



Curriculum Letter

Term: Spring 1

Year: 2

Team: Mrs McClare, Mrs Binney & Ms Heard
Mrs Taylor, Mrs Cobley, Ms Cope & Ms Poskitt

I would just like to take the opportunity to wish you a 'Happy New Year' and thank you for your help and support during a very busy half-term.

The children really enjoyed taking part in the Christmas production and I'm sure you'll all agree it was a huge success!

This half term our Learning Journey is 'How do we know about the Great Fire of London?' We will research this historical event and then go on to look at the Fire and Rescue Service now and how this has improved since 1666.

We are looking forward to a visit from William Petty, an eyewitness to the Great Fire of London on Friday 8th January and a visit from the Fire Service on the 2nd February.

Literacy

As Readers the children will be looking at non-fiction books. They will learn about the presentation and layout of non-fiction texts and how to use their features to select and locate information within them.

They will also continue to develop their individual reading skills in guided reading sessions, focusing on word-decoding strategies and understanding of the text.

As Writers children will learn how to write a non-chronological report and how to set it out correctly using sub-headings and paragraphing. We will be looking at the use of connectives to extend and add detail to our sentences.

Numeracy

As Mathematicians the children will continue to practise the application of their numeracy to solve problems. They will begin to look at the inverse relationship between addition and subtraction and learn about the concepts of multiplication and division and use their knowledge in these areas to solve numerical problems.

Children will begin work on their new mathematics targets; recalling multiplication facts from the 2, 5 and 10 times tables. If you can use any time at home to practise these mental targets that would be of great benefit to the children.

Science

As Scientists we will be learning about sound. The children will investigate and identify a range of sounds and explore various ways to create sounds, for example using a range of musical instruments to make louder and softer and higher and lower sounds.

Pupils will also compare different sound sources and look for patterns.

History

As Historians children will learn about when the Great Fire of London happened and how and why the fire spread so quickly. They will discuss where and how to find historical information and learn how to use different sources of information. Children will learn about chronological order and attempt to sequence the events of the Great Fire of London.

Geography

As Geographers the children will learn about the position of London in relation to Kimberworth Park and look at maps of London in 1666 to visualise the spread of the fire.

Art and Design

As Artists children will work with a range of media to create silhouette scenes of the Great Fire of London using paintings from the time as a stimulus. They will look at portraits of Samuel Pepys and King Charles II and recreate these using paint and pencil.

In Design and Technology children will bake bread and then have the opportunity to taste and evaluate their finished product. If you do not wish your child to eat their bread then please let their teacher know.

RE

In RE this half-term children will continue their learning about the Jewish faith and the practices that are important to Jewish people.

They will also be encouraged to think about their own experiences and views in relation to questions of belonging and identity.



Curriculum Letter

Term: Spring 1

Year: 2

Team: Mrs McClare, Mrs Binney & Ms Heard
Mrs Taylor, Mrs Copley, Ms Cope and Ms Poskitt

PSHE

In PSHE children will be developing their understand of what is meant by the word community and will think about and discuss people within their community that help them. They will be encouraged to think about the different groups within their community that they are part of and recognise that they have rights and responsibilities to others.

PE

In Games children will be learning to develop their basic game-playing skills, in particular throwing and catching. They will play games based on net games (like tennis and badminton), and games based on striking and fielding games (like rounders and cricket). They will have an opportunity to play one against one and in small teams. They will play games that demand simple choices and decisions on how to use space to avoid opponents, keep the ball and score points.

In Dance children will explore the use of space, dynamics and levels whilst thinking about the Great Fire of London and how fire moves. They will explore what the body can do including bending, stretching, jumping, twisting and turning. They will have opportunities to respond to music and work individually, in pairs and as a whole class. Each lesson will include demonstrations and observations of work in which the children will have time to practise, copy and improve. The project will finish with a whole class performance for parents. More details to follow.

Routines

School doors open at 8:45 and children are encouraged to come into their classroom and complete a morning activity with their class. We understand that not all parents can stay but if you are able to then the time should be used to support your child. Registration is at 8:55 and external doors will be closed at 8:55 so any child arriving at school after this time should report to the office in order to get their mark. PE is on Mondays and Fridays but please encourage your child to leave their PE kit, including a change of footwear, in school during the week in case we have to change PE days due to the weather. Earrings must be removed for PE and long hair should be tied back.

It is recommended that all children bring a water bottle to school so that they can remain hydrated during lesson times. They can refill these in school as required. Fresh fruit is provided each day but if your child would prefer they can bring their own fruit from home.

Please send dinner money in a labelled envelope. They can be handed in, along with any letters, to the class teacher where it will then be passed onto the office. Spellings will be sent home every few weeks and maths homework will be sent home on a Friday.

How to support learning at home this term:

Please encourage your child to read at home on a regular basis. Ideally each child should be listened to by an adult at least three times per week. When you have listened to your child read please indicate this by signing or initialling your child's reading record. Reading records will be collected in and looked at on a Friday but it would be helpful if they were brought into school every day so they are available during guided reading sessions. You can support your child learning their spellings by testing and giving ways to remember tricky spellings as well as supporting them in identifying and segmenting words into their sounds to help them spell them.

Please remember that if you have any questions or would like to talk about your child or their progress we are available, do not hesitate to ask.

Year 2 - Spring 1, 2016



Learning Journey: How do we know about the Great Fire of London?

You could help your child with these weekly tasks:

Learn spellings	You could check and rehearse spellings with your child.
Reading their reading book	You could hear your child read and ask them questions about the text.
Practising their Numeracy Target. To learn their times tables (x2 x10 x5)	Help your child practise their times tables in order and randomly.
Numeracy Homework sheets Your child will be given weekly homework.	Support your child in their homework, ensuring they understand of what is expected of them.

We endeavour to involve parents in their child's learning and would like to encourage children to lead their own learning and make choices. We would like every child to choose their home learning from the list below. Children may choose one or more projects and they may present their work in any way they like. The more creative and individual the better. Children's learning will be displayed in school and rewards will be given for participation.

- ⇒ Research the Great Fire of London.
- ⇒ Create a Stuart house.
- ⇒ Create a model or picture of how a street in London was rebuilt after the fire.
- ⇒ Write a diary entry describing what it might have been like to experience the Great Fire of London.
- ⇒ Create a box of items that you would save if you were in the Great Fire of London.
- ⇒ Write instructions about how to take care of your smoke detector.
- ⇒ Write a poem/song.

Home learning can be handed in at any time but we request that it be handed by the 1st February.