



# St Mary's C of E Primary School

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## KS2 Half Term Curriculum Plan / Home Learning Letter

Year 3

Autumn 2<sup>nd</sup> Half Term: November 2024

Dear Parents/Carers,

We hope that you and your children have had an enjoyable half term break. We are so pleased with how they are settling into Year 3 and are looking forward to the weeks ahead. Later in the half term, the children will take part in a variety of Christmas activities including singing for the Junior production.

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	Our focus text this half term is 'Into the Forest' by Anthony Browne. We will be using this to help us focus on sentence structure, using conjunctions, expanded noun phrases and prepositions to make our writing more detailed and interesting. Writing tasks linked to this text will include a setting description of the forest. There will be a continuing focus on punctuation, grammar and spelling (see section below) including types of sentences and inverted commas for speech. We will also be working on the skills of proofreading to improve our writing and using neat cursive handwriting.
Reading	We will be continuing to focus on reading to support learning across the curriculum. There will be an ongoing focus on using the reciprocal reading strategies: predicting, questioning, clarifying and summarising and we will be continuing with regular quiet reading times throughout the week.
Maths	In Maths this half term we are continuing with our addition and subtraction unit. We will be adding and subtracting 2 digit and 3 digit numbers as well as understanding the importance of estimating. We will then move onto our multiplication and division unit focussing on sharing and grouping. We will be learning and practising the 3,4 and 8 times tables. The children will continue to use the learning platforms TT RockStars and timestables.co.uk which develop their quick recall of times tables. Accessing these at home too, will further support their learning and understanding in Maths.
Science	The topic for this half term is entitled 'Light and Shadows'. The children will learn to: recognise that they need light in order to see things and that dark is the absence of light. They will notice that light is reflected from surfaces and that light from the Sun can be dangerous. They will recognise that shadows are formed when the light from a light source is blocked by an opaque object and find patterns in the way that the size of shadows change.
Computing	Our unit this half term is coding. The lessons are structured around the PRIMM approach. We will Predict what we think the code will do, Run the code to check our predictions, Investigate the code by looking at how different parts work, Modify the code to add detail, change actions/outcome and Make a new program that uses the same ideas in a different way.
Geography	Our Geography topic this half term is 'Climate Zones'. We will start by identifying the different lines of latitude and explain how latitude is linked to climate. The children will locate different climate zones and identify the characteristics of each. They will then compare temperate and tropical climates.
PSHE	In PSHE we will be celebrating differences exploring how everybody's families are different and important to them. We will be looking at conflict and how we can use the 'Solve it together' technique to resolve conflicts. We will also be discussing bullying, how

	to recognise this and ways of making the situation better. Finally, we will be considering how the words that we use can be harmful or helpful to other people's feelings.
DT	This half term, we will be making Christmas stockings. We will start by looking at existing stockings. We will then explore different ways of joining and decorating fabrics. Following this, we will be designing and making our own stockings.
RE	In R.E. we will be learning about the Christian understanding of God as Trinity: Father, Son and Holy Spirit. As we approach Christmas, we will be linking this to Christian understanding of incarnation, God coming to Earth as Jesus, and exploring what the Bible teaches about why Jesus came.
Music	In Music this half term we will be learning and practising singing the songs for the Junior Christmas Production. We will be focusing on demonstrating good singing posture, singing with awareness of following the beat and singing with attention to clear diction.

### **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 **Wednesday**. A photo can be taken of the learning and then uploaded and submitted to Google Classroom.

In addition to these home learning tasks, we recommend that children also engage with TT RockStars and timestables.co.uk on a regular basis.

### **Spelling**

As mentioned in an email sent on Monday 4th November, we are excited to be launching a new spelling scheme this half term, called Spelling Shed. It is research-backed and comes highly recommended. Evidence-based research has shown that memorising lists of spellings is not beneficial and children often find it hard to apply these to their everyday written work. For this reason, **children will no longer be set weekly spelling lists to memorise and then be tested on**. Instead, children will be set online spelling 'assignments' each week, which will link to the teaching and learning in class of specific words and spelling rules. Your child will be coming home with login details for Spelling Shed this week. Please refer to the email sent for more information. We hope your child enjoys using Spelling Shed.

### **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.

Children should **please bring reading books and Home School Reading Records into school each day** so the Year 3 team can view and discuss these with the children.

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 Tuesdays. The class will also have PE on Mondays. 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). If your child has long hair, please ensure that it is tied back on P.E. days.

### **What does my child need in school?**

- Named school jumper/cardigan/coat
- Named water bottle
- Children can bring in school book bags if they have them or a small back pack to transport their reading books and reading records.
- Your child will need a plastic/metal pencil case containing pencils, handwriting pen, small ruler, eraser, sharpener (one that holds sharpenings), colouring pencils and a 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.
- Children having packed lunch – named lunch box

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*