

Year 2 Class Newsletter

1st half spring term 2024



Dear Parents,

Welcome back after the holidays! I hope that you all had a good break and are ready and refreshed for all of the exciting learning that will be happening this term. Our half termly topic this term is: Fired Up!

In this topic children will delve into the past to explore the disastrous fire that was the Great Fire of London in 1666! They will discover what the streets of London were like 400 years ago and how the small bakery fire spread over 4 days to destroy large areas of the city. The children will learn about how we know about the events of the Great Fire of London from the diaries of Samuel Pepys and what people did to try to stop the fire. Using maps the children will see what parts of London were affected and they will explore how the city needed to be rebuilt. To finish the topic the children will learn about the amazing architecture of Sir Christopher Wren who helped rebuild London. In Dt they will design a street that will replicate the Great Fire and redesign it to make it safer and less flammable!

In English we will be reading a retelling of the Great Fire of London by Emma Adams. We will then be writing explanation texts about how the Great Fire of London happened as well as writing diary entries from Samuel Pepys' point of view. This half term we will be focusing on using appropriate tense, expanded noun phrases, time adverbials, subordinating conjunctions and prepositional phrases.

In Maths we will be exploring how to compare and order numbers using $<$, $>$, $=$ and learn about near doubles. We will look at multiplication and division and explore the inverse relationship between both. We will continue to read measurements on scales of 1, 2, 5 and 10. We will then look at 3D shapes and find out about the 2D shapes within them. We will also be learning how to find the fractions $\frac{1}{3}$, $\frac{1}{4}$, $\frac{2}{4}$ and $\frac{3}{4}$ of a length, shape, set of objects or quantity as well as recognising equivalent fractions. We will also start looking at patterns and Algebra.

Our half termly topic this term is: Fired Up!

In History we will be asking...

- When and where did the fire start?
- Why did the fire spread?
- How did they fight the fire?
- How did the fire stop?
- How many people died?
- What happened after the fire?

Bakery
diary
Ember
Flammable
Firebreak
Gun powder
Leather



Class Questions:
How did they put the fire out?
How did they rebuild the houses?
Where did the fire end?



In English we will be reading...



In Science we will asking...

- Can you identify and sort a range of materials?
- What different properties do different materials have?
- What makes one material better than another for a job?
- Why do some materials change when you squash, bend, twist or stretch them?

Class Questions:
What materials can you recycle?
What makes a material stronger than another?



Absorbent
Brittle
Change
Concrete
Dull
Elastic
Flexible
Man-made
Natural
Opaque
Recycle

In DT we will be asking...

- How can you stop your structures from falling over?
- How can they be made stronger and stiffer in order to carry a load?



Class Questions:
What materials will we use?
How much will the houses be able to carry?



Fired up Spring 1



materials



In PSHE we will be asking...

- Which communities/groups do you think you belong to?
- How does belonging make you feel? How do you think not belonging might make someone feel?
- Have you ever saved money? What did you decide to buy?

Class Questions:
Can people in a community be different?
Do different jobs pay a different amount of money?
Why do people feel anxious when they're lonely?



Community
Belong
Roles
Responsibilities
Rights
Equal
Job
Employed
Wages
Save
Bank
Wants/needs

In Geography we will be asking...

- What is a village like?
- What is a city like?
- What is a landmark?
- Can you name a landmark of London?
- What might have happened to the Gherkin skyscraper if it were there in 1666?



Class Questions:
What materials are the landmarks made out of?
Would the materials burn easily?

In Art we will be asking...

- How can I make my shape darker?
- How can I make the line lighter?
- What shapes can you see in the building/grid?

Class Questions:
What shapes will we be using?
How will we draw the details?



Charcoal
Tone
Line
Shape



Other activities, trips and events this half term:

- January 29th - Trip to the Tower of London
- February 2nd - Year 2 Family learning assembly

What you can do to help:

The children are encouraged to read every evening for about twenty minutes. Reading to your children helps develop their language and knowledge of vocabulary. Ask them questions about the book to help improve their understanding. Remember, the best readers also make the best writers!!

Homework will be set every Friday inside the children's homework books. Please help and encourage your child to practice and learn their high frequency words, as well as complete their weekly homework.

Things to remember:

- P.E. is every **Thursday** now , please make sure your child brings their P.E. kit on that day (black/navy jogging bottoms or shorts, a plain white t-shirt, trainers/plimsolls)
- Homework is given out every Friday and is due back to school the following Monday.
- Please record when you have read with your child in their Reading Record book. Books are changed every Tuesday and Friday.
- Remember! School starts at 8.55am, please ensure that you are on time every day
- Every child should have a bottle of water in school, please ensure your child has one.
- It is also essential that children remember their glasses if they wear them.

Other information:

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact us and we will be more than happy to help.

Best wishes from the class team: Nusrat – class teacher, Sheila– HLTA