

Excellence Together, Learning through Faith.



ST.MARY'S C of E PRIMARY SCHOOL
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Dear Families of Year 2,

Welcome back. I hope you all had a lovely and restful Easter break and not eaten too much chocolate!

Our whole school theme for this half term is 'Into the Wild'. We will be learning about Animals and their Habitats in both Science and Geography, which will link with our class trip to Tring Museum next half term, where we will consolidate all of our learning. We will be going outside and spending time in Forest School and collecting natural materials to create pictures. We will also be learning about different habitats and then designing, creating and evaluating our own habitat in a cardboard box. In Literacy, we will be going way into the wild- (in fact, into space!) with the story 'Man on the Moon- a day in the life of Bob'. The children will be building up to planning, writing and publishing their own stories.

Many thanks to those who came to the meeting this week regarding the Key Stage 1 SATs. As you know, towards the end of this half term, the children will be tested on arithmetic, reasoning, reading comprehension and spelling, punctuation and grammar. We are keeping this very informal and certainly don't want the children to be anxious about it. We will be doing some informal practises nearer the time and recapping the main strategies for maths and spelling patterns which we have learnt this year.

PE

Our outdoor P.E lessons with Game On continue to be on **Tuesday** afternoons. Indoor P.E. will be on a Wednesday afternoon with Mrs Archbold. Please ensure that your child has a full kit with them every week. Lots of children are not bringing appropriate footwear for outdoor PE.

HOMEWORK

Reading

Children will continue to bring home 2 'choice books' every week, one of which is appropriate for their reading ability, and the other which they have chosen from our Reading corner. Children who read at home four times a week are rewarded with a certificate. Reading books are changed on a Friday but please ensure children have both books in school with them **every day**. Please continue to check your child's comprehension when you hear them read at home by asking them questions about what they have read. Also help them to develop reading skills by asking them to predict using clues which they have read, or allow them to experiment with their voice to add expression. Most importantly, have fun whilst sharing the books!

Spellings

This half term, we will be recapping lots of the spelling patterns which we have learnt so far in year 2. I will send home practise activities to support the learning and as you are aware, I have also sent home a copy of the year 2 'Common Exception Words'. Please keep these somewhere visible at home and practise them (not

all at once!) when you get a chance. Thank you so much for your continued support with this- I can see the improvement in lots of the children's spelling.

A REMINDER THAT YOU CAN COME AND SEE US ANY TIME...

If there is something worrying you about your child's education then I am keen to help. Please *do* come and see me if you have any questions or worries, or alternatively please write in your child's link book.

Many thanks
Mrs Zimet

An overview of learning for this half term in Year 2

Understanding English, Communication and languages <i>(Speaking & Listening, Reading, Writing, MfL)</i>	Mathematical Understanding	Religious Education
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - writing character descriptions, using adjectives, adverbs and paragraphs - understanding how to use various forms of punctuation and tenses. - responding to and discussing a story - writing in role as a character - planning, writing and publishing our own stories. <p>Grammatical skills, handwriting, phonics, spellings and reading will be taught daily within whole class sessions</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - counting forwards and backwards in equal steps, in particular 2s, 5s, 10s, 3s and 4s. - understanding and continuing sequences of numbers -2D and 3D shapes and their properties, including lines of symmetry. - using a number line to solve multiplication questions - using practical resources, then a number line, to solve division questions. - finding fractions of shapes, for example a half, quarter and third. - finding halves and quarters of a set of objects or a number - finding fractions of a number. 	<p>This half term the children will be learning about:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Puzzling and interesting questions we may not know the answer to - That Christians believe in God, who cannot be seen, but cares for all people. - To connect ideas about God with stories from the Bible. That images and symbols can help us to think about God.
Scientific and Technological Understanding <i>(Science, Design & Technology)</i>	Historical, Geographical and Social Understanding <i>(PSHE, History, Geography)</i>	Computing <i>(Taught by Mrs Archbold)</i>
<p>Animals and their Habitats</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Naming and describing a range of different animals, including their features - Understanding life processes, and identifying the difference between alive and dead - Identifying and comparing different habitats, and how animals are suited to particular habitats. - Gaining a basic understanding of food chains and dependency 	<p>Geography:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Identifying and comparing different habitats around the World. <p>PSHE: Relationships</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Exploring how our actions can affect other people, including looking at bullying - Identify and respect similarities and differences between people 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - ‘Starting Research’ - Understanding how to use the Internet safely and responsibly. - Exploring how to use the Internet to research a particular topic - Use software to mind map ideas, and store and organise information.
Understanding physical Development, health and wellbeing. <i>(Physical Education, Personal and Economic Wellbeing)</i>	Understanding the Arts <i>(Art and Design, Music, Drama, Dance)</i>	
<p>Games will take place every Tuesday afternoon. This half term the unit will focus on dribbling, hitting and kicking. We will explore working with a partner in invasion games, using equipment and understanding how to improve.</p> <p>Dance will be taught every Wednesday afternoon, focussing on Country Dancing. We will explore working with a partner to perform basic country dancing steps and sequences, and working on keeping in time to the music.</p>	<p><u>Art and Design</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - using Art materials to make our own animals and 3D habitats. <p><u>Music</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - To know that sounds can be used descriptively, including to describe an environment. - To learn about sounds make by different sources <p>To know how sounds can be changed and combined.</p>	