



St Mary's C of E Primary School

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Year 2 - Half Term Curriculum Plan - Home Learning Letter

Spring 1 – January 2025

Dear Parents/Carers,

We hope you have had a fun and festive Christmas break. Happy New Year!
May 2025 bring health and happiness to you and your families.

I would like to start by saying another big "THANK YOU" for your kindness. I received so many lovely cards and gifts at the end of term, which were all very much appreciated.

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	We will be looking at the poem "The Magic Box" by Kit Wright. We will think about descriptive language and discuss what we would put in our own magic box. We will use these discussions to write our own poems. We will also be using the text "Here We Are" by Oliver Jeffers to explore some non-fiction writing, and the children will be creating information booklets.
SPAG (Spelling, Punctuation and Grammar)	We will be looking at how to read and spell contractions, putting the apostrophe in the correct place. We will continue to practise using commas within lists, and we will further explore spelling patterns using suffixes.
Maths	We begin the term looking at geometry and shape, looking at the properties of 2D and 3D shapes and understanding symmetry. Later in the half term, we will look at multiplication and division. We will find out about equal groups and use arrays to better understand the 2, 5 and 10 times tables. We will begin to look at division by sharing an amount into equal groups and we will find out about odd and even numbers.
Science	Our new module, Changing Materials, is a Chemistry topic and will build on children's previous learning about materials. They will learn to find out how the shapes of solid objects, made from some materials, can be changed by squashing, bending, twisting and stretching. The children will explore different properties of materials and how these make certain materials 'fit for purpose'.
Computing	We will be looking at creating pictures, exploring different art movements and thinking about how to create a piece of art in that style using a computer.

History	We will be learning about The Great Fire of London in History. We will be looking at the events that led to the fire and understanding how London has changed since then. We will think about what could have been done differently and discussing the decisions that were made.
PHSCE	Our new PSHE topic is 'Dreams and Goals' which will encourage the children to think about realistic goals and how they might achieve them. They will learn to carry on persevering even when they might find certain things difficult. The topic will give the children opportunities to work in groups and reflect on team skills.
Art	Our spring art unit will give Year 2 pupils the opportunity to explore architecture. We will begin by finding out about and exploring the work of some architects; looking at some of the ways they work. The children will then go on to create their own architectural model through exploration and trialling different techniques.
RE	In our Islam focused RE unit this half term, Year 2 will explore the key question: How do some Muslims show Allah is compassionate and merciful? We will first engage with the concept of compassion, and then explore Muslim stories about compassion to animals. Later in the unit, we will find out about Ramadan and think about how compassion is lived-out at Eid-ul-Fitr.
Music	This half term's music unit is entitled: 'Playing in an Orchestra'. During this fun and interactive unit, the children will listen to and respond to a range of music. They will develop their improvisational skills, and in groups, they will compose and perform their own short pieces.

Home Learning

Home learning will usually be set via Google Classroom and will usually consist of a literacy **or** maths task. Home-learning will continue to be set on a **Thursday** and needs to be completed and turned in by **the following Tuesday please**. New spelling patterns will be uploaded to The Spelling Shed on Thursday afternoons and will remain our focus pattern until the following Thursday morning. 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 continue to have our 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 kits 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, rubber, sharpener (one that holds sharpening) and a small glue stick
(please ensure pencil cases have been replenished for the new term).
- **We would also welcome any donations of tissues for the classroom**

If you have any questions or queries, please contact the class team via the School Office email or leave a message with the senior member of staff on gate duty in the morning.

Mrs Jennifer Harris and the Year 2 Team