



# St Mary & All Saints CE Primary School

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12<sup>th</sup> January 2024

Dear Parent,

Welcome back and Happy New Year to you all. It is good to see that all the children have returned to school full of enthusiasm, ready for a hard-working and exciting term ahead. This letter includes information about the curriculum areas that the children in Year 2 will be covering this term and information that you will require.

This term we will be covering two exciting topics in Year 2, 'The Great Fire of London' and 'Katie Morag and Friends'. During 'The Great Fire of London' we will focus on the timeline of events that took place and understand the importance of how the fire was recorded by Samuel Pepys in his diary. During the topic 'Katie Morag and Friends' we will focus on stories written by Katie Morag and use this topic in Geography to help us understand physical and human features and compare where Katie Morag lives to where we live.

Our timetable this term will have an English and Mathematics focus during the morning, with foundation subjects taking place during our afternoon lessons. In addition, throughout the year your child will take part in curriculum days that enhance their learning experience. We have an exciting Great fire of London Curriculum Day planned this term on **Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> January**. Please note- this will not be a dress up day. More details to follow shortly.

In **English** we will begin by focusing on writing a newspaper article, using 'The Great Fire of London' as inspiration. We will then be looking at poetry, focusing our senses. This will be followed by instructional texts.

In **Mathematics** we will be working through the National Curriculum objectives for Year 2, beginning with a focus on the properties of 2D and 3D shapes, drawing shapes and lines of symmetry. We will also be covering measurement with a focus on length, height. After the half term we will continue the topic of measurement focusing on mass, volume and temperature.

Other topics we will be studying are:

Science	Materials
History	The Great Fire of London
Geography	Katie Morag (Physical and Human features)
Computing	Presentations and Word Processing
DT	Cooking and Sewing
PE	Locomotion – dodging; Games for understanding; Gymnastics – linking and pathways
RE	Is it important to celebrate New Year? How should the Church celebrate Easter?
Music	'I Wanna Play In A Band' and 'Zootime'.
PSHE	Dreams and Goals & Healthy Me

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## **Homework**

This term, homework will be set and submitted on Seesaw. In Year 2 the children will receive the following homework:

**Tuesday** - Maths, to be handed in by Thursday.

**Thursday** - English, to be handed in by the following Monday.

Spellings will also be set on Seesaw and tested in class. These will be given to the children on a Friday with a test the following Friday. The words in the spelling tests link directly to what the children are learning in their ULS Phonics Lessons.

This year, we continue to focus on reading (especially reading for enjoyment) and are looking forward to finding out about what exciting books the children enjoy. It is important that you find ten minutes every day to read with your child and record that you have done so in your child's reading diary. Not only will this aid their learning considerably, it will also increase their enjoyment of reading. Books will be changed on a **Monday and Thursday**. The children will receive a decodable phonics book (until they have read all the phonics books) and a reading for pleasure book. The purpose of the reading for pleasure books is to expose the children to a wide variety of texts which can be enjoyed and read with an adult.

Our carefully selected suggested reads for Year 2 are as follows:

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| 1. The 13 Story Treehouse by Andy Griffiths          | 7. The Owl Who Was Afraid Of The Dark Jill Tomlinson |
| 2. Amazing Grace by Mary Hoffman                     | 8. Mr Majeika by Humphrey Carpenter                  |
| 3. Thing by Emily Brown                              | 9. The Giraffe, The Pelly and Me by Roald Dahl       |
| 4. Not Now Bernard by David McKee                    | 10. The Enchanted Wood by Enid Blyton                |
| 5. Pumpkin Soup by Helen Cooper                      | 11. The Worst Witch by Jill Murphy                   |
| 6. Who's Afraid Of The Big Bad Book? by Lauren Child | 12. The Hedgehog by Dick King Smith                  |

## **PE and Games**

The children will need a full, named PE kit (T-Shirt, shorts, socks, plimsolls/trainers). Both classes will have Games and PE on Thursday mornings. Children will be expected to bring in and leave their kits in school for the entire half term. As a reminder, they will be required to wear trainers for outdoor PE.

## **Personal Social and Emotional Development (PSED)**

This term as part of our PSHE curriculum, your child will be taught about goal setting and how to set and achieve realistic goals. They will also be talking about their dreams and ambitions, and how to overcome challenges. After the half term break, the focus will switch to being healthy. Pupils will learn about the importance of a healthy diet, keeping clean, regular exercise and keeping themselves safe.

Children will be introduced to, and be asked to reflect on, the following key values through our weekly assembly programme: Courage, Love, Creation, Resilience, Determination, Hope, Friendship and Curiosity. In addition, children will learn about the importance of Easter in the Christian calendar and some of the key Easter traditions.

As always, we will be encouraging the children to think about others and this term, they will be taking part in Red Nose Day to raise money for Comic Relief.

One of the highlights in our Spring Term calendar is our International Week. During this week children across the school have the opportunity to learn about different cultures, countries and traditions. They learn about the importance of respecting and valuing others and that they are part of a bigger world. We usually have a different focus each year for this week and this year our focus will be learning about a given country and its traditional foods.

Finally, across the school, pupils will continue to perform key roles to improve their leadership and / or teamwork skills and also to develop a sense of responsibility. These responsibilities increase as children progress through the different year groups. In Year 2 pupils take on the following whole school roles:

- School council – as voted for by their peers

Please keep an eye out on our Social Media pages, or in the half-termly newsletter for details of the above events and also information about additional opportunities that the children at SMAS experience as part of our PSED Curriculum and school vision.

If you ever wish to discuss anything about your child, please make an appointment through the office.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs S. McAulay, Ms S. Lee and Miss C. Lucas  
Y2 Class Teachers