

St. Mary's RC Primary School
Year 2
Half-Termly Overview – Spring 1

Religion This half-term our topic is “**Galilee to Jerusalem**”. This unit links the children’s knowledge about Jesus’ birth, which we looked at last half-term, with Jesus’ death, which we will be learning about next half-term.

We shall build on their understanding of who Jesus is and understand how he **teaches about the nature of God** using stories with a hidden message, **parables**. We will study **Luke’s Gospel** to understand that Jesus was not an ordinary man and will begin to understand that **Jesus is God in human form**. We will also learn about what it means to make a bad choice, and **consequences** of bad choices.

Maths

This half-term, we will continue to follow the White Rose maths scheme. Our learning this half-term will focus on:

Money

During this unit, we will continue to develop the children’s understanding of:

- counting money in pounds and pence
- recognising notes
- calculating change from different amounts

We also have a 15-minute fluency lesson 4 times a week, focusing on developing children’s rapid recall of number facts. This term, we will focus on:

- counting in 2s and 5s
- understanding the composition of 6 and 7
- understanding the composition of 8 and 9

Spelling

This half-term, we shall be completing the unit: **Bridge to Spelling**, which teaches the children to ‘think about spelling’. We will complete the alphabetic code and learn the underpinning concepts of spelling:

Why do we double letters at the end of words?

Why do some words end in k, ck, ch or tch?

When do I add suffixes?

Weekly spelling homework will be linked to the spelling rules taught during the week.

Children who are not yet secure in Phase 5 phonics will receive Rapid Catch Up sessions.

Writing

Our writing lessons this term will focus on the story, ‘**Skater Cielo by Rachel Katstaller**’. The children will write their own information text and write a narrative based on their own personal experiences.

The children will develop their **oracy skills** through **speculating, hypothesing and imagining ideas** through a range of creative approaches. They will begin to think about the **purpose and audience** of their writing and will draw and apply their knowledge of spelling rules. Children will learn to use **contractions and possessive apostrophes** and will develop their **handwriting**, ensuring it is fluent and legible.

Reading

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

This half-term, we will begin whole class reading lessons, where the children will read a range of texts, including opportunities for visual literacy.

We 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 continue look at different **questions types** such as: **making predictions, find and copy** and **sequencing events**

Science

In this topic, we continue to learn about **living things and their habitats**.

In this unit, the children will **explore and compare** the differences between things are living, dead and things that have never been alive. They will learn how to identify that living things live in **habitats which they are suited** and will be able to describe how **different habitats provide for the basic needs of different kinds of animals and plants**, and how they **depend on each other**. They will also learn how to **identify and name a variety of plants and animals in their habitats including microhabitats** and how to describe how animals obtain their food from plants and other animals using the ideas of a **simple food chain**, identifying and naming different sources of food.

Physical Education

Our P.E topics this half-term are **Outdoor Adventurous Activities** and **Gymnastics – Spinning, Turning and Twisting**. Children will develop their ability to identify **basic OS map symbols** and follow clear directions. They will also create and perform **sequences** of movements, evaluating their use of twists and spins.

Music

This half-term, we will be learning to **Invent a Musical Story**. Children will **listen** to a range of musical genres and explore the idea that music can help us to tell a story and express our feelings. They will begin to explore **loud and soft sounds using tuned and untuned percussion** and will **perform** a range of songs to a wider audience.

Art

Our Art topic this half-term is taught by Mrs Connell. Children will be learning to use **painting and mixed media** in our topic: **Life in colour**

This unit focuses on teaching **primary and secondary colours, colour mixing and creating textures using different tools**. Children will also learn **collage techniques**, providing opportunities for them to experiment with materials and **evaluate their artistic choices**. We aim to develop children's understanding of colour, texture and composition in art.

Geography

In our unit this half-term, the children will consider the question: **Why is our world wonderful?** We begin our topic by identifying **geographical characteristics** of the UK. The children will then begin to identify famous **landmarks** around the world and learn to **name and identify the oceans** of the world. Our children will complete **fieldwork** investigating local habitats and learning how to present their results in a bar chart.

PSHE

This half-term, PSHE is taught by Mrs Connell. The children will complete Module 3 of My Happy Mind: Appreciate, where the children learn the **importance of gratitude for themselves, others and experiences**. They will continue to use **Happy Breathing** to support their regulation of emotions. We shall also look at how to stay safe online, recognising **safe and unsafe situations** and begin to develop an understanding that **not everything presented online is true**.

Homework

- 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) Weekly spellings tested on **Friday**. Please return homework books each week so that new spellings can be stuck in.
- 5) Creative Homework is posted on Class Dojo and is due in on **Monday 9th February**

Other important information

- In Year 2, we communicate updates to parents via **Class Dojo**.
- P.E is taught on a **Tuesday** and a **Friday** – children should come into school in their P.E kits on these days.
- Please can you ensure that all your child's uniform is labelled, and they have a 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.