



Care, Grow and Flourish
in God's Loving Hands

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

KS2 Half Term Curriculum Plan / Home Learning Letter

Year 4

Summer 1 Half Term: April 2025

Dear Parents/Carers,

We hope you all had a restful and enjoyable Easter break. We had a fantastic Spring term, and I'm incredibly proud of the children – they've grown so much and made amazing progress. It is truly wonderful to see! Thank you all for your continued support throughout the year – it really does make a difference.

We are now looking forward to an exciting new term, with brighter and warmer days ahead. One of the highlights will be preparing for our May Day celebrations, including learning both the dance and the songs– always a fun and memorable part of the term!

This term, we are also pleased to welcome back Mrs Georgiou, who will be teaching Year 4 from Monday to Wednesday while I will be in class on Thursdays and Fridays. Mrs Georgiou would like to take this opportunity to say: I am very much looking forward to being back at St Mary's and in year 4. I am very excited to welcome all the children and I am looking forward to teaching them this summer term.

Please note that the Year 4 Multiplication Test is coming up soon. To help your child feel confident and prepared, we encourage regular practice of times tables at home. We will also continue to support them with practice and monitoring in class.

A few reminders:

- **Spelling:** There will no longer be any formal spelling tests. Instead, we will assign online work through Spelling Shed and have regular spelling lessons in class. This will give the children plenty of opportunities to practise their spelling skills.
- **Times Tables:** We encourage the children to continue practising their times tables at home in preparation for the upcoming test in June. Regular practice will help build their confidence.

Subjects	Focus of Learning
English	This term in English, children will be focussing on the text 'The Miraculous Journey of Edward Tulane'. The story follows the journey of a 'china rabbit' who goes on a journey through life experiencing many problems and learning lots along the way. The text is the first chapter book the children have explored in Year 4. Children will also be recapping much of the grammar they have come across before such as looking at fronted adverbials, pronouns, apostrophes and tense agreement. We will also be looking at subordinate clauses. Our writing focus this term will explore a fairy tale (one of which is featured in the text) and children will be writing their own fairy tale.

Reading	In reading, we will continue to apply our 'Fab Four Reading Strategies'. Children will develop their sequencing and clarifying skills, while also making predictions and asking questions to deepen their understanding of texts. With the text 'The Miraculous Journey of Edward Tulane', there will be a strong focus on vocabulary—understanding and learning new words in context. We will also work on drawing inferences about characters' feelings, thoughts, and motives, and justifying these with evidence from the text.
Maths	In Maths this term, children will continue to explore tenths and hundredths as both fractions and decimals. Much of their learning will involve revisiting core skills they have developed throughout the year—such as dividing by 10 and 100—and applying this knowledge to work with decimals. They will practise locating decimals on a number line, partitioning them, and comparing their values. Following this, they will move on to the topic of money, where they will convert between pounds and pence, represent money using decimals, and carry out calculations involving money. In addition to this, children will continue to complete arithmetic papers to help consolidate both new learning and previously taught concepts. They will also regularly log in to platforms such as TT Rockstars and Purple Mash at school to practise their multiplication tables. To further support this, children can access additional times tables games online, such as "Hit the button" (https://www.topmarks.co.uk/maths-games/hit-the-button). It is essential that they engage with these resources at home whenever possible, as this greatly supports and reinforces their learning.
Science	Our new science topic this half term is 'Sound'. We will begin by identifying how sounds are made and recognising that vibrations from sounds travel through a medium to the ear. We will then explore pitch and volume and we'll end our unit by recognising that sounds get fainter as the distance from the sound source increases.
Computing	Our learning in computing this term is called '2Logo'. This is a text-based coding language used to control an on-screen marker to create mathematical patterns. In this unit they will learn common commands and constructs of the Logo programming language and develop their ability to compose algorithms for drawing mathematical structures and turn these into Logo code. This will involve creating letter shapes and using repeat commands to create shapes.
History	In History, our learning will be all about Ancient Egypt. Children will locate this period of History in place and time. They will also learn about the landscape of Egypt and how this impacted people's lives, how important artefacts are in teaching people about the past and looking at how ancient Egyptians lived. Children will also be learning about Tutankhamen and learning all about ancient Egyptian tombs and pyramids.
PSHE	Our learning in PSHE is all about 'relationships'. This unit covers many important and vital themes mainly focussed around friendships. It explores key themes such as being able to cope with situations in friendship groups which can cause jealousy, how to manage when friendships break down and fall out and also looks at expressing feelings about special feelings in our lives and showing appreciation to those who are special to us.
Art	Our topic this term is 'Storytelling through drawing'. We will explore how to tell stories through sequenced imagery and drawing. Our focus will be on two inspiring artists — Laura Carlin and Shaun Tan. By studying their unique approaches and processes, we will use our sketchbooks to gather ideas, experiment with materials, and develop our own visual storytelling techniques. We will be linking our learning to our fantastic English text- 'The Miraculous Journey of Edward Tulane' and explore how drawing can be used in an illustrative context to a narrative through a fold-out accordion book.
RE	Our unit in RE this term is all about the 'Kingdom of God' and explores the question- 'When Jesus left, what was the impact of Pentecost?' This unit looks at the significance of the coming of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost and the role of the Holy Spirit as a helper, comforter and guide in the lives of the early Christians, and in Christians today.
Music	This half term we will be using our music lessons in preparation for May Day.

Home Learning

Home learning will continue to be set on Google Classroom. It will be set on a Friday and needs to be completed and turned in by Thursday.

In addition to these home learning tasks, we recommend that children also engage with TT Rockstars and Times table games on Purple Mash, on a regular basis. Please let a member of the Year 4 team know, if you need any help accessing these platforms.

Children will receive weekly **spelling** lists to learn via Spelling Shed. In addition, we will deliver in-class lessons to help children practise writing these words. Occasionally, paper-based spelling homework will be provided alongside the online activities.

Please note that although we will look at all home learning, we will not always comment unless necessary. We will go over any common mistakes or things we find tricky in class. I may return your work so you know I have looked at it.

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. 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. The children will keep a reading record (paper copy) in school, on which they will record the book titles they are reading, a brief comment and any 'Accelerated Reader' quiz scores that they achieve.

Year 4 PE days are: Thursday and Friday

We will continue to have a coached PE session on Friday. The class will also have PE on a Wednesday. 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). **Please also ensure that any long hair is tied back for all PE lessons.**

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.
- **Named** school jumper/cardigan/coat
- **Named** water bottle
- Children **may** bring a bag to school. Please make sure that this is not too big to avoid hazards in the cloakroom
- Your child will need a ***small plastic/metal pencil case*** containing pencils, handwriting pen, small ruler, eraser, sharpener (one that holds sharpenings), colouring pencils, small glue stick. **All equipment should be able to fit inside children's trays.**
- Small packet of tissues for your child to keep in their trays. ***We also kindly ask for any donations of larger tissue boxes for the classroom.***
- Please replenish **handwriting pens, pencils and in particular, glue sticks**
- Children should not be bringing in toys/bits and pieces from home to keep in their trays or in their bags. Please refrain from bringing personal items to school. Please encourage your children to leave such items at home and not in their pencil cases or bags.

If you have any questions or concerns, please the class team via the School Office email.

Thank you for your continued support.

Roberta Santangelo & Philippa Georgiou