



THE GREAT FIRE OF LONDON

Autumn 1 2025

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

*"The more you read, the more things you will know.
The more that you learn, the more places you'll go" -
Dr Seuss*

Reading is the most important skill a child can master. Whilst we dedicate time in school to reading, please, please can we ask that you support us with this at home by sharing books with your child, listening to your child read and reading to your child. Asking your child questions about the text they have read / listened to will support their comprehension skills.

Children will complete an 'Accelerated Star Reader' test each half term: this gives children a reading range from which they can choose their home reading books. In Year 2 children are responsible for changing their home reading books. We will remind and support them to do so during this half-term; please can you also remind them to do so when they have reached the end of their book. Children who are consolidating their phonics learning will bring home a phonics reading book.

Please write in your child's reading diary so they can receive certificates and prizes for their home reading.

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.

Home Learning



Each year, children will be provided with weekly homework and spelling lists 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 which can be found within the 'Learning Zone' on the school website. **Please can you also make sure that reading books and reading diaries are in school on Wednesdays so these can be checked.**

Maths

In maths, we will focus on place value, 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 help support their recall of times table facts over the year. This half-term we will focus primarily on the 2 times table. Any support with this at home is greatly appreciated as fluent recall of these facts is so important. TT Rock Stars is a great way of consolidating this information.

English

We will focus on grammatical elements of the English curriculum for the first few weeks 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 a non-chronological report. Children will also create a recount (diary entry) titled 'Escape from the fire'.

Children will support their English and Topic learning through a variety of books. They will listen to and explore texts such as 'The Story of the Great fire of London' (Jill Atkins) and 'Vlad and the Great Fire of London' (Kate Cunningham).

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 and why 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 **Wednesdays and Thursdays**. In PE, children will use their imagination to create games when playing on their own and with a partner. In their shorter PE session, children will explore dodging: learning how to dodge effectively and apply dodging techniques within games.