



THE GREAT FIRE OF LONDON

Autumn 1 2024

Topic

Our Year 2 focus this half term will be a history-based topic focussing on the Great Fire of London in 1666. Children will study the events that led up to the fire, the impact of the fire itself and the aftermath. In addition to this, they will be studying the differences between life then compared to now.

Children will create their own paintings depicting the great fire. They will explore hot and cold colours and children will further their understanding of colour mixing, as well as investigating shades, tones and tints.

Children will design and create their very own Tudor houses. Please could we ask that your child brings in two boxes, one large and one a little smaller (shoe box size) for their Tudor House. Many thanks.

Reading

Reading is the most important skill a child can master. We dedicate a minimum of 20 minutes a day to reading in school alongside guided / comprehension reading sessions.

Children will complete an 'Accelerated Star Reader' test each half term; this gives children a reading range from which they can choose their reading books. When children finish a book, they complete a comprehension quiz about the book in school.

Please encourage your child to read for pleasure and to read a book of their choosing each night. **If your child brings home a phonics book, we ask that they do read these levelled books at home too.** Please write in your child's reading log so they can receive certificates and prizes.

Reading to an adult as well as sharing and listening to books is a fantastic way of exposing children to a great range of vocabulary and this undoubtedly helps to further their writing skills.

Computing

This term, we will be studying Coding using Purple Mash 2Code. Children will learn what an algorithm is and create a computer program using an algorithm. Children will investigate what 'debugging' means and will explore how to debug simple programs.



reading plus

Home Learning

CENTURY

purple mash

In year, children will be provided with weekly homework and spellings to learn. These will **go out on a Friday** and must be **returned on the following Wednesday**. We ask that you support your children where possible and ask for support should you require it.

As a school, we provide the children with access to a range of exciting on-line learning environments. These include: Purple Mash and Times Tables Rock Stars. These can be found on the Learning Zone on the school website.

Maths

In maths, our main focus is on place value and ensuring the children have a thorough understanding of number. Children will count and order numbers to 100 and will partition numbers into tens and ones.

Alongside this, children will continue to develop their knowledge of 2D and 3D shapes. Children will recognise and name shapes and give information about their properties. Children will use this understanding of shape properties to sort shapes. Children will also explore lines of symmetry and will make shape patterns

Children will continue to count in steps of 2, 5 and 10, using this knowledge to develop their recall of times tables. Any support with this at home is greatly appreciated as fluency of these facts is so important.

English

We will be focussing on grammatical elements of the English curriculum for the first half of this term whilst introducing the children to the events that unfolded during those fateful nights in September 1666. Children will use their knowledge of the great fire to plan and write an explanation text, as well as a narrative (story) piece of writing.

Children will listen to and explore class texts such as 'Vlad and The Great Fire' and 'Katie in London' to support both their English and Topic learning.

Science

In Science, our focus this term is materials. During this unit of work, children will learn about everyday materials such as wood, plastic, metal, glass, rubber, rock, fabric, paper and brick. Children will identify the properties of these materials and will conduct investigations to explore how different materials are better suited for different objects. Children will also explore how some of these materials can be changed by squashing, bending, twisting and stretching them.

P.E.

Please can children come to school in their PE kits on **Tuesdays** and **Wednesdays**. Children will work with a Gymnastics teacher this half-term and will also explore and practise dodging skills in their shorter PE sessions.