



Care, Grow and Flourish
in God's Loving Hands

St Mary's C of E Primary School

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KS2 Half Term Curriculum Plan/Home Learning Letter

Year 5

Summer 1st Half Term: April 2025

Dear Parents/Carers,

I hope that you have had an enjoyable Easter break. We have many exciting things happening this term in our learning. We will also be working to prepare our traditional Mayday festivities for presentation at the end of the half-term.

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	This term in English we will be exploring the fantastic text- 'Journey to Jo'burg' by Beverley Naidoo. Here we will get a glimpse into the life of two children during Apartheid in South Africa. As part of their learning, we will be exploring and discussing the historical context to gain a deeper understanding of life during this time. Our writing this term will consist of a play script and a persuasive speech. As part of their grammar learning, children will be recapping punctuation for parenthesis and learning how to use colons. Our spelling this term will feature: words with 'ie' after c, 'ei' making an /ee/ sound, 'ough' making an /or/ sound and words containing 'ough'.
Reading	We will be continuing to use the reciprocal reading strategies: predicting, questioning, clarifying and summarising to support reading. Children will continue to benefit from reading comprehension practice with a focus on how to answer reading comprehension questions effectively. Children will continue to access reading books in school and should be bringing reading books to and from school each day. Children will access accelerated reader and can search the app for any titles they have read at home so they can complete quizzes on these. They will have opportunities to complete the quizzes on these books in school. Please continue to encourage children to read with you at home so they have the opportunity to use the fab four reciprocal reading strategies at home as well. In addition, I will be asking children to write four sentences in a reading record each week demonstrating the reciprocal reading strategies for the book they are currently reading. They will make a prediction, ask a question about what they have read, clarify a word or idea and write a short summary each week.
Maths	In Maths this half term we will be looking at shape and geometry. We will be classifying, estimating, measuring and calculating angles before looking at angles in shapes. Following this we will be learning about co-ordinates including exploring translation, symmetry and reflection. We will finish the half-term by revisiting decimals and look at adding and subtracting decimal numbers.
Science	In Science this half-term we will be building on our learning about properties of materials. We will be focusing on the Chemistry topics of separating mixtures and changing materials. Children will learn that some materials dissolve in liquid to form a solution, and describe how to recover a substance from a solution. We will use knowledge of solids, liquids, and gases to decide how mixtures might be separated, including through filtering, sieving and evaporating. We will demonstrate that dissolving, mixing and changes of state are reversible changes and explain that some changes result in the

	formation of new materials. We will begin to understand that this kind of change is not usually reversible.
Computing	Our learning in computing this term will be all about 3D modelling. We will be using a 3D modelling programme on Purple Mash to design and make a 3D model. We will be looking at 2D and 3D views as well as printing our nets and assembling them.
Geography	In Geography, we will be exploring our new topic 'Volcanoes and Earthquakes'. We will begin by learning about the structure of the Earth and what happens when the Earth's plates meet. We will identify the key features of a volcano and then move onto locating and learning about some famous volcanoes and earthquakes.
PHSCE	Our PSHCE topic this term is all about 'relationships'. Children will be thinking about self-esteem as well as recapping on the key e-safety learning about safe and unsafe online communities. We will also be thinking about things in which we can do to ensure our screen time remains healthy.
DT	In DT this half-term we will be exploring Chinese inventions and designing and building our own model kites.
RE	This half term in RE we will be building on our knowledge of Sikhism. We will be exploring the big question 'How does the teaching of the Gurus move Sikhs from dark to light?'. We will think about what makes a great teacher before exploring what Guru Nanak wanted people to learn. We will consider how this teaching helps Sikhs to move from dark to light and why it is important to listen to the right people in life.
Music	In Music this half term we will be focusing on our preparations for Mayday. Through this, children will learn to respond to a leader or conductor. They will rehearse and present a performance for an audience; performing from memory with confidence and accuracy.

Home Learning

Home learning will continue to be set on Google Classroom. It will consist of an English, Topic or Reading activity as well as a Maths related activity. It will be set on a **Friday** and needs to be completed and turned in by the following **Tuesday**. A photo can be taken of the learning and then uploaded and submitted to Google Classroom. In addition, there will be a list of weekly spellings on Spelling Shed which children should practice at least 5 times using the available games. Children who wish to improve their spelling further can also access the Mastery Zone of spelling shed which will help them to identify and learn any spelling patterns they find trickier. In addition to these home learning tasks, we recommend that children also engage with TT Rockstars on a regular basis. Please let a member of the Year 5 team know, if you need any help accessing these platforms

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, 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 support them to write their four sentences in the home-school reading record each week and 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. Please encourage children to complete and hand in their reading records once a week to ensure we can review these in class.

P.E.

This year, our PE days will be every **Monday** and **Friday**. Our coached PE sessions with Mr Kerr will take place on a Friday. The class will also have a teacher lead PE session on a Monday. 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. Please bear this in mind as the weather starts to get colder. Children should bring a rainproof coat every day.
- **Named** school jumper/cardigan/coat
- Named water bottle (water fountains are still not in use)
- Children may use a small backpack or plastic bag if they'd like to bring anything in. Please make sure that this is not too big to avoid hazards in the cloakroom.
- Children can bring in school book bags if they have them.
- Your child will need a pencil case containing pencils, handwriting pen, small ruler, eraser, sharpener (one that holds sharpenings), colouring pencils, 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.
- Please replenish handwriting pens, pencils and glue sticks as the term goes on.

Please name or distinguish any equipment brought from home. Children often have the same pens or felt tips and it is impossible to reunite lost articles with their owners if these are not named, which can cause distress.

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

Many thanks for your continued support.

Mrs Haggan and the Year 5 team