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

Year 2 Half Term Curriculum Plan / Home Learning Letter

Autumn 2nd Half Term: November 2026

Dear Parents/Carers,

We hope that you and your children have had an enjoyable half term break. We are so pleased with how they are settling into Year 2 and are looking forward to the weeks ahead. Later in the half term, the children will take part in the Infant Music Festival and have lots of festive fun, including taking part in our Infant nativity production.

Please refer to the table below, for a brief overview of the other learning experiences that the children will have in each subject, during this half term.

Subjects	Focus of Learning
English	This half term, we will be looking at two focus texts: "Way Home for Wolf" by Rachel Bright and the traditional tale "The Elves and the Shoemaker". The children will be exploring descriptive writing; creating expanded noun phrases and writing descriptively. Later in the half term, we will be looking at the features of instructions. The children will follow written instructions then have a go at creating their own instructional texts. Throughout our English learning, we are focusing on sentence composition both orally and in writing.
Spellings	We are continuing to focus on alternatives to phase 5 phonics sounds, high frequency words and challenge words using Spelling Shed lessons and activities. Children are also encouraged to access mastery zone activities at home which will help to identify and practise spelling patterns they are finding more challenging.
Maths	In Maths this half term we are continuing with our addition and subtraction unit. We will be focusing on adding and subtracting 10s numbers. We will use resources and visual aids to help us with adding and subtracting two 2-digit numbers. Later in the half term, we will move on to geometry and shape, looking at the properties of 2D and 3D shapes.
Science	Our new module in science this half term is 'Choosing Materials', which is a Chemistry topic, building on children's learning in Year 1. The children will learn to identify and compare the suitability of a variety of everyday materials, including wood, metal, plastic, glass, brick, rock and cardboard for particular uses. They will learn about the methods scientists use to build scientific knowledge about materials and how they can be used in different ways. They will develop an understanding of comparative testing and will use their observations and ideas to suggest answers to questions.
Computing	In computing this half term we are starting to understand the fundamentals of the internet, including its purpose, how we access it and how to use it safely and effectively. We will explore the roles of browsers and search engines, websites and webpages beginning to develop the skills needed to search for and evaluate information online.
Geography	Y2 will be looking at the topic 'Continents and Oceans'. The children will learn the names of the 7 continents and 5 oceans. They will then explore and locate them on maps. We will learn how to use geographical language to describe location, and will be identifying human and physical features.

PHSCE	We will be looking at the similarities and differences between us and celebrating our differences. We will be discussing why it is important that people are different and why we do not have to follow stereotypes.
DT	In our Design Technology lessons, Year 2 will be thinking about puppets. We will investigate a range of puppets and their features. We will use templates, design, make and decorate our own finger puppets. The children will develop and practise sewing skills and will complete the unit by evaluating their finished product.
RE	During our RE lessons, we will be focusing on the creation story. The children will explore the story, becoming more confident at retelling and explaining different sections. We will be thinking about what it means to work and rest. The children will also be reflecting on how we can look after the world and our favourite parts of God's creation. We will be linking this work to giving thanks and the harvest festival.
Music	In Music this half term we will be finishing our preparations for the Infant Music Festival before taking part. Following this we will be focusing on learning the songs for our infant production. We will have a focus on perseverance and resilience as we build our performance skills in preparation for the Infant production.
PE	In PE, we are starting the term with another unit of ball skills, using our feet to develop dribbling, passing and receiving the ball. We will be focusing on combining these skills to keep possession and score points. We are then moving on to learning about creating games. We will be thinking about roles and responsibilities of players and the role of referee in competitive games.

Home Learning

Home learning will continue to be set on Google Classroom. It will consist of a literacy or Maths related activity. It will be set on a **Friday** and needs to be completed and turned in by the following **Wednesday**. 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 3 times using the available games. The spelling list will update on a **Thursday**. 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. Please let a member of the Year 2 team know, if you need any help accessing these platforms or need a reminder of login details.

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.

This year, our PE sessions will continue to be every **Wednesday** and **Friday**. On these days, children will need to **come in to school wearing their PE kit**. This should consist of blue jogging bottoms or shorts, white t-shirt or polo top 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?

- 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). Please can you ensure

this is **named** and able to **fit into their tray** as large pencil cases on desks make it difficult for children to concentrate and can leave very little room for working.
- 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 2 team