

## Homework

As of this half term, homework will now be uploaded to Google Classroom weekly. Every Friday, you will receive a brief overview of learning across the week, as well as **10 spelling words, the times table we have been focusing on** and some **reading comprehension support**.

Children will be tested on their spelling words every **Monday**, with the first spelling test set to take place on **Monday 12th January**.

This half term, children will also receive a homework book; this is solely for the purposes of recording at home and does not need to be returned to school.

To support a smooth transition, we have reprinted your child's login details for TTRS and these can be found on the inside of the front cover of their new homework books.

As always, if you have any questions, please do not hesitate to ask.



## Art

Our Art discipline this half term will be:  
**Drawing**

Our focus artist will be:  
**Claude Monet**

By the end of the unit, we will conduct an observational drawing of a flower. Throughout the unit, we will explore a range of drawing techniques to add depth into our drawing, such as creating different tones and lines.



## Computing

Our focus in Computing this term is:  
**Programming - Creating Music**



We will use the computer to experiment with sound and discuss how different sounds make us feel. We will then use the computers to create different musical patterns.



## St John and St James C of E Primary School Class Newsletter

Dear Parents & Carers in Year 2,  
Happy New Year and welcome back to SJSJ!  
We hope you had a wonderful Christmas holiday and that your children are ready for some more learning in 2025!

### Adults working in Year 2

**Miss Gedney**  
**Mrs Eames**  
**Mrs Kennedy (student teacher)**

## Humanities

Our new topic this half term is:  
**Florence Nightingale and Mary Seacole**



Our key question is:  
**How did Florence Nightingale and Mary Seacole Change Healthcare?**

We will begin our history unit by creating a timeline of the Victorian Era and understanding key historical events that took place during the Victorian Era. We will then use a range of primary and secondary sources to discover the key roles Mary Seacole and Florence Nightingale played during The Victorian Era. We will use sources to make hypotheses about what they did and discuss the reliability of the sources we analyse.

## Dates for the Diary

**Friday 30th January**  
**Year 2 Class Assembly**

**Friday 6th February**  
**Oracy Day**

## Writing

This half term, our focus text will be:  
**The Extraordinary Life of Mary Seacole**

We will have three key grammar focuses this half term:

- Subordinating conjunctions
- Figurative language
- Progressive tense forms



We will begin Spring 1 by writing a diary entry from the perspective of young Mary Seacole. We will then write our first pieces of poetry in Year 2, which will be a Haiku and Diamante poem describing Mary Seacole. Our final piece of writing for the term will be a biography, describing key events that took place in Mary Seacole's life during the Crimean War.

## Maths

This term we will focus on:  
**Multiplication and Division**

- Use repeated addition to understand multiplication
- Use the 2, 5 and 10 times table to solve maths problems
- Understand and use doubling

We will continue to focus on the **2 and 10 timetables** this term. Please use **Timetables Rockstars** to support the children further at home. You can find their logins on the login sheet that was handed out at the start of the year.

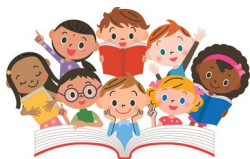


## Reading Diaries

Every child will be given a new reading diary, which will be checked **daily**.

We will change home reading books on **Tuesdays** and **Fridays**, so please bring them back in order to get a different one. Please make sure you child is reading for 20 minutes each day. Please also encourage them to read aloud to someone when possible.

If your child is on **AR**, please encourage them to bring their AR books in when they have finished the whole book. They will then be able to take an AR comprehension test based on the book, and select a new book.



## RE

The religion we will focus on this half term is:  
**Judaism**

This half term we will be focusing on our key question:  
**Why are they having a party?**

We will explore key festivals celebrated in the Jewish community and why they are significant. The festivals include Rosh Hashanah, Yom Kippur, Sukkot and Hanukkah.



## PSHE

Our PSHE focus this half term is:  
**Dreams and Goals**

We will begin the term by thinking about a realistic goal we want to set ourselves and how we can achieve it. We will then look at the importance of working together and how to work successfully together to problem-solve.



## Science

Our topic this term is:  
**Animals Including Humans**

Our key question is:  
**How do Animals Including Humans Grow?**

Our key scientist is:  
**Maria Sibylla Merian**

In this unit we discuss what animals including humans need in order to grow and thrive. We will also look at what a healthy, balanced diet is and the impact exercise has on the body both physically and mentally.



## PE

We will have PE every **Friday**.  
This half term, our focus will be:  
**Gymnastics**

We will learn how to complete a pencil and egg roll, straight and star jumps, leap and compose a routine based on what we've learnt.



## Oracy

We will continue to work on our ability to express ourselves verbally through our next Oracy Day. This will take place on **Friday 6th February** and once again, we will welcome our parents and carers into class to

participate in our class. We will use the feedback provided by parents and carers to improve our speaking and listening skills, as well as showcase our history learning from this half term.