



St Mary's C of E Primary School

Headteacher: Mrs M. Constantinou BEd

Littlegrove, East Barnet, Herts EN4 8SR

t: 020 8449 5856

e: office@stmarysen4.barnetmail.net

www.stmarysen4-barnet.co.uk

Year 6 - 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 2024 bring health, happiness and prosperity to you and your families.

I would like to start by saying another well done for last term, the children worked so hard on their learning and their fantastic Christmas play!

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 start the new year looking at "A Midsummer Night's Dream" by William Shakespeare. We are looking forward to our Shakespeare workshop to really bring the text to life! We will be using emotive language to write diary entries and using some of our more sophisticated grammar to write biographies of Shakespeare. We will also look at the features of a letter. Although we will be looking at a wide range of grammar (further consolidating our KS2 knowledge), we will be particularly focusing on hyphens, dashes, brackets and relative clauses.
Reading	We will continue to develop our reading fluency and comprehension skills this half term, with daily reading sessions. Children will continue to use the Accelerated Reader resources as well as further developing their understanding of predicting, questioning, clarifying and summarising with reciprocal reading sessions and activities.
Maths	In maths this half term, we will begin by reviewing our assessments from the autumn term, identifying and setting individual target areas for learning. We will then continue to consolidate our place value knowledge within 1. We will look at rounding decimal numbers; adding and subtracting decimals; and multiplying and dividing by 10, 100 and 1000. We will then focus on multiplying and dividing decimals by integers. Later in the half term, we will look at the equivalence between decimals, fractions and percentages. We will also be having arithmetic sessions to support our number fluency.
Science	During our new Science unit, 'What Light Does', we will be learning about what light is and how it travels. We will explore how we see objects and will investigate the size and shape of shadows. The children will be given opportunities to plan their own scientific enquiries to answer questions, including recognising and controlling variables where necessary. We will learn about refraction through practical activities and will explore how we see different coloured objects.

Computing	This half term we will be looking at spreadsheets. The children will use and consolidate their current knowledge, modelling real life simulations and exploring probability. We will look at basic calculations and learn how to organise and present data.
History	Our learning this half term is entitled 'Why should we thank the Ancient Greeks?' In this unit the children will learn about Alexander the Great and the Empire he built and they will compare and contrast what life was typically like in two different city states. Children will learn about the different types of Government and consider the impact this and some of the great minds from the era have had on our society today. We will be identifying other ways the Ancient Greeks have contributed positively to the modern day, for example the legacy of the Olympics.
PHSCE	This half term we will be thinking about our dreams and goals. We will discuss our own goals and think about our steps to success. We will consider how we can make a difference in the world and what our dream for the world would look like.
Art	Having done such a brilliant job with their design technology work last half term, Year 6 will now move on to a new art unit entitled 'Brave Colour'. We will begin by thinking about colour theory and then explore the work of some instillation artists. In this pathway the children will explore colour in a personal and intuitive way, thinking about feelings and emotions that colour evokes. We will be taking inspiration from artists who use colour, light and form to create immersive installations, and create our own mock-up artworks and models.
RE	In RE this half term, Year 6 will focus on the key concept question: "How does Tawhid create a sense of belonging to the Muslim community? Learning in this unit is developed through an enquiry cycle. The children will begin by engaging with the idea that 'one thing' can have an affect which spreads. We will enquire into the idea that Tawhid is at the centre of Muslim faith. Next, we will explore ideas about Tawhid in Muslim stories; explore the ideas about Tawhid in Muslim community practice (the five pillars of Islam); and explore aspects of Tawhid in Muslim living. The children will compete the unit by evaluating and expressing their learning about the key concept question.
Music	We will be working on our ensemble skills in music lessons, playing together and ensuring we use dynamics and expression. We will practise skills such as follow the leader and reading musical notation. We will learn that by changing the dynamics of music, we can make the music more interesting. Sometimes, gradual changes from soft to loud ("crescendo") or from loud to soft ("decrescendo") can help make music more exciting.

Home Learning

Home learning will usually be set via Google Classroom and MyMaths. It will usually consist of a literacy task, maths task and a set of weekly spellings to practise. Home-learning will be set on a **Friday** and needs to be completed and turned in by **the following Wednesday**.

Spelling will continue to be set on Edshed, both pattern words and challenge words.

Remember to also engage with TT Rockstars to ensure your times tables are always being refreshed!

Reading

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. 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 unfamiliar words and **clarify** meaning, and encourage them to **summarise** a paragraph or page that they have just read. These strategies will help to support their developing comprehension skills.

P.E.

We will be having a coach-led PE session on **Friday** afternoons. The class will also have a teacher-led PE session on **Wednesday** afternoons. Year 6 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.

What will my child need in school?

- **Named** school jumper/cardigan/water-proof coat
- **Named** water bottle (water fountains are not in use). Children can refill bottles in school
- Children can bring in a rucksack/backpack to carry packed lunches / school resources
- Your child will need a pencil case containing a pencil, handwriting pen, small ruler, eraser, sharpener (one that holds sharpenings), colouring pencils and a small glue stick
- Small packet of tissues.

We would also welcome any donations of larger tissue boxes 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.

Miss Simkin and the Year 6 class team