

# YEAR 5 SPRING 2

## CURRICULUM NEWSLETTER 2019

[www.stmaryshorsforth.org](http://www.stmaryshorsforth.org)

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"Happy together in God's family,  
we love, grow and learn."

Dear Parents/Carers

It's hard to believe, but I have already been at St Mary's for half a term. The time has passed so quickly. There have been many high-points, such as the quality of the homework projects, the stories written during our autobiography topic, getting the chess club off the ground or the first football game between Holy Name and St Mary's. All of which I hope to continue to develop in the remainder of the spring term and beyond.

If the school diary was full in January and February, it looks like being even more so over the next couple of months, with school assemblies, World Book day, science week and the school residential all taking place. I am looking forward to seeing how children are inspired and motivated by these events, as well as the exciting curriculum areas we are going to cover.

It has been a real pleasure to meet many of you during my first half-term. I have been encouraged by your positive comments. However, if you have any concerns at all please let me know.

Kindest Regards  
Mr Socha

### Homework

#### Reading:

Year 5 children are expected to read for 20 minutes per night. Children can change their reading book as often as they would like, but at least once a week please.

#### Spellings/handwriting

This half term, we will continue to spend time in class revising spelling rules and looking at multi-sensory ways of learning and remembering spellings. The children will be tested regularly in class and will be given a list of spellings each week to learn. This will also be linked to our cursive handwriting which will be practised every day.

#### Homework Projects

Having surveyed parents, it is clear the majority would prefer a homework grid from which children could choose an activity. However, the quality of the homework projects was so good previously, that I would like children to have the option to complete one of these if they so wish. As such, this half-term children will be given a choice of which type of homework activity they wish to complete – shorter and more regular; or longer, as in the homework projects, which will last the half-term.

### Important Days

#### Monday:

Spellings for the week

#### Thursday

PE kit required

Musical instruments for those who  
have lessons

#### Friday:

Spelling test to take place

### Important Dates

Wed 6 Mar -	Ash Wednesday mass (9.30 am)
Thur 7 Mar	World Book Day
Mon 11 Mar	Science week begins
Wed 13 Mar	Class Photographs
Fri 15 Mar	Non Uniform £1
Mon 18 Mar	Year 5 residential
Wed 20 Mar	Year 5 return from residential
Thur 21 Mar	Y5/6 Parents evening – reading Rewind for Easter
Fri 22 Mar	Parent Forum
Mon 25 Mar	Year 5 girls' football at St Mary's (3.40 – 4.30 pm)
Fri 29 Mar	Mothers' Day assembly (9.15am) Good Shepherd Fundraiser 3pm
Tue 2 Apr	Parents' Evening 1 (5pm – 7.30 pm)
Thur 4 Apr	Y5 Class assembly (9.15 am)
Thur 4 Apr	Parents' Evening 2 (4pm – 6.30 pm)
Fri 5 Apr	Mass @ 9.30 Finish for Easter

## English

Our English this half term will include a mixture of discrete teaching of spelling, punctuation and grammar and plenty of opportunities for the children to apply these skills to both fiction and non-fiction writing.

We will continue to use the Philip Webb strategy. Our written focus will be on the work of M.R. James, children will explore and examine some of his work to create suspense and excitement within their own stories

## RE

Our focus for RE this half term is 'Reconciliation'. We will reflect on what strengthens our friendship with God and what damages it; know that when we sin we hurt ourselves and others and our relationship with God; know that God heals our friendship with him through the Sacrament of Reconciliation; perform the Stations of the Cross

## Mathematics

In maths, Year 5 will be beginning our weekly maths workshops where children choose the arithmetical concept they wish to learn and/or practise. In addition, their work will include:

- Continuing to carry out the four operations on fractional amounts
- Reading, writing and ordering decimals
- Solve real life problems involving percentages
- Using all four operations to solve problems involving measures.

# The Year 5 Curriculum

## Half-Term 4



## PE

Year 5 will have an afternoon of PE every Thursday, taught by Mrs Pounder. This half-term children will continue with their basketball skills before moving onto rugby.

## Computing

Our focus for this half term will involve learning how to code. Children will understand there are different types of variable and how these can be used within routines to create action and even simple games.

## Science

In science, Year 5 will be continuing to look at the properties of materials, exploring what makes thermal conductors and insulators, as well as examining what are reversible and irreversible changes. During science week, children will carry out an experiment on objects which fly.

## History

In history, children will continue to examine what life was like in Victorian Britain. They will see how the role of children changed, as well as how the growing industrialisation meant Britain became a powerful global power, but there was downside to this as well.

## Music

This half term all the learning is focused around the song: The Fresh Prince of Bel Air. Children will explore how pulse, rhythm and music are all interlinked within rap. Through singing and playing, children will understand the fundamentals of this style of music, culminating in the creation of their own exciting musical compositions.

## ART/DT

After learning about how mechanisms work, including the meaning of cams and fulcrums, children will put this knowledge to use by designing then constructing their own moving toy.