



# Half Termly Topic Overview for Parents and Carers

Year 2

Half Term 1

Topic: Great Fire of London



This half term we will be learning the following things. Here are also some useful hints and tips for helping at home!

	At School	At Home
English	<p>In English, Year Two pupils will be encouraged to learn and write through a range of fiction and non-fiction texts including; Hey, That's My Monster, The Pied Piper of Hamelin and The Great Fire of London. During this half term, we will be looking at short stories to build more confidence in answering a range of 'Rex Retriever' questions. This means children will use the text to find factual information to answer the question and developing their skill to skim and scan the text.</p> <p>In addition to this, children will be recapping phase 5 phonics, identifying the alternative spellings for the different short vowel sounds and applying their knowledge to practise reading and writing words containing these.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Aim to hear your child read at least four times a week.</li> <li>• Read your child a book on a night. Promote a love of reading.</li> <li>• Continue to help children develop their phonetical knowledge.</li> </ul>
Maths	<p>In Maths, the class will start by consolidation their knowledge of place value by identify the value of digits of numbers up to 100, counting forwards and backwards from any given number within 100, reading and writing numbers in words and digits within 100 and comparing and ordering numbers using symbols. The class will also continue to count in 2s, 5s, 10s and start to count in 3s.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Continue to count in 2's, 5's and 10's for this half term.</li> <li>• Count forwards and backwards from any number within 50.</li> </ul>
Science	<p>In Science, pupils will be investigation the topic 'Everyday Materials' and Leo Baekeland the inventor of plastic. Pupils will look at objects, and the materials that make them. Children will then use key scientific vocabulary to describe the properties of these materials. We will also have the opportunity to explore our topic by completing various experiments to test the suitability of materials.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Talk about objects (table) and what material it is made out of (plastic, metal etc.) and describe its properties (hard, durable).</li> <li>• Talk about what those properties mean and if it is a suitable material for the job.</li> </ul>
History	<p>In History, Year Two will be learning about the events surrounding 'The Great Fire of London'. We will learn about how the fire started and spread through the streets of London and how we are able to know facts about it due to artefacts and Samuel Pepys' diary.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Talk at home about the Great Fire of London. Can they retell any facts?</li> </ul>
Art	<p>In Art, pupils will look at colours. We will identify primary colours and how to use them to make secondary colours. We will use this knowledge to create art work in the style of Piet Mondrian. We will then look at adding white and black to change the shade of the colour. To finish our topic, will look at the work of Wassily Kandinsky. We will use this to create individual and a whole class piece of artwork.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Look at some of Kandinsky's art work.</li> <li>• Encourage children to create art work using primary and secondary colours.</li> <li>• Can children mix primary colours to create secondary colours?</li> </ul>

PE	<p>In PE, our focus will be, 'Attack, Defend, Shoot'. The class will participate in a range of fun, active, engaging lessons concentrating on a specific skill each lesson. We will be aiming to develop the fundamental skills from each lesson.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Encourage your child to take part in daily physical exercise.</li> <li>• Encourage your child to control a ball around objects using different parts of their foot.</li> </ul>
RE	<p>In RE, pupils will be learning about the religion Judaism and what they believe. We will look at Jewish artefacts and symbols to learn more about what they believe. We will look at a range of Jewish festivals and identify what each member of the family has to do before, during and after the festival.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Discuss different Jewish beliefs.</li> <li>• Ask your child to talk about what they have learnt.</li> </ul>
Computer Science and IT	<p>Using Purple Mash children will continue to develop their knowledge of coding. As well as coding, we will also develop the skills to identify problems with algorithms and use our knowledge to correct these so that the code works. We will work through a range of problems and scenarios to develop our knowledge.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Use the Bee-Bot app from Year 1 to consolidate your child's learning.</li> </ul>
Online Safety	<p>Children in Year 2, will learn how they can access amazing places online. They will use technology in school to access ICT lessons. During these lessons, children will be made aware of the rules they need to follow to remain safe while using the internet.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Talk to your child about Online Safety and the rules in your home.</li> </ul>
Personal, Social and Health Education	<p>In PSHE, your child will look at how they and others have changed from a baby to now, exploring a healthy diet, investigate the benefits of washing hands, importance of exercise and the importance of medicine and how to stay safe around medicine.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Talk to your child about how to stay safe around medicine.</li> <li>• Discuss healthy food and benefits of exercise.</li> </ul>