



St Mary's C of E Primary School

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KS2 Half Term Curriculum Plan / Home Learning Letter

Year 5

Autumn 1 Half Term: September 2025

Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome to year 5!

We would like to wish all of the children a very warm welcome back to school and into a new academic year. We hope that you had an enjoyable and relaxing summer break and that children are looking forward to a very exciting year ahead!

I am very excited to be continuing with the class this year and I look forward to a very busy term ahead. We also are very pleased to welcome Mr Sturgess to the year 5 team.

Dear Year 5 parents and children,

I am very much looking forward to teaching your children and getting to know you all over the coming year.

I bring with me 12 years of teaching experience, during which I have held roles such as Literacy Coordinator and member of the Senior Leadership Team. More recently, I have worked as a Literacy Consultant with schools in Barnet and have also delivered training sessions for teacher trainees.

I am excited to bring this experience into our classroom and to support your children as they grow, learn, and thrive in Year 5.

Warm regards,

Andrew Sturgess

Mrs Georgiou will be teaching the class from Monday-Wednesday and Mr Sturgess will be teaching on Thursday and Friday.

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	<p>This term we will be exploring the incredible picture book 'Flotsam' by David Wiesner. We will be using the images to inspire our creativity and imagination to explore character, experiences and viewpoints. Children will be developing their writing skills by writing a recount, as well as using our power of persuasion to write our very own EBay advert.</p> <p>Spelling, punctuation and grammar will continue to be a focus throughout the term. Children will be recapping their learning on determiners, fronted adverbials and expanded noun phrases. We will also be using our dictionary skills and exploring synonyms and antonyms. We will also be revisiting the use of commas, modal verbs and subordinating conjunctions. Children will continue to revisit basic punctuation skills particularly when editing our writing.</p> <p>There will also be a focus on our core writing skills which involves looking for errors in punctuation and spelling in writing.</p>
Reading	<p>We will continue to develop our inference skills through 'reading images'. We will be exploring meanings from texts and justifying them. We will be selecting the evidence from the text to infer characters' thoughts, feelings and motives from their actions as well as asking questions and making predictions.</p> <p>We will continue reading and taking Accelerated reader quizzes on the books we are reading</p>

	We will also focus on our 'fab four' reciprocal reading strategies: predicting, questioning, clarifying and summarising which will be applied when reading our class text.
Maths	<p>In the Autumn term, Year 5 will be focusing on developing a deep understanding of place value, which is the foundation for much of their future learning in maths. Children will be learning to read, write, compare, and order numbers up to 1,000,000, and they'll explore how numbers can be partitioned and represented in different ways. They will use number lines and place value charts to help them understand the scale of large numbers, and practise rounding to the nearest 10, 100, 1,000 and beyond. The children will also be introduced to Roman numerals up to 1,000 and will begin to recognise patterns in powers of ten. This block of learning will help build confidence in working with large numbers and set the stage for more complex topics later in the year.</p> <p>Arithmetic will continue to be an essential part of the children's maths learning and weekly arithmetic sessions will routinely feature as part of the children's learning.</p>
Science	This year our science will be taught by Mrs Williams and we are starting with a topic on Forces and Mechanisms. In this module, children will learn to, explain that unsupported objects fall towards the Earth because of the force of gravity acting between the Earth and the falling object, identify the effects of air resistance, water resistance and friction, that act between moving surfaces and recognise that some mechanisms, including levers, pulleys and gears, allow a smaller force to have a greater effect.
Computing	Computing this term will focus on the importance of online safety. Children will be looking at and creating SMART rules as well as looking at the importance of strong passwords and permissions. Children will then move onto looking at databases and looking at searching for information in a database and creating a database.
History	We take journey into ancient Tikal this term in history to learn all about the exciting topic of the Maya. We think about why we study this ancient civilisation, how the Maya grew so strong, what life was like for the ancient Maya and exploring the question which baffles historians to uncover why the Maya civilization came to an abrupt end.
PHSE	Year 5 will be focusing on resilience and wellbeing, exploring the idea that we are all born with inner wellbeing and powerful qualities—like confidence and resilience—and that by understanding how our mind works, we can stay 'on-track' and uncover these 'superpowers', even when outside things seem to affect how we feel.
DT	This term in Design and Technology, Year 5 will be exploring the topic of building bridges. Children will investigate different types of bridge structures, learn how they are designed for strength and stability, and explore the materials used in real-world construction. They will apply this knowledge by designing, testing, and building their own model bridges, developing key skills in planning, problem-solving, and teamwork too.
RE	This term in RE we will be learning about 'God' and exploring the key question, 'what does it mean if God is Holy and loving?' we will be looking at key terms such as omnipotent, omniscient and eternal. Children will also be learning about what the Bible says about God, how Church architecture shows Christian belief about God and thinking about our own guidelines for living.
Music	In Music this half term we will be focusing on melody and harmony in music. We will continue to work on listening skills and copying more complex rhythms and patterns. Children will have the opportunity to play, sing, improvise and compose during our music lessons as well as begin preparations for our visit to see the London Symphony Orchestra next half term. More information on this will follow shortly.

Home Learning

Home learning will continue to be set on Google Classroom. It will be set on a **Wednesday** and needs to be completed and turned in by **Tuesday**.

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 5 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.

P.E. Year 5 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, please contact the class team via the School Office email.

Many thanks for your continued support.

Philippa Georgiou and Andrew Sturgess