

St. Mary's RC Primary School
Year 2
Half-Termly Overview - Autumn Two

Religion This half-term, in our topic “**Prophecy and Promise**”, the children will be learning about the Holy Spirit in Jesus’ infancy and will be able to sequence and retell the infancy narrative from Luke’s gospel. They will be introduced to **John the Baptist**. We will learn about the story of the **Angel Gabriel appearing to Zechariah** and compare this with the **Angel Gabriel’s visit to Mary**. The children will explore artists’ depictions of the Holy Spirit in the Annunciation to Mary and the Visitation. We will revisit some of the symbols used during the Advent season and explore how Christians in different countries might prepare for Christmas.

Maths

This year, we continue to follow the White Rose Maths scheme. Our topics this half-term are:

Addition and Subtraction

This half-term, children will gain confidence in:

- adding three 1-digit numbers
- adding to the next 10 and across a 10
- subtracting across 10 and from a 10

Shape

During this unit, the children will learn to:

- recognise 2-D and 3-D shapes
- count vertices and sides on 2-D shapes
- count faces and edges of 2-D shapes
- identify lines of symmetry
- sort 2D and 3D shapes

We also have a 15-minute fluency lesson 4 times a week, focusing on developing children’s rapid recall of number facts

Phonics and Spelling

This year, we continue to deliver phonics through Little Wandle Letters and Sounds.

This term, we will be completing the unit: **Phase 5 review**, where we learn and practice the most common and some of the more **unusual alternative spellings** for sounds they encountered in Year 1. This half-term, the focus is now on spelling and children will be writing dictated sentences in their spelling books daily, using the spellings they have learnt throughout the week.

Weekly spelling homework will be linked to the graphemes taught for different sounds in the

Writing

Our writing lessons this term are focused around the text “**The Story Tree**” by **Hugh Lupton**, which is a collection of European Folk Tales. We will focus on two stories, “**The Sweetest Song**” – an African-American story and “**Little Lord Feather Frock**” – a Russian folktale.

Children will develop their ability to retell stories using the **language of story tellers** through **drama and role play**. They will learn about **different sentence types** and begin to apply these effectively into their own writing.

The children will write **character, setting descriptions** and a **short narrative** based on the stories that have read in this unit.

Reading

In Year 2, our focus is on moving from phonics to **reading fluency**. The children will continue to develop their reading **speed, accuracy and confidence** using engaging chapter books.

Children will read with a range of adults in groups three times a week, focusing on their **decoding, prosody (reading with expression) and comprehension**.

We will also teach the children explicit comprehension strategies to help them answer questions about a range of texts, including **skimming and scanning** and developing their understanding of **vocabulary**. We will begin to look at different **questions types** such as: **find and copy** and **sequencing events**

Science

In this topic, we will be learning about **living things and their habitats**.

In this unit, the children will **explore** and **compare** the differences between things that are living, dead, and things that have never been alive.

They will learn that most living things live in **habitats** to which they are suited and describe how different habitats provide for the basic needs of different kinds of animals and plants, and how they depend on each other. The children will also identify and name a variety of plants and animals in their habitats, including **microhabitats** and begin to explore simple **food chains**.

The children's scientific enquiry skills will be developed through **identifying, classifying** and **gathering data**.

Physical Education

Our P.E topics this half-term are **Invasion Game Skills** and **Gymnastics – Spinning, Turning and Twisting**. Children will develop their ability to **dodge** and **select tactics** in a team game. They will learn the difference between a **turn** and a **twist** and perform a fluent routine where work is controlled and varied.

Music

This half-term, we will be preparing our Key Stage 1 nativity: "Bethlehem Bake Off". The children will be developing their **aural memory**, increasing their **vocal control** and learning to follow dynamics, such as **crescendo, decrescendo and pause**.

Design and Technology

Our DT topic this half-term is **Structures: Baby Bear's Chair**.

This unit focuses on teaching children to:

- identify how chairs are made and used for different **purposes**
- explain how **design briefs and design criteria** help when making a new product
- make a **stable structure** for a particular user
- **improve parts of a product** based upon the design criteria

History

In our unit this half-term, the children will consider the question: **How was school different in the past?**

We begin our topic by thinking about what St. Mary's school was like in the past and examine some **sources**. We then **interview** someone who came to St. Mary's when they were a child and **compare and contrast** what schools were like in the past with what they are like in the present.

PSHE

This half-term, we complete Module 2 of My Happy Mind: **Celebrate**. In this unit, the children are learning about different types of **Character Strengths**, how they can spot different strengths in themselves and others and which character strengths they can identify with.

We shall also begin to think about **belonging to a community**. The children shall learn that **money** comes in different sources and the difference between needs and wants.

Homework

Homework is set on a **Friday**. This consists of:

- 1) Reading book (phonics matched) – please return on a **Thursday** to allow books to be changed.
- 2) Reading for pleasure book (to be read to your child) - please return on a **Thursday** to allow books to be changed.
- 3) 10 minutes on either TTRockstars or Numbots
- 4) Creative Homework is posted on Class Dojo and is due in on **Monday 15th December**

Other important information

- In Year 2, we communicate updates to parents via **Class Dojo** not Tapestry. Please ensure you have activated your child's account for Class Dojo. If you have not received an invite, please let Miss Johnson know.
- Please can you ensure that all your child's uniform is labelled, and they have water bottle in school (no juice)
- The school rules on jewellery are as follows: One pair of stud earrings may be worn – no other piercings are permitted; A smart and sensible wristwatch may be worn