



# *St Mary's CE Primary School*

## **"Nurturing Success"**



Information for Parents and Carers

Year 2

Autumn 2025



Our theme is  
'Save the Planet'

We will start Year 2 on a mission to help 'Save the Planet'. Our mission will begin with a look at ourselves and the world around us in our topic 'Healthy Me'. We'll compare ourselves with other humans and animals, and look at the world around us, including the environment and how we can help to recycle. Your child will be transformed into a superhero and will create their own superhero puppets. The excitement will continue as the children use their imaginations to create their own superhero stories. Great fun will be had deciding what healthy food a superhero will need to stay fit and strong.

Zooming throughout the term, our superheroes will also travel back in time to learn about the Great Fire of London and Samuel Pepys; could our superheroes have done it differently?

Planning is based on the requirements of the National Curriculum and the locally agreed syllabus for Religious Education. Children in Year 2 receive maths arithmetic homework. Please can arithmetic homework books be returned to school by Monday when children will complete the test in school. Children are also able to practise their times tables on Times Tables Rockstars. Your child will receive a list of words on a Friday to learn for a spelling test on the following Friday. The children will not have spelling homework books this year and will not be expected to hand their spelling homework in. We expect children to use the grid on their spelling homework sheet to learn their spellings using the 'look, say, cover, write, check' strategy and to use other strategies for learning these spellings and their meanings on the back of the sheet. The same words to learn will also be set on Spelling Shed so that children can use these resources to help them to practise their spellings. Logins for these can be found in the home-school diary. Further guidance for spelling homework and the expectations can be found on the school website. Supporting your child with their spellings, maths and reading really does make a difference so thank you!



### **English**

Year 2 pupils begin the term by studying stories with familiar settings such as Michael Recycle and Litterbug Doug. The children will look at writing the beginnings for stories and then writing their own endings to complete a story. The children will also look at information books on The Great Fire of London and then learn how to create their own pieces of information writing.

The children will also learn how to read, write and follow simple sets of instructions. These instructions will be linked to other areas of the curriculum such as DT and science.

The children look at different poems and they will hear, read, respond to and write poems with particular patterns. They will focus on the playful exploration of language and its potential use.

The children will practise their handwriting focusing on correct orientation of letters, forming capital letters and digits of the correct size as well as using spacing between words. They will continue to learn to read, spell and use common exception words as well as learning punctuation and grammar rules.

Children will be developing their reading comprehension skills through weekly reading activities and there will be daily opportunities for reading for pleasure. We will also continue to use Spelling Shed which offers engaging ways to help children practise their weekly spellings.



## Mathematics

Children will start by gaining an understanding of place value before moving on to counting on and back from any two-digit number in steps of 1, 2, 5 and 10. They will learn to identify patterns in the count, including those involving odd and even numbers. Children will learn addition and subtraction facts and that addition can be done in any order. They will learn to sort objects according to a given criteria and learn the properties of shapes. This term the children will also develop their measuring, weighing and data handling skills. Children will build on these concepts through developing their reasoning skills. There will also be a weekly arithmetic test to develop speed and fluency and a copy of this test will be sent home each week for homework. It is important that children in Year 2 learn their 2, 5 and 10 times tables and they will be tested on these weekly. Children have free access to Timestables Rockstars at home on a computer or tablet and can play a fun game to help them with this.



## Science

Our science topic this term is Use of Everyday Materials. Children will recall that objects are made of one or more materials and will learn that materials are chosen specifically because they have suitable properties for the task. Children will identify common uses for different materials and understand why they are suitable for these purposes. Children will find out through practical investigations that objects made of some materials can be changed in shape by bending, stretching, squashing and twisting. They will learn about people who have developed useful new materials, including John Dunlop and Charles Macintosh. The children will be involved in a range of scientific enquiries.



## Computing

This year children will complete the computing units during the Spring and Summer term. Children will take part in the unit 'We are astronauts' where they will use programs Scratch and Pyonkee to program a spaceship to follow instructions. They will learn what algorithms are and how they are implemented as programs on digital devices. The children will create their own programs and learn how to debug them. The children will also take part in the unit 'We are games testers' where they will explore how simple online game work. E-safety runs as a theme throughout the units and children will have guidance on how to use technology safely and respectfully and how to keep personal information private. They will also discuss what to do if they see something that they are unsure of online.



## Religious Education

In RE we will be reading stories from the Bible and making links with the concept of 'Gospel' or good news. We will be looking at simple accounts of what Bible texts mean to Christians (such as the story of Matthew the tax collector). As well as this we will consider how Jesus gave instructions to people about how to behave. We will look at examples of ways in which Christians follow the teachings studied about forgiveness and peace, and bringing good news to the friendless. We will also explore how Christians put these beliefs into practice in the church community and their lives.



## **Design and Technology**

We will be designing and making a superhero puppet linked to our 'Save the Planet' theme. The children experience basic sewing techniques and joining techniques. The children evaluate their puppets against their design criteria and will use the puppets in a puppet show to educate younger children about the need for recycling.



## **History**

We look into the historic event of 'The Great Fire Of London'. The children learn when and where it happened, the causes and events that took place and the consequences of the fire. The children will find out how we know that it actually occurred by learning about eyewitness accounts and evidence.



## **Geography**

The children will begin by looking at simple compass points, how they feature on maps and are used to describe position and direction. They will then have the opportunity to complete a variety of mapping activities including using grid references.



## **Art and Design**

During the Autumn Term the children will have the opportunity to develop their printing skills linking their work to the flames from The Great Fire of London.



## **Music**

This year we are working with a programme called 'Charanga' – beginning with a unit called 'Hands, Feet, Heart' which focuses on rhythm. Approaching Christmas, we learn songs and accompany with musical instruments to fit with the Christmas theme.



## **Physical Education**

The children will be focusing on ball skills and fundamentals this term. In ball skills children will develop skills such as throwing, catching, rolling, hitting a target, dribbling with both hands and feet and kicking. They will look to perform these skills with increasing control and accuracy using co-ordination and balance. Children will have the opportunity to work independently, in pairs and small groups. In fundamentals, children will develop the skills of balancing, running, changing direction, jumping, hopping and skipping. They will be given opportunities to work with a range of different equipment. They will also be asked to observe and recognise improvements for their own and others' skills and identify areas of strength. Children will be given the opportunity to work collaboratively with others, take turns and share ideas. PE will be on Friday afternoon and children should come to school in their PE kit on this day.



## **Personal, Social, Health and Citizenship Education**

Our core theme this term is Health and Wellbeing. We will be focusing on three topic areas: Healthy lifestyles; Growing and changing; Keeping safe. We will cover these topics through discussion, written work and practical sessions which will be recorded in our class scrap books.

***Thank you for taking time to read this information.***