



St Mary's C of E Primary School

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Year 2 Half Term Curriculum Plan - Home Learning Letter

Autumn 2nd Half Term – November 2024

Dear Parents/Carers,

We hope you have all had an enjoyable and restful half term break.

Last half term, we were pleased with how well the children settled back into school life, and we are looking forward to a productive autumn 2. This half term is set to be a busy one; we are particularly excited about the KS1 Christmas production!

Please refer to the table below, for a brief overview of the learning experiences that the Y2 children will have in each subject, during this half term.

Subjects	Focus of Learning
English	This half term, we will be looking at two focus texts: "Way Home for Wolf" by Rachel Bright and the traditional tale "The Elves and the Shoemaker". The children will be asking questions and making inferences; exploring descriptive writing; creating expanded noun phrases and writing descriptive settings. They will write diary entries, and later in the half term, we will be looking at the features of instructions. The children will have a go at following written instructions then have a go at creating their own instructional texts.
Phonics and Spelling	During our English lessons, we will be finding out about common suffixes and prefixes to support spelling. In our phonics sessions, the children will continue to consolidate their phase 5 phonics knowledge and begin to expand their understanding of the phase 5 alternatives.
Maths	In maths this half term, we will continue to strengthen our place value knowledge, and our key focus area will be addition and subtraction. We will begin by consolidating our bonds to 10 and 20 knowledge; we will then focus on adding and subtracting 10s numbers. We will use resources and visual aids to help us with adding and subtracting two 2-digit numbers. Towards the end of the half term, we will move on to geometry and shape, looking at the properties of 2D and 3D shapes.
Science	Our new module in science this half term is 'Choosing Materials', which is a Chemistry unit, building on children's learning in Year 1. The children will learn to identify and compare the suitability of a variety of everyday materials, including wood, metal, plastic, glass, brick, rock and cardboard for particular uses. They will learn about the methods scientists use to build scientific knowledge about materials and how they can be used in different ways. They will develop an understanding of comparative testing and will use their observations and ideas to suggest answers to questions.
Computing	We will be continuing with our spreadsheets work over the next couple of weeks, further developing the children's knowledge of adding images, using 'totalling' tools and creating their own tables and block graphs. We will then move on to a coding unit of work. We will explore how we can create a series of instructions to make images move and interact with each other. We will introduce collision detection and the use of buttons.
Geography	Mrs Beechey will be looking at the topic of continents and oceans with Year 2 this half term. The children will learn the names of the 7 continents and the 5 oceans. They will then explore and locate them on a map. Year 2 will learn how to use geographical language to describe their location.
PHSCE	We will be looking at the similarities and differences between us and celebrating our differences. We will be discussing why it is important that people are different and why we do not have to follow stereotypes.

Design Technology	Year 2 did a fantastic job creating their finger puppets at the end of last half term. Over the next couple of weeks, the children will be adding the finishing touches to their work and evaluating their finished product. We will then move on to an art and design unit of work, which is linked to our Autumn exploration work.
RE	During our religious education sessions, we will be focusing on the creation story. The children will explore the story, becoming more confident at retelling and explaining different sections. We will be thinking about what it means to work and rest. The children will also be reflecting on how we can look after the world and our favourite parts of God's creation. We will be linking this work to our whole-school spiritual development work.

Home Learning

Home learning will usually be set via Google Classroom and will usually consist of a literacy **or** maths task and a set of weekly spellings to learn. Home-learning will be set on a **Thursday** and needs to be completed and turned in by **the following Tuesday**. Spelling tests will take place on Tuesday afternoon. Some of the home-learning may be set on our learning platforms 'MyMaths' or 'Purple Mash'. Please let a member of the Year 2 team know if you need any help accessing any of these platforms.

Reading

Each week children will bring home a school reading book. As we hear the children read regularly at school, **reading books need to be in school every day please**. 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. This can consist of hearing them read their school reading book and/or sharing your own books that you have at home. 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, **clarify** meaning and encourage them to **summarise** what they read. These strategies will help to develop comprehension skills.

P.E.

We will be having teacher-led PE sessions on **Wednesday** afternoons and coach-led PE sessions on **Friday** mornings. The children will need to **come in to school wearing their PE kit every Wednesday and Friday** (unless otherwise notified). Please ensure all long hair is tied back. PE kits should consist of blue jogging bottoms or shorts, white t-shirt or polo top and trainers (not plimsolls).

What will my child need in school?

- **Named** school jumper or cardigan and a **water-proof coat**
- **Named** reusable **water bottle** (water fountains are not in use) children can refill bottles in school
- Children should bring in a **small** bag to carry packed lunches and school resources (such as their reading book)
- Your child will need a **small** pencil case **containing:**
a pencil, handwriting pen, rubber, sharpener (one that holds sharpening) and a small glue stick
- Small packet of tissues, and we also ask for any donations of larger tissue boxes for the classroom.

I look forward to seeing you at the upcoming parent/carer consultations and hope that you'll be able to join us for the KS1 Christmas production on **Thursday 12th December**. More details to follow.

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.

Mrs Jennifer Harris and the Year 2 Team