St Mary's C of E Primary School

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Care, Grow and Flourish
in God's Loving Hands

Year 2 Half Term Curriculum Plan - Home Learning Letter

Autumn 1st Half Term – September 2026

Dear Parents/Carers,

We are delighted to welcome the children back to school and into Year Two; we hope that you had an enjoyable and relaxing summer break. Please refer to the table below, for a brief overview of the learning experiences that the Y2 children will have in each subject, during this half term.

Subjects	Focus of Learning
English	This half term the children's English work will link to two main focus texts: Ruby's Worry and The Bear and the Piano. We will begin by making inferences about the texts and understanding what we have read. We will then be exploring characters and looking at descriptive writing. The children will be writing letters, descriptive settings and recounting key elements of a story. Our grammar sessions this half term, will focus on recapping how we use full stops, capital letters and question marks. We will be using adjectives and conjunctions in our planning, to make our writing more detailed and interesting. Towards the end of the half term, we will look at some Autumn poetry and link this to our art and design topic.
Phonics and Spelling	Following on from their work in Year 1, the children will continue to develop their phonological awareness. They will have regular phonics sessions alongside daily reading sessions. The children will be practising and consolidating their phase 3 and 5 sounds and begin to develop their reading fluency.
Maths	In maths this half term, we will be consolidating and extending our knowledge of place value. We will recap numbers to 100 and think about how to represent 2-digit numbers using tens and ones. We will compare and order 2-digit numbers and practise counting in 2's, 5's and 10's. Later in the half term, we will be thinking about related facts and explore number bonds and fact families.
Science	We will be starting the Year 2 science learning off, with the unit 'Local Habitats'. The children will explore and compare the differences between things that are living, dead, and things that have never been alive. They will identify that most living things live in habitats to which they are suited and how plants and animals depend on each other. The children will learn how to identify and name a variety of plants and animals in their habitats. They will explore how animals obtain their food from plants and other animals, using the idea of a simple food chain.
Computing	We will start the autumn term by consolidating our knowledge about the importance of online safety and how to use computers safely. We will then review knowledge of using Purple Mash. We will look at logging into the platform, managing work and accessing 2Dos. Later in the term, the children will be using the tool 2Go, to begin to develop coding skills. The children will learn to build simple algorithms to move a screen turtle along routes. They will consider direction and distances and create commands.
History	This half term, our history lessons will be led by Mrs Linskey and will begin by looking at 'The First Flight'. The children will explore a timeline of aviation and find out about the first flight. They will

	discover what early aeroplanes looked like and how they have changed over time. Year two will discuss the factors that made the Wright brothers successful in their attempts.
PHSCE	Our PSHE focus 'Being Me in My World', will give the children the opportunity to think about rules, rights, rewards, responsibilities and consequences. This will help us to settle into our new class and agree on how we can learn best together.
Art and Design	In our art unit, children are introduced to the idea that artists can be collectors; they go out into the world, look at things in new ways, and bring things back to the studio to inspire their art. The children will explore observational drawing and experimental mark making, and think about how they can use composition to create their artwork.
RE	During our religious education sessions, we will be working on a Judaism topic entitled 'Believing' and think about the overarching question: Why do Jewish families talk about repentance at New Year? The children will engage with the idea of saying sorry, enquire into the idea of making new starts and explore the concepts of repentance and forgiveness.
PE	In PE, we are starting the year off with a unit of ball skills, using our hands to develop dribbling, passing and receiving the ball. We are then moving on learning about dodging: how, where and why to dodge in attacking and defending games.

Home Learning

Home learning will usually be set via Google Classroom and will usually consist of a literacy or maths task. In addition, children will be set a weekly spelling pattern to explore and practise. Some of the home-learning may be set on our learning platforms 'MyMaths' or 'Purple Mash'. Children will be provided with login details if you do not already have these. Please let a member of the Year 2 team know if you need any help accessing any of these platforms.

We will send more information on the days that home learning will be set as soon as Mrs Haggan is back. In the meantime, we will send a text message to alert you about home learning uploaded to Google Classroom.

Reading

Each week children will bring home a school reading book. As we hear the children read regularly at school, their reading book will need to be in school every day. 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 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 be having PE sessions on Wednesdays and Fridays.

The children will need to come into school wearing their PE kit 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) a small glue stick and coloured pencils (optional)

We are very much looking forward to working with you over the course of the next academic year. If you have any questions or queries, please contact the class team via the School Office email or leave a message / note with the senior member of staff on gate duty in the morning.

Year 2 Class Team 😊