



Half Termly Topic Overview for Parents and Carers

Year 2

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	In English, Year Two pupils will be encouraged to learn and write through a range of fiction and non-fiction texts including 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 retrieval 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. 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.	• Aim to hear your child read at least four times a week. • Read your child a book on a night. Promote a love of reading. • Continue to help children develop their phonetical knowledge.
Maths	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.	• Continue to count in 2's, 5's and 10's for this half term. • Count forwards and backwards starting from any number within 50.
Science	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.	• Talk about objects (table) and what material it is made out of (plastic, metal etc.) and describe its properties (hard, durable). • Talk about what those properties mean and if it is a suitable material for the job.
History	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.	• Talk at home about the Great Fire of London. Can they retell any facts?
Art	In Art, pupils will look at creating rubbings with natural resources and a range of tools (pencils, charcoal and wax). We will use our skills to aim towards a final piece. We will use rubbings to create an image. We will look around the external areas of the school and create some individual and group pieces of work. We will also be recapping our primary and secondary colours whilst completing this topic. Our artist this half term is Max Ernst.	• Look at some of Max Ernst's work. • Encourage children to create art work using rubbings. • Can children remember primary and secondary colours?

PE	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.	• Encourage your child to take part in daily physical exercise. • Encourage your child to control a ball around objects using different parts of their foot.
RE	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.	• Discuss different Jewish beliefs. • Ask your child to talk about what they have learnt.
Computer Science and IT	Children this term will learn, how is information technology (IT) being used for good in our lives? With an initial focus on IT in the home, children explore how IT benefits society in places such as shops, libraries, and hospitals.	• Talk to children about technology in the home and community.
Online Safety	In Year 2, children will learn what is meant by private and keeping things private. We will look at how information can be shared on public platforms and privately.	• Talk to your child about Online Safety and the rules in your home.
Personal, Social and Health Education	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.	• Talk to your child about how to stay safe around medicine. • Discuss healthy food and benefits of exercise.
Music	This half term, pupils will learn about the origins of samba music. They will have the opportunity to play a range of untuned percussion with a greater degree of control. Pupils will play simple ostinato call and response rhythms and compose their own basic rhythms. They will learn to follow simple conducting directions and will rehearse and perform as an ensemble.	• To listen to examples of sambar music at home. • To discuss different types of music that we listen to.
Personal Development	Our school has 6 virtues... kindness, bravery, stickability, coolness, respect and fairness. Each term we focus on a particular virtue – and this term is 'kindness'. We work on understanding people and their different needs as well as looking out and after each other throughout the school day.	• Continue to encourage children to be kind and care for people around them.