

# Year 2 Autumn Term 1 Curriculum Newsletter

We're excited to welcome the children back for the new school year and can't wait to get stuck into our learning! Miss Webb, Miss Kindness and Miss McNeela have been preparing lots of exciting activities for our topic this term: **The Great Fire of London** where we will be continuing our learning about this historic event and then recreating a smaller, model version, later on in the term!



## MATHS

We will be maintaining our fluency skills and quick recall of key maths facts by practising our number bonds to 20 and knowing all of our addition and subtraction facts to 20 as well. We will be practising our rolling numbers daily with a focus on the 2s, 5s and 10s.

The topics we will cover this term are:

- Place value (finding how many tens and ones in a two-digit number)
- Addition – developing a range of methods and strategies to be able to add two two-digit numbers. We will move onto renaming later on this term.
- Capacity – comparing the capacity of different containers and experimenting with these practically in the classroom.

## The Great Fire of London

What do you know about The Great Fire of London? Let's find out all about the history of London in Tudor times. How have houses, transport and jobs changed over time? We will be developing our historical knowledge by travelling through time to explore the events that led up to and occurred during The Great Fire of London in 1666. Let's find out what really happened...



## WRITING

As **Writers** we will be learning how to write setting descriptions focusing on images from The Great Fire of London. We will also be writing diary entries linked to the stories 'Toby and the Great Fire of London' and 'Vlad and the Great Fire.' During these, we will be focusing on our use of descriptive language and the use of accurate punctuation. Towards the end of this half term, we will begin to write non-chronological reports about The Great Fire of London with a focus on presenting our research in a clear and well-structured way.

**Grammar** – We are focusing on using grouped adjectives and a comma, writing exclamation sentences starting with 'What' or 'How' and spelling the Year 1 and 2 Common Exception Words with accuracy.

**Spelling/Phonics** – Year 2 will be continuing with the phonics programme in school in preparation for their Phonics Screening Check during the second half of the Autumn Term – dates to follow soon.



## READING

We will continue to build on reading skills with a focus on applying our phonics knowledge to read and decode text. We will begin to develop strategies to answer retrieval questions using the text as evidence. We will begin by focusing on fiction texts and then will be moving onto non-fiction texts later in the term.



## PE

This term in PE, we will be improving our co-ordination, control and movement. We will be learning these through our topics of Health and Fitness, Multi-skills and Gymnastics. We will also be participating in fun virtual sport festivals on offer in Milton Keynes. Our PE days are **Mondays** and **Wednesdays**. Remember to come to school in your active uniform on these days!

## ART & DESIGN TECHNOLOGY

As Artists, we will be exploring watercolours and how we can create different tones. We will then be applying this skill to create an image of The Great Fire of London. We will also be working on developing our scissor skills to draw and cut out silhouettes of the London skyline to put in the foreground of our picture.

As Designers, towards the end of this half term, we will be creating our own Tudor style houses and we will be using these to make a recreation of the Great Fire of London outside on the MUGA!

## COMPUTING

As Computer Technicians we will be developing our understanding of how to stay safe online. We will also be developing our digital literacy through looking at our self-image online. The children will begin to look at how algorithms are created in preparation for looking at coding later in the year.

# Aspire, Believe, Achieve... Together

## HOME LEARNING

**Reading** – It is an expectation that Year 2 are reading at least 3 times a week and for this to be recorded in your child's reading record.

**Phonics** – All children will be receiving a home learning workbook via Parentmail which will have ideas and suggestions of activities and games to play with your children to boost their spelling skills.

**Maths** – Children to access Numbots <https://play.numbots.com/#/intro> Log in details are written inside the reading record. This should be played little and often each day. Your children will also have a Maths Passport to complete to help improve their fluency skills.

## RE & PSHE

As Citizens of the Future we will learn about how to achieve and maintain a growth mindset. We will also be learning how to show our gratitude to others and be able to explain our own emotions clearly through our daily wellbeing check. We will also begin to explore the Jewish faith through our RE topic where we will be exploring the key artefacts of the religion and their significance.

## SCIENCE

As Scientists we are focusing on our topic of **Everyday Materials** which is an exciting and hands on project! We will be conducting a variety of experiments so that we can explore the key features of every day materials. We will be exploring new vocabulary such as **opaque, rigid, flexible, translucent, transparent, rough and smooth**. I wonder which is the best material to make a bouncy ball? I wonder which material should be used on a pair of shoes?

We will then use our new knowledge to create a doll or toy house that is fit for purpose!