



Newsletter

Autumn Term



Welcome to Year 2

Welcome back! We hope you all had a lovely summer break and enjoyed some well-deserved rest. We are so excited to welcome the children into Year 2 and begin a fantastic new school year together. We have lots of exciting learning, new experiences and fun ahead, and we can't wait to see the children grow in confidence, develop new skills and make wonderful memories along the way.

Our Topic: The Great Fire of London

We are starting the year with a scorching hot topic all about The Great Fire of London! This is always a firm favourite with the children and gives them the opportunity to become confident and knowledgeable young historians.

To help bring our learning to life, our classroom has been transformed to reflect the streets and houses of London in 1666, with Pudding Lane featuring in our reading corner.

Throughout the topic, the children will explore the events of the Great Fire of London, ask questions and investigate a range of historical sources. They will learn how the fire started, why it spread so quickly and how it was eventually brought under control.

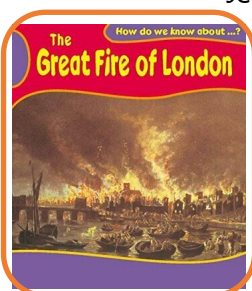
We will finish the topic by exploring how London changed as a result of the fire and comparing London in 1666 with the city we know today.



English

This half term, we will be using a non-fiction text based on The Great Fire of London to inspire and support our English learning.

The children will explore the features of non-fiction texts and learn how information can be organised clearly for the reader. They will develop their confidence in writing detailed sentences, using interesting vocabulary and sequencing ideas in a logical order. We will also encourage the children to reread and improve their work as they write.



Throughout the unit, the children will build up their knowledge of the Great Fire of London while developing their reading and writing skills.

At the end of the topic, the children will bring all of their learning together by planning, writing, editing and publishing their very own question-led non-fiction book about The Great Fire of London.

Book Corner

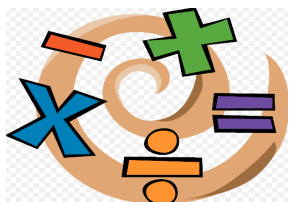
Here is our amazing book corner, open for business! The children will have lots of opportunities to enjoy reading throughout the school day, both independently and together as a class.

Our reading area has been transformed into Pudding Lane bakery, helping to bring our Great Fire of London topic to life and creating an exciting and inviting space for the children to enjoy books. We hope this special area will encourage the children to become enthusiastic, confident readers and develop a real love of reading throughout Year 2.



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.

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.

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!

Handwriting

Handwriting is an important part of Writing in Year 2. This term, we are really focusing on helping the children form their letters correctly, use clear spacing between words and make sure their capital letters and lower-case letters are an appropriate size.

We are also encouraging the children to begin joining their handwriting where appropriate. A big focus for us is making sure that children use their best handwriting all of the time, not just during handwriting lessons, and apply what they have learnt across all of their work.

PE

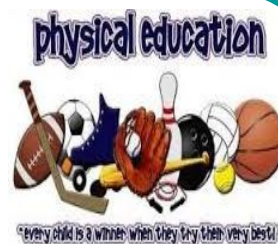
Our PE days this term are Monday and Tuesday. On Mondays, the children will come home in their PE kits and will need to bring them back into school ready for Tuesday's session.

This term, our PE sessions will focus on gymnastics and fundamental movement skills.

In gymnastics, children will learn to plan and repeat simple sequences of actions, explore different shapes and movements, and perform basic gymnastic skills with increasing coordination and control.

In fundamental skills, children will develop key movements such as running, jumping, throwing, catching and balancing. They will practise these skills through a range of activities and simple games, helping to build their confidence, coordination and control.

PE kits should be suitable for both indoor and outdoor lessons. Please could any earrings be removed on PE days, as children will not be able to take part if they are wearing them.



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.

This term in PSHE, we are focusing on Relationships. The children will be learning about what makes every family unique and special, how to be a good friend, how words and actions can affect other people's feelings, including online, and why self-respect and perseverance are important when working towards our ambitions.

Homework

We will be starting to send your children home with a list of 5 spellings each week. These words will come from Spelling Shed. Spelling tests will take place on Wednesday, 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. A Dojo message will be sent out as soon as the first list is out!

Behaviour Incentives

This term, **Hot Chocolate Friday with Mrs Rickersey** will be back in action! Throughout the half term, we will be on the lookout for children who show fantastic behaviour, kindness, resilience and brilliant effort both in the classroom and out on the playground. Children who consistently demonstrate our school values will have the chance to be chosen for this special Friday treat.

Each morning, Mrs Barson and I will also secretly choose our Secret Student. Throughout the day, we will be watching to see if that child is following our Year 2 expectations, making positive choices, showing kindness to others and trying their very best. If they are successful, their name will be revealed at the end of the day and they will receive a special certificate to celebrate their achievement.

We will also be using table points to encourage teamwork, good listening and positive learning behaviours. Children can earn points for their table by working well together, being ready to learn and taking pride in their work. At the end of each week, the table with the most points will enjoy a small special treat to celebrate their teamwork and effort.

We are really looking forward to celebrating all of the wonderful choices, achievements and successes of our Year 2 children throughout the 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!



Dates For Your Diary

PE:

Every Monday
and Tuesday

Spelling Tests

Every Wednesday



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