



Care, Grow and Flourish
in God's Loving Hands

St Mary's C of E Primary School

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Year 4 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 Four. 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 Y4 children will have in each subject, during this half term.

Subjects	Focus of Learning
English	This half term, Year 4 will be diving into the exciting world of <i>Varjak Paw</i> by S.F. Said. Through this engaging story, the children will make predictions, explore characters and develop their vocabulary and ideas. In grammar, we will consolidate expanded noun phrases, conjunctions and apostrophes, while exploring how carefully chosen verbs and adverbs can make our writing more interesting. We will also use fronted adverbials to describe time, place and manner. The children will plan and write diary entries and narrative recounts from different characters' points of view, helping them to develop their creativity and confidence as writers.
Reading	Children will continue to access and use the Accelerated Reader programme, further developing their reading fluency, comprehension and inference skills. We will use reciprocal reading and the 'Fab Four' strategies of predicting, questioning, clarifying and summarising to help children become confident and thoughtful readers.
Maths	In Maths this half term, we will begin by revisiting the place value of 3-digit numbers before moving on to representing and partitioning numbers up to 10,000. The children will place 4-digit numbers on number lines and develop their skills in estimating, comparing and ordering numbers. We will then learn how to round 4-digit numbers to the nearest 10, 100 and 1,000. Towards the end of the half term, we will move on to our Addition and Subtraction unit, where the children will practise adding and subtracting 4-digit numbers, including exchanging.
Science	In Science, we will be studying a unit entitled 'Changes of State'. The children will develop their understanding of solids, liquids and gases and explore how materials can change from one state to another. Through a range of practical investigations, they will learn about key processes including melting, freezing, evaporation and condensation. The children will also explore the water cycle, making links between their scientific learning and processes that take place in the world around them. This half term, Science will be taught by Mrs Beechey.
Computing	We will start the autumn term with our Computing unit, Unpacking Hardware and Software. The children will explore what technology is and identify the different types of technology they use in everyday life. They will learn to identify and describe different pieces of computer hardware and explain their functions, as well as explore what software is and how it helps us to complete different tasks. Later in the half term, we will begin our first 2BeSafe unit, where the children will learn how to manage and navigate online information safely and responsibly.
History	Our History topic this half term is 'Roman Invaders and Settlers'. We will begin by exploring a timeline and considering what the terms 'invader' and 'settler' mean. The children will investigate how and why the Romans successfully invaded Britain, as well as who lived here at the time and

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	what life was like for them. We will find out about Boudicca and explore the impact of her revolt before discovering what life was like in Roman Britain. Finally, we will consider the lasting influence of the Romans and how they have shaped our lives today. We will also be visiting St Albans Cathedral for a Roman-themed school trip.
PHSCE	In PSHE, the children will be completing a unit on 'Belonging'. They will explore what it means to belong to our school community and consider ways in which we can help everyone to feel valued, respected and included. The children will also learn about democracy within our school, exploring why it is important for everyone to have a voice and how we can listen to and respect the views of others.
RE	In RE, we will be exploring the theme of 'People of God' through the key question, 'What is it like to follow God?' The children will explore the story of Noah and consider the qualities that made God choose him. We will think about the importance of covenants, promises and trust, and discuss how following God might influence the choices people make today. The children will be encouraged to share their own ideas, ask thoughtful questions and consider what it might mean to have faith and stay true to your beliefs, even when things are difficult.
PE	In PE, we are starting the year off with a unit on Basketball with a focus on creating simple attacking tactics to move the ball up the court, creating an attack that results in a shooting opportunity. We are then moving on to a unit about Netball and applying similar principles of learning.

Home Learning

Home learning will be set via Google Classroom and will usually consist of one weekly task, focusing on either English or Maths. Children will also be given a weekly spelling pattern to explore and practise on Spelling Shed.

Home learning will be set each Friday, starting from 11th September, and should be completed and turned in by the following Wednesday. Occasionally, tasks may be set using MyMaths or Purple Mash. Children will be provided with login details if you do not already have these.

We also encourage children to practise their times tables regularly using TT Rockstars. If you need any help accessing Google Classroom or any of our online learning platforms, please speak to a member of the Year 4 team.

Reading at home

One of the best ways you can support your child's learning is by encouraging them to read for 10–15 minutes every day. Where possible, take some time to read with your child and talk about what they have read. Encourage them to make predictions, ask questions, clarify unfamiliar words and summarise what they have read. These simple strategies will help to develop their comprehension skills. It is also valuable for children to hear stories and books read aloud to them. When children finish a book, they will have the opportunity to complete an Accelerated Reader quiz at school to check their understanding.

P.E.

Year 4 PE sessions will take place on Tuesdays and Fridays this half term. The children should come to school wearing their PE kit on these days, unless otherwise notified. Please ensure that long hair is tied back.

PE kits should consist of blue jogging bottoms or shorts, a white T-shirt or polo shirt, 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 bag to carry packed lunches and school resources (such as their reading book)
- Your child will need a **small** pencil case containing: pencils, handwriting pen, red pen, small ruler, eraser, sharpener (one that holds sharpening), colouring pencils and a small glue stick

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 with the senior member of staff on gate duty in the morning. Many thanks for your support.

Mrs Harris and the Year 2 Class Team 😊