b>Maths</b>	<p>In Maths this half term we will start by focusing on place value; looking at roman numerals up to one thousand then place value to one million. We will learn about powers of 10 and partition, compare, order and round numbers up to one million. We will then look at addition and subtraction of 4-digit numbers followed by exploring multiples and factors.</p>

<b>Science</b>	Our Science Topic this half term is about Forces and mechanisms. This follows on from Year 3 learning about how things move on different surfaces, magnets and magnetic materials, that some forces need contact between two objects, but magnetic forces can act at a distance. In this module, children will learn to explain that unsupported objects fall towards the Earth because of the force of gravity acting between the Earth and the falling object. We will identify the effects of air resistance, water resistance and friction, that act between moving surfaces. Finally children will explore how some mechanisms, including levers, pulleys and gears, allow a smaller force to have a greater effect.
<b>Computing</b>	Computing this term will focus on the importance of online safety. Children will be looking at and creating SMART rules as well as looking at the importance of strong passwords and permissions. Children will then move onto looking at databases and looking at searching for information in a database and creating a database.
<b>History</b>	In history, this half term, we will take a journey into ancient Tikal to learn all about the exciting topic of the Maya. We will think about why we study this ancient civilisation, how the Maya grew so strong and what life was like for the ancient Maya. We will be exploring the question which baffles historians to uncover why the Maya civilization came to an abrupt end.
<b>PHSCE</b>	The children will be completing an 'Ignite Wellbeing Programme' this term, which involves six short sessions based around these topics: the mind and how it directs us through life; our innate 'superhero' wellbeing qualities; insecurity & self-judgement; coping with exams, pressure and anxieties; the relationship between feelings, thoughts & behaviours. Children will also be thinking about strategies to uncover their wellbeing and help regulate emotions.
<b>DT</b>	Linking to our Science topic about Forces in DT this half term we will be thinking about building bridges. We will explore different bridge designs including pillars, trusses, arches and suspension bridges. Children will then design a bridge, build a prototype and evaluate their bridges.
<b>RE</b>	This term in RE we will be learning about 'God' and exploring the key question, 'what does it mean if God is Holy and loving?' We will be looking at key terms such as omnipotent, omniscient and eternal. Children will also be learning about what the Bible says about God, how Church architecture shows Christian belief about God and thinking about our own guidelines for living.
<b>Music</b>	In Music this half term we will be focusing on melody and harmony in music. We will continue to work on listening skills and copying more complex rhythms and patterns. Children will have the opportunity to play, sing, improvise and compose during our music lessons as well as begin preparations for our visit to see the LSO next half 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 hand in their reading records once a week to ensure we can review these in class.

### **P.E.**

This year, our coached PE sessions will continue to be every **Friday**. On this day, 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. The teacher led PE sessions this half-term will be replaced with swimming lessons.

Swimming lessons will take place at GLL's New Barnet Leisure Centre. All children will be expected to participate, even if they are non-swimmers, as this will be part of the children's PE lessons in the week. We encourage the children to come with their swimsuits on under their uniform or PE kit: this saves changing time. They need to remember to bring underwear to change into after the lesson and will need a large towel brought to school in a plastic bag. They will put their wet swim suit and towel in this bag after the lesson. Children may bring a snack to have after their lesson (a piece of fruit or a nut free cereal bar).

### **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*