

Fire! Fire!

Welcome to Year 2! We hope you've all had an enjoyable break and that the children are ready for another exciting and busy half term.

Key Dates:

9th March Trip to Staircase House
16th March Parents Evening
18th March Parents Evening
20th March Red Nose Day
27th March Last day before school closes

Creative Curriculum: We look back to the 17th Century this half term, to find out about the Great Fire of London. We will investigate artefacts and secondary sources to understand where, when and how the fire started. We will consider factors that caused the fire to spread so quickly, as well as the way it changed the city. Our Art this half term links to this topic—we will revisit colour mixing to create warm and cool colours, then use a variety of techniques to create a Great Fire of London painting.

English: This term, our writing will be linked to our historical enquiry around the Great Fire of London and will culminate in a diary entry written as Thomas Farriner and Samuel Pepys. We will use drama, reading and research to support our writing. Our weekly guided reading session will continue to focus on comprehension skills. Spelling practise will take place 4 times a week, continuing to learn the Year 2 spelling rules. There will also be regular handwriting practise, as we begin to join.

Maths: The main focus this half term is multiplication and division. The children will be introduced to multiplication as adding equal groups and to division by grouping and sharing. By the end of the half term, they should be confident multiplying and dividing by 2, 5 and 10. With Mrs Sherlock on Tuesdays, the children will develop their understanding of length, mass and capacity. We will use manipulatives and reasoning tasks that allow the children to explain their mathematical thinking.

RE: This half term we will be thinking about how we celebrate special and sacred times. We will be learning about festivals from different religions, including Holi, Eid, Passover and Easter.

Music: This term, pupils will take part in a music unit themed around The Great Fire of London. Through three engaging songs, they will develop core musical skills such as keeping a steady beat, singing clearly, recognising and copying rhythmic patterns, exploring pitch, and understanding how melodies can be built and structured. The songs follow the key events of the Great Fire of London, helping pupils connect their musical learning with their historical understanding and reinforcing important facts through singing, listening and musical exploration.



Science: This half term, pupils will engage in a range of practical investigations as part of our unit on the properties of materials. They will explore and compare characteristics such as absorbency and reflectivity, alongside other key material properties. Throughout the unit, children will also develop their scientific enquiry skills, including recording observations and results accurately using tables and charts.

PSHE: Are key questions this term are:
What are the benefits of using the internet?
How can we check if a story is true?
How can we look after money?
Where does money come from?
What is the difference between a need and a want?

Computing: We will use the 2Calculate program to learn what a spreadsheet is, explore its key features, understand common uses for spreadsheets, and develop confidence navigating and working within spreadsheets in Purple Mash.

Supporting your child at home:
Thank you for your ongoing support with your child's learning at home. Please read regularly with your child each week, focussing not only on fluency, but comprehension skills as well. This should be a minimum of four times a week. Weekly spellings to practise at home will be sent out each Friday, and there will be a written check the following Friday. This will help the children to learn the Year 2 spelling rules. For Maths, please can you help them learn their 2, 5 and 10 times tables off by heart. You may wish to use your Times Tables Rock Stars log in at home to support this.



PE: Indoor PE will continue to take place on a Friday, with the focus on gymnastics. On a Thursday morning, we will be carrying out 'Smile for a Mile'. Outdoor Games sessions with the coaches will be on Mondays. Please make sure your child always has the correct kit in school, including warm clothes for outdoors, and that it is all clearly labelled.