



# St Mary's C of E Primary School

## Termly Curriculum Information for Parents - Year 2

What your child will be learning about this spring term  
and how you can help at home

### Reading:

In Year 2, the children will develop their phonics decoding skills and knowledge, building on the work done in Year 1. Using the *Read, Write Inc.* scheme, the children will have daily, systematic phonics lessons, learning phonic strategies such as sounding out and blending to read unfamiliar words.

In Year 2, there will be an increased focus on your child's level of comprehension (understanding what they are reading). The children will be asked questions orally during and after texts they read. This term, the children will be reading the following texts: *The Princess and the White Bear King*, by Tanya Robyn Batt and *Man on the Moon*, by Simon Bartram.

### Writing:

Year 2 will continue to be encouraged to write for a purpose, e.g. stories, recounts, posters, poems, descriptions, reports and instructions. The children must be able to plan what they want to write on a planning template, and say what they want to write by 'pulling the sentence out of their mouths'. We will continue to focus on handwriting and punctuation, encouraging the children to check their own work to improve it.

The children will also learn about the structure and features of non-fiction writing: they will write reports based on their learning in history and instructions based on their science learning.

### Grammar:

The children will learn the difference between the past and present tense and apply this to their own writing. The children will also learn how to join clauses using a range of conjunctions, e.g. *and, or, but, because* etc.

**How you can help:** Visit your local library and borrow story books which are set in school, at home or another setting your child may know. Continue to share and enjoy a range of stories with your child, asking them key questions about characters and settings. Practise writing simple sentences, encouraging your child to use correct formation of letters and punctuation, e.g. finger spaces, capital letters and full stops. Take time out to enjoy reading to your child. **Please sign your initials in your child's Reading Record each week to show they are reading at home.**



### Maths

In maths, this term, Year 2 will be focusing on the following learning objectives:

#### Measurement: Money

Counting money (pounds and pence); comparing amounts of money; calculating with money; finding change; money problems.

#### Number: Multiplication and Division

Recalling and using multiplication and division facts for the 2, 5 and 10 multiplication tables, including recognising odd and even numbers; solving problems involving multiplication and division, using materials, arrays, repeated addition, mental methods, and multiplication and division facts.

#### Measurement: Length and Height

Measuring in centimetres; measuring in metres; comparing lengths and heights; ordering lengths and heights; and using the four operations with lengths and heights.

#### Measurement: Mass, Capacity and Temperature

Comparing mass; measuring in grams and kilograms; comparing volume and capacity; measuring in millilitres and litres; four operations with mass, volume and capacity; and temperature.

**How you can help:** By the end of Year 2, the children should know the **2, 5 and 10 times tables** ( $4 \times 2 = 8$ ,  $7 \times 10 = 70$  etc.) and related division facts ( $8 \div 2 = 4$ ,  $70 \div 10 = 7$  etc.) Please support your child with learning these facts: chant tables together; ask them quick fire questions. Encourage them to log on to *Times Tables Rockstars*: [play.trockstars.com](http://play.trockstars.com) every day. Visit [play.numbots.com](http://play.numbots.com) for a selection of games to help practise your child's number skills.

## Science

### Uses of everyday materials

Year 2 will be learning to identify and name a variety of materials e.g. paper, cardboard, tissue, wood, metal and plastic. The children will also be learning to match materials to their common uses e.g. wood for a door; brick for building a house. Working scientifically, Year 2 will be learning to explore the suitability of materials, e.g. *What is the best material for a spoon? Why are homes built of brick?* Year 2 will also be comparing materials, learning to understand how they can be changed by squashing, bending, twisting and stretching.

### Animals including humans

Year 2 will be learning about life cycles and the needs of living things, observing and recording the lifecycle of a chicken. The children will be learning to understand that animals have a life cycle and offspring that grow into adults (e.g. eggs - chicks - chickens; egg – tadpole – froglet - frog). Year 2 will be learning that animals have basic needs, e.g. frogs, sheep and butterflies, and they will be working scientifically to record and measure the food, water, warmth etc. of chicks.

Visit [bbc.co.uk/bitesize/primary](http://bbc.co.uk/bitesize/primary) and choose Y2—Science for a selection of science videos.

## Religious Education

**Judaism:** This term, Year 2 will be learning about some of the key festivals that are important to Jewish people: Rosh Hashanah, Sukkot, Hanukkah and Purim. The children will be exploring how each festival is celebrated and also its meaning.

**Noah:** Year 2 will be learning about the story of *Noah and the Ark*. They will learn how the meaning of this story can be used to guide them in their everyday lives.

**Easter:** The children will be learning the meaning behind many of the symbols used at Easter. They will become familiar with the story of Easter.

## Computing

This term, Year 2 will learn about **programming** and **robot algorithms**. The children will be learning to describe a series of instructions as a sequence; to explain what happens when we change the order of instructions; to use logical reasoning to predict the outcome of a program; to explain that programming projects can have code and artwork; to design an algorithm; and to create and debug a program that they have written.

**How you can help:** Have a conversation with your child about being safe online. For some informative and age appropriate videos to start conversations, visit the following website: [thinkuknow.co.uk/4\\_7](http://thinkuknow.co.uk/4_7)



## History

### Famous Women Through History

This term, Year 2 will be learning about the time, place, lives and achievements of a range of **famous and remarkable women through history**, and how they have influenced the world we live in today. The children will be learning to explain the changes that Florence Nightingale made to hospitals and they will be comparing the lives and work of Mary Seacole and Florence Nightingale. Year 2 will also be learning to understand that Emmeline Pankhurst helped to win women the right to vote as well as the huge contribution Marie Curie made to medicine.

## Geography

This term, Year 2 will be learning to understand **what a continent is** and to locate the 7 continents of the world. The children will be learning to use an atlas to locate the five **oceans**. The children will also be learning about the climate and landscape at the two poles and around the equator. Year 2 will also be learning to understand what the landscape is like in deserts, and they will be writing a report, comparing different environments in the world.

## PE

### Gymnastics

Year 2 will be developing body management through a range of floor exercises. They will use their core strength to link gymnastic elements, e.g. half twist, and attempt to use rhythm while performing a sequence.

### Dance

Year 2 will describe and explain how performers can transition from shapes and balance. They will challenge themselves to move imaginatively, respond to music and work as a group to perform a dance.

## Music

Year 2 will be learning about tempo, dynamics and timbre. They will be learning how to identify high, low, loud and soft sounds and how to create them. They will explore different ways to use the voice and instruments and how these can be used to create sounds of varying tempo. They will also learn about different instruments of the orchestra.

## Spanish

The children will be studying the following topics in this term's Spanish lessons, led by our specialist Spanish teacher: days of the week; months of the year; seasons; family; our bodies; face; the school; pencil case; and Easter celebrations.

## Art and design

### Sculpture (Under the Sea)

This term, Year 2 will be learning to explore clay: the children will be learning to model with clay, to apply clay techniques and to paint on clay sculptures.

### Printing (Roller and Ink Techniques)

This term, Year 2 will be learning techniques for printing – using rollers and ink. The children will be learning the following techniques: using their fingers to print; using a roller to print; blending two colours of ink; polyprinting with ballpoint markings; and using objects to print.

## Design Technology

The children will be exploring, designing, creating and evaluating **kites** in their unit of work about structures.

## Food Technology

Year 2 will be learning about the basic principles of a healthy and varied diet. The children will also use a range of cooking techniques to prepare **veggie fajitas**.

## PSHCE

In **Keeping Safe Studies**, Year 2 will be learning about self-care and first aid, being safe online and managing their emotions. The children will also learn the following: to explain how to keep safe around fire hazards; to identify the risks associated with fire; to explore gender stereotypes; to identify the qualities of a good friend; to understand and learn the PANTS rule and to understand that they have the right to say 'no' to unwanted touch. Year 2 will also learn to explore how life is different around the world; to recognise how it feels to be proud of someone else; to recognise and describe different feelings in themselves and others; to learn that feelings change and that not everyone experiences the same feeling in the same situation; and they will learn about 'big' feelings and how to manage them.

**How you can help:** Talk to your child about how to keep safe in different situations.

## How can I help at home?

Make it clear that you value homework – set aside a specific time and area for your child to work on their homework.

Encourage your child to **read a variety of texts**, not just books from school.

**Listen** to your child read and ask them **questions** about the text to help their understanding. Encourage your child to sound out words that they are unable to read by using their **phonics**. Remind them to look out for digraphs (a single sound made up of 2 letters) when sounding out e.g. **sh-e-ll**, instead of s-h-e-l-l.

Encourage your child to apply their **addition and subtraction** skills in **real-life scenarios** e.g. ask them to 'pay' for an item and then work out if there is any change.

Help your child practise their **2, 5 and 10 times tables**.

### Help your child to be organised:

- ◇ Have you got your **book bag**? It needs to be in school **every day**.
- ◇ Are **ALL** your reading books inside it?
- ◇ Have you completed your **homework**? Homework should be submitted by **Wednesday**.