



Archdiocese of Birmingham

ST. MARY'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

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St. Mary's mission: To love God above all things by: learning together, loving ourselves, loving each other, loving all people, loving life itself and constantly striving for excellence worthy of our God-given gifts.

Year 2 newsletter - Spring 1

Dear Year 2 Parents,

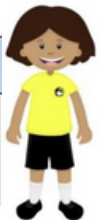
Welcome to the Spring Term! We are excited to embark on another term of learning and growth with your children. This term, we will explore various exciting topics designed to inspire curiosity and build on their skills. In English, we'll focus on storytelling and developing writing skills, while in Maths, we'll delve deeper into shape, multiplication and division. Our Geography lessons will introduce children to the wonders of India, where they will learn about India's people, weather and culture.

We will be welcoming parents near the end of the half-term to join us in an Indian-inspired workshop. Alongside this, Art, PE, and PSHE will enrich their creativity, physical development, and emotional well-being. We look forward to partnering with you in supporting your child's progress and making this term a rewarding one for all!

From, the Year 2 staff

PE

PE days - Spring 1	
Year 2	Monday - Dance Friday - Gymnastics



On PE days - the children come in wearing their PE uniform.

This is the gold t-shirt, royal blue shorts, dark navy or black tracksuit bottoms and plain trainers. Please ensure that any jewellery is taken off for PE days for your child's (and others) safety. All long hair must be tied back in a ponytail.



*Merry Christmas
&
Happy New Year*



Our RE learning for Spring 1 is: -

We will be studying the following units in our RE lessons: -

Christmas

This unit is designed to help the children reflect upon the journeys associated with the Christmas story and what these journeys eventually tell us about Jesus' birth and the way people respond to his birth.

Parables and Miracles

This unit is designed to develop the children's understanding of Jesus' parables and miracles. Through these they will develop a greater understanding of who Jesus is and what his ministry was.

Curriculum Map - Spring 1

These are the topics that your child will be studying in Spring 1 -

Year 2	
<p>Stunning Start Children plan their home-link exercise of how to work hard within the home environment to be the best they can be for others. Parents record this to show their acts of service.</p> <p>Science – NPP UNCR 24/27 Animals including humans – Find out about and describe the basic needs of animals, including humans, or survival. Describe the importance for humans of exercise, eating the right amounts of different types of food, and hygiene.</p> <p>English</p> <p>Terrific Text "The Robot and the Bluebird" by David Lucas</p> <p>Writing Opportunities Character description of the Robot and the Bluebird A retell of the Robot and the Bluebird A non-chronological report on robots and the jobs that they can do.</p> <p>Oracy UNCR Article 12 Agree, Build, Challenge, Question</p>	<p>Maths Shape - Properties of 2D and 3D shape, sorting shapes, symmetry Money – Counting money in pence, pounds (notes and coins. Making and comparing amounts. Multiplication and Division – Recognise and make equal groups. Add equal groups. Introduce multiplication and division symbol. To look at 2s, 5s and 10 times table.</p> <p>Music – UNCR Article 31 Traditional Instruments and Improvisation Express feelings about music and identify preferences. Read and play musical notation for a rag. Improvise with a drone and tal. Play a rag and tal accurately with a drone. Sing from musical notation and lyrics. Sing and play in time with others, showing awareness of different parts.</p> <p>Other Reading Opportunities Non-fiction – non-chronological reports Indian menus Refugee / welcome</p> <p>Spoken Language opportunities The dignity of the worker – children debate the value of robots doing the work compared to humans</p>
<p>DT - UNCR Article 24 Healthy Wrap with Indian Spices Children will learn food groups and associate foods with each, describe taste, texture, and smell of specific foods. Generate four wrap ideas with diverse flavor combinations. Create a wrap meeting the design specifications. - can we make a wrap on a budget? - can we make healthy choices?</p> <p>PSHE: UNCR 5, 18 My Happy Mind – Meet your Brain What my brain looks like. That it is fully grown by the age of 6. Our brain helps us to make good decisions and remember what we have learnt. Amygdala causes fight, flight or freeze.</p> <p>RSE: Module 2: - Created to Live in Community Unit 1: Religious Understanding Session 1: Three in One Session 2: Who is my Neighbour?</p> <p>Dignity of Work Work increases the common good. Virtues: Grateful & Generous Scripture Focus: "Practise integrity in your work" Luke 3:10-14 Prayer Focus: Act of Hope Mass Responses Big Question – How do we work together to make things better?</p>	<p>Art – UNCR Article 29 Indian Mehndi (warm and cool colours) Study patterns inspired by Mendi art from India. Explore warm and cool colors while using dots and lines to create intricate designs.</p> <p>MFL – UNCR 27 Counting to 20 & Date and Time Children will learn how to count to 20 in French. Children will learn dates and times in French. School of Sanctuary work – labelling school with different languages</p> <p>Geography/History – India UNCR Article In this geography unit, children will explore: Substantive Knowledge: Understanding cultural and geographical diversity, focusing on India and the United Kingdom. Identifying continents and countries, with a specific focus on the UK and India. Disciplinary Knowledge: Applying locational knowledge to recognize places on a map. Comparing human and physical geography in the UK and India. Reading maps, using compass directions, and understanding geographical vocabulary. Procedural Knowledge and Skills: Interpreting aerial maps. Engaging in fieldwork to study local geography. Communicating observations about different cultures and geographical areas.</p> <p>Computing - UNCR 17 Programming - algorithms and debugging - To understand what machine learning is and how it enables computers to make predictions. - To know that loops in programming are where you set a certain instruction (or instructions) to be repeated multiple times. To know that abstraction is the removing of unnecessary detail to help solve a problem.</p> <p>Other Opportunities Epiphany UNCR 14 School of Sanctuary – labels for school UNCR 22 Jubilee launch day UNCR 14 Online Safety Week - UNCR 17 Candlemas UNCR 14</p> <p>P.E. UNCR 31 Dance Cultural dance 'Bollywood' learning more about dance performed and celebrated in India Gymnastics To apply 'champion gymnastics to explore different movement that pupils can link together.</p> <p>Marvelous Middle Working together to create a celebration for our families - Indian cookery day Inspire workshop for parents – Parents complete thank you cards. Celebrate key learning with cooking and show dance.</p>

Homework - spelling

Week 1- 10.01.25

1. Christmas
2. Parents
3. Mrs
4. Mr
5. Money
6. Half
7. Again
8. Water
9. People
10. Busy

Week 2- 17.01.25

1. To
2. Too
3. Two
4. Clothes
5. Many
6. Any
7. Whole
8. Who
9. Would
10. Should



Week 3- 24.01.25

1. Park
2. Hard
3. Door
4. Have
5. Hear
6. Deer
7. Watch
8. Queen
9. Lamb
10. knee

Week 4- 31.01.25

1. rescue
2. enjoy
3. mountain
4. loudest
5. elephant
6. alphabet
7. crew
8. author
9. haunted
10. toe



Week 5- 07.02.25

1. fudge
2. nudge
3. lodge
4. danger
5. magic
6. ginger
7. gentle
8. gent
9. badger
10. bridge

Week 6- 14.02.25

1. large
2. fridge
3. giraffe
4. jar
5. village
6. cell
7. gem
8. cycle
9. Cinderella
10. icy

Homework - reading



Read with your child/ren at home every day.
Ask questions about the book to see how well your child has understood what they have read. Sign the reading diary so that the teachers know how reading is going at home.

Homework - maths

Research shows that quick recall of multiplication and division facts is essential for helping children do well in their maths learning. Encourage your child to be on x-table rockstars every night and support them to improve their x-table knowledge and quick arithmetic skills.

Homework - Power Project - Science

Animals including humans - Our power projects this half term have a Science theme. This is an optional home learning activity that you can do at home.

Year 2 are learning about animals, including humans

We will be learning that animals need food, and that food can be put in to different groups, what eating healthy means, and exercise keeps us healthy.

We have given some activity ideas below...

1. **Food diary:** Keep a diary of the different foods that you eat over a week. Why does your body need these different types of food? Can you design a healthy meal?

2. **Cooking:** Using your understanding of food groups and what foods are healthy. Cook a healthy meal with your family. Take a picture and evaluate the meal tasted. What did your family think of your meal?



3. **Healthy body and exercise:** Do some form of exercise every day. What ways can you make your heart beat faster, without running?

Draw a person outline. Around the edge write all the types of physical exercise that you do. i.e. bike ride, football, karate, dance, walking. On the inside, write how doing the exercise makes you feel.



4. **Poster** - Design a poster giving people information on ways that they can keep fit and healthy. You might want to include information on:

- why we need to keep fit,
- what happens to our bodies when we exercise,
- different activities that we can do.

5. **Desert island** - Design your own desert island - be arty.

Now think about what you would need to survive vs what you would want. Send a letter in a bottle home. Explain what you need to survive the desert island in one paragraph. In the next paragraph, explain what you would want, but do not necessarily need.

Dates for this half term - Year 2

Spring theme -

Spring 1 Virtues

6th January - all day

24th January 2025 - all day

28th January 2025 - am

29th January 2025 - 9:15am

6th February 2025 - 4:00pm

WB 10.2.25

11th February 2025 - all day

14th February 2025 - end of day

Dignity of Work

Grateful and Generous

Children return to school at normal time

Jubilee Launch Day

Year 2 visit to Harborne library (8:45 2E and 10:15 2G)

Year 2 Mass in Church (and Year 1 classes attend) - parents welcome

PTA meeting

Online Safety Week

Safer Internet Day

Break up for half-term break - normal time