



Newsletter

Autumn Term



Welcome to Year 2

Welcome back!

We hope you had a lovely summer break!

We are so excited to have a class of smiley children back, ready for a wonderful year of learning ahead.

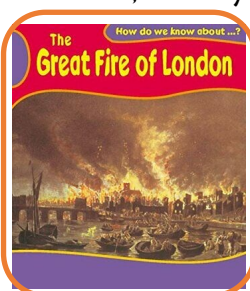
Our Topic: The Great Fire of London

We are starting our year with a scorching hot topic based on 'The Great Fire of London'. This is always a very popular theme with the children and they become very knowledgeable historians! We have transformed our classroom into the houses of London from 1666 with Pudding Lane represented in our reading corner. This will bring to life their topic of learning and support the children on their learning journey. Throughout the topic the children will investigate and question events that happened using a range of sources which will broaden their thinking and build their skills in history. By the end of our topic the children will be able to write a detailed account of how the fire started, how it spread and how it was eventually put out. We will end our topic exploring the changes that happened to London as a result of the great fire which will lead us into thinking about London today.



English

This half term we will be using a non-fiction text to support our teaching of the fundamentals in English. We will start by exploring the text and finding out how an author effectively gives information and the style in which it is presented. We will then be focussing on sentence structure and punctuation. We will be practising the sequence of 'say your sentence, write your sentence, check your sentence' to support the children in becoming confident, independent writers. We will be looking at expanded noun phrases and growing children's vocabulary so that they have an increased range of adjectives to draw upon when writing. Our learners will be using adjectives in a sentence and using commas in a list.



At the end of the topic the children will write and publish their very own non-fiction book based on the Great fire of London. We will look forward to sharing these with you when they are completed.

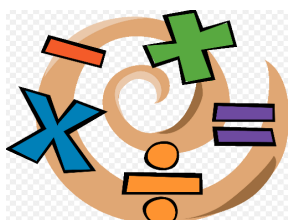
Book Corner

Here is our amazing book corner, open for business. The children will read in class every day and each child will have the opportunity one day a week to sit immersed Pudding Lane bakery where it all began.



Maths

This term in Maths, we are building on our understanding of number and place value, as this is such an important foundation for all areas of maths. We will begin by exploring the composition of multiples of 10, counting and representing numbers up to 99, and comparing and partitioning 2-digit numbers. Place value is a huge focus at this stage, as it supports children in developing confidence with addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division later on.



Children will practise addition and subtraction within 20, moving on to adding and subtracting ones and tens to and from 2-digit numbers. They will use both mental and written methods to solve problems and begin to build fluency and flexibility with their strategies.

As we move through the term, the children will also be introduced to multiplication and division. They will explore grouping and sharing objects in different ways and begin to represent counting in steps of 2, 5, and 10. This links directly to learning and recalling the 2, 5, and 10 times tables.

To support this, we will be introducing the children to Times Tables Rockstars – an exciting online platform that helps children build speed and fluency with their multiplication facts through fun games and challenges.

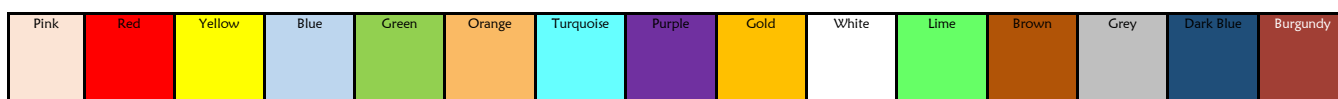
Reading

It is proven that children who read at home every night for just 6 or 7 minutes will become much more fluent, confident readers faster than children who don't read regularly.

For children to reach the expected level for Year 2 in reading they need to be reading **Gold** level texts fluently, at speed and with expression. This takes a lot of practise!

To encourage the children to read at home every night we will be running 'Book lovers tea party'. Any child who has read at least 5 times in one week and has had this recorded in their reading diaries by an adult will be invited to join the party each week. We will be having drinks and biscuits on a lovely picnic blanket and sharing some of our favourite stories. We would love for all of the children to attend and with regular reading we will very quickly see the impact!

Reading Book Bands

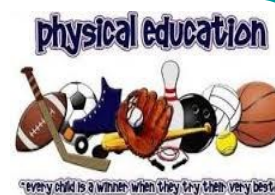


Handwriting

Handwriting is a big part of the National Curriculum for Writing. For children to reach an expected level they must 'form capital letters and digits of the correct size, orientation and relationship to one another and to lower case letters and use spacing between words that reflects the size of the letters'. There is an expectation that children should be beginning to join and this term we are really pushing the children to be doing this for most of their writing. We practise our most beautiful handwriting in school and the children are working really hard, we have some beautifully presented work. We are working really hard with the children on making sure that they use their best handwriting all of the time and apply what they have learnt to every lesson and every bit of writing they do, please support us in instilling this at home. Pride in presentation is key, and Year 2 offer weekly rewards for this!

PE

Our PE days this term are Monday and Wednesday. On Mondays the children will come home in their PE kits and will be expected to be brought back in for the Wednesday session. Our PE sessions this term will focus on gymnastics and our outside PE will focus on skills and games.



In gymnastics children will plan and repeat simple sequences of actions, show contrasts in shape and they will perform basic gymnastic actions with coordination, control and variety.

In skills, children will be able to perform the basic skills of dribbling, passing, defending and shooting. They will apply these skills in a variety of games and they will learn to use a variety of simple tactics.

Extra-curricular school clubs

Indoor lunch club with Mrs Taylor is a big hit! Children can play games, colour and listen to music with their friends if they don't want to venture outside. In addition to this, Express Coaching will be at school during lunchtimes everyday to provide fun, active games to keep everyone entertained on the playground! We also offer a range of after school clubs throughout the year—further information to follow.

PSHE

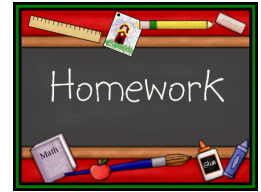
This Autumn Term in **PSHE**, we'll be learning lots of exciting things about looking after ourselves and each other.

We'll be thinking about **friendship**, what makes a good friend, how we can be kind, and why our words are so important. We'll also learn about **feelings**, how to recognise them, and ways to help ourselves and others feel happy and cared for.

We'll explore how to stay **healthy and strong** by eating well, exercising, keeping clean, and understanding medicine safety. There will be plenty of chances to try new healthy foods and discover fun ways to keep our bodies and minds active.

Homework

We will be starting to send your children home with a list of 5 spellings each week. These words will come from the Year 2 Common Exception Words list. Spelling tests will take place on Tuesdays, and a new set of spellings will be given after each test for the following week. This is nothing for your child to worry about. It is simply a little bit of practice to help them feel confident and secure with their spelling. We will also be practicing lots of these words together during lessons.



Behaviour Incentives

This term, **Hot Chocolate Friday with Mrs. Rickersey** will be back in action! We'll be on the lookout for fantastic behaviour, acts of kindness, and brilliant effort both in the classroom and out on the playground.

Each morning, Mrs. Barson and I will secretly choose our **Secret Student**. If that child shows kindness and follows our Year 2 expectations throughout the day, their name will be revealed and they'll earn a special certificate!

We will also be introducing **table points**. The table that earns the most points at the end of the week will enjoy a special treat to celebrate their teamwork and effort.

Alongside this, there are plenty of other exciting ways to shine in our classroom – including earning a place in the **Presentation Jar**.

We can't wait to celebrate all the wonderful things our Year 2s achieve this term!

Snacks and Drinks

A piece of fruit is provided each day in school for children. However, if children wish to bring a named snack please ensure it is healthy. Our tuck shop is open this half term too! Only water or flavoured water is allowed in drinks bottles.



Dates For Your Diary

PE:

Every Monday
and Wednesday

Spelling Tests

Every Tuesday



Clothing

With the beginning of a new year it is a good opportunity to check that all of your child's clothes are fully named. This can make it a lot easier to track down missing jumpers and cardigans!

Year 2 Teaching Team

Miss Marsh - Teacher

Mrs Barson - Teaching Assistant