



KS1 Autumn 2

Fire! Fire!



Our topic

This half term we will be taking a trip back in time to 1666 to explore the events of The Great Fire of London. We will be investigating how the fire started, who was involved and the impact it had on the people living in London. We will be dusting off our detective hats and working together to figure out who was to blame...

Autumn 2 Coverage

Science	In Science, we will be learning all about materials. We will be investigating the different properties of materials by testing texture, transparency, flexibility and durability. We will be linking our learning back to The Great Fire of London to help us understand why the fire spread so quickly.
History	We will be looking into the events of The Great Fire of London and finding out how it started. We will be analysing a range of sources and putting together a timeline to help us understand how the fire impacted London in 1666.
Design and Technology	This half term, we will be designing and making our own Tudor Houses using cardboard boxes. We will be using a range of tools and equipment to join, shape, fasten and connect our materials together safely and will evaluate our finished product to highlight how we might improve in the future.
Computing	We will be recapping our knowledge on e-safety and learning how to tackle cyber bullying. We will also be learning how to take the perfect photograph using iPads and how to edit our photos to create different effects.
RE	We will be considering the question; why does Christmas matter to Christians. Through our learning we will know all about the Christmas story and will look at how families celebrate Christmas in different ways.
PE	We will be moving on to our unit of dance this half term and will be learning lots of new routines linked to our new topic, The Great Fire of London. We will be learning how to travel, jump, balance and coordinate ourselves to build up to a final routine.
PSHE	In PSHE, we will be looking at anti-bullying and who the special people are in our lives. We will be learning how to resolve conflict, what a positive family looks like and who we can go to for help.
Music	In Music this half term, we will be having the wonderful Mr Grainger to take us through our new Charanga unit, 'Ho! Ho! Ho!'. We will be thinking about musical genres, rhythm, pitch and tempo as we are introduced to new music.

Reading

This half term we will be reading 'Fire Cat' by Pippa Goodhart and Philip Hurst.

John's world is turned upside down when The Great Fire sweeps through London. After meeting his father's friend, Samuel Pepys, John starts a diary, recording everything he sees. When John's precious cat Sammy goes missing, he ventures bravely into the city to find him. Spotting a cat on a boat on the Thames, he rows onto the river alone and finds himself stranded. Luckily, the kindly Mr Pepys, comes to his rescue. By the time he gets home, Sammy is safely curled up on his bed with three new kittens! One of the kittens will be a present for Mr Pepys!

We are continuing with our whole class reading rewards each half term for children who read at least 3 times per week. We will be sending reading books and home-school diaries home daily in your child's book bag to encourage regular reading at home. Your child will have the opportunity to change their reading books regularly in class but please note that it is their responsibility to do so if they have finished with a book.

Don't forget that we now offer our brand-new library service on Tuesdays and Thursdays after school down in the Infant building.

Times Tables Rockstars

Your child should now have their login for Times Tables Rockstars. Remember to encourage them to practise their times tables with a focus on their 2s, 5s and 10s. We will be setting plenty of challenges on TT Rockstars and might even go head to head against other year groups for the chance to win special prizes in school! Also, look out for our top rockstars on our school newsletter each week. Your child might be mentioned on there!

If you have any issues with your child's TT Rockstar login, please let your class teacher know as soon as possible.

Homework

Children will receive maths homework on a fortnightly basis. Each piece of homework will directly link to the learning they have done in class and will be tailored to meet the needs of your child. Please encourage them to work on this independently at home with minimal support, if needed.

We expect maths homework to be handed in by the date written in your child's book. If it is handed in late, your child may be expected to complete it during their break time in school.

Optional Creative Homework

To add to your child's learning experiences, we would like them to create something at home linked to our new topic, 'Fire! Fire!'. This could be in the form of a written task, a piece of art work, a 3D model or an IT based creation such as a PowerPoint, Word document or video.

In each class, there will be a prize for the most creative and impressive homework!

Below are a few ideas for inspiration:

- Make a 3D model of a house on Pudding Lane
- Create a fiery collage using tissue paper
- Turn a household jar into a fiery house
- Bake a loaf of bread inspired by the bakery on Pudding Lane (don't start any fires this time!)
- Create a factfile all about Samuel Pepys and the events of the Great Fire of London
- Write a diary entry as though you are a civilian in London
- Film yourself as a news reporter telling the world about what has happened on Pudding Lane
- Design a piece of fiery art work using coloured chalks or paint

