

# Year 2 – Autumn Term

## Welcome to Year 2

We hope that your children have settled well back into school and are enjoying their new maths, reading, writing and topic areas of learning. We're committed to providing the very best opportunities for the children we teach and are delighted to share some of these with you.

## You can help us by...

Please support us in helping your children learn by hearing them read as often as possible (and signing their diaries!) and by offering to help them with their home learning. This year, we're going to give children weekly spellings to learn with the test on Fridays. We'll also be using Mathletics to set maths home learning. Home learning must be completed on time and the children should start taking responsibility for this.

If you do not have access to a computer please let us know so we can arrange for your child to complete the set activities during school hours.

We expect all children to have their PE kits in school all week.

## Maths

This term we are going to be revisiting number and place value ensuring we are confident reading and writing numbers to 100. Using our new 'mild', 'hot' and 'spicy' levels of work (ask your child to explain these!), we'll ensure all children are challenged and are receiving opportunities to apply their learning in lots of different ways. **Please help your children learn their number bonds and 2,3,4,5 and 10 times tables.**

## What we expect

We expect all children to behave in ways which show maturity and respect. We've spent some time already, talking to our classes about how they are role-models across the school and about the importance of having a growth mind-set (the willingness to overcome challenges; to want to learn and to want to do their best). We expect a positive attitude from every child.

## English

This term we will be learning all about the Great Fire of London imagining what it would be like to live in 1666 ! We will write a range of texts from diary entries to newspaper articles! We will be focusing our learning on using appropriate punctuation and ensuring our sentences use exciting and interesting language choices. We will also begin to look at some simple grammar and understanding how to correctly structure sentences.

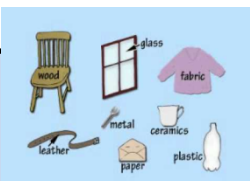
## GREAT FIRE AND LANDMARK IT INSPIRED



1666 and all that: Londoners flee the fire

- The Great Fire of London began on the night of 2 September, 1666, in Thomas Farriner's bakery and burned for four days.
- The height of the Monument's Doric column of Portland stone is equal to its horizontal distance from where the fire started. An inscription that blamed Catholics for the fire was chiselled out in 1831.
- Between 1788 and 1842, six suicides were committed by leaping from the column, prompting the installation of the iron cage.
- The column features in Charles Dickens's novel *Martin Chuzzlewit* when the character Tom Pinch walks past it and Dickens refers to the guard as the "Man in the Monument"

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## Science

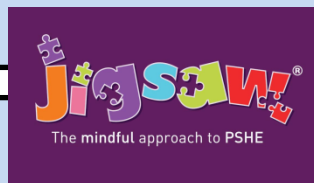
This term in Year 2 our topic is called Materials and their Properties. We will be exploring what these words mean and carrying out investigations to test these materials. We will be using words like smooth, rough, opaque, transparent, waterproof and durable.

## Computing

In computing, the children will be exploring applications such as Purple Mash to research our topic of the Great Fire of London further. They will also be using coding programmes to understand and create algorithms. We will be encouraging the children to 'debug' their issues, finding and solving their own problems.



## PSHE



This year we are following a scheme called Jigsaw. Our first unit is called 'Being Me in My World'. We're encouraging mindfulness this year and are teaching the children how to reflect, be still and maintain calmness.

## Topic

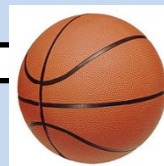
### History and Geography



This half term, we're going to be studying The Great Fire of London. We will be locating England on a world map and a map of Europe. We will also investigate Kings and Queens whilst comparing houses now and then.

### Art and DT

In art, the children will be exploring different materials to create their own houses. We will need to collect some materials like cereal boxes and kitchen roll tubes from the 9<sup>th</sup> October. The children are also very lucky to have an art and drama specialist visit them on the 20<sup>th</sup> October. Letters with more information will go out soon.



## PE

In outdoor PE, the children are going to be perfecting their throwing and catching skills which will be applied in a simple ball game. We are looking at different ways of moving and balancing in indoor PE this term.

## Thanks for your support

With your support, this year will be very successful. Thanks for working with us to help your children make the best possible progress. As always, if you need to talk to us, please either contact the office or speak to us after school. We're always happy to help!

Miss Mills, Miss Antony, Mrs Long and Mrs Casey