

Year Two Curriculum Report – Spring B

Fire, Fire!



In literacy the children will initially be focusing on the features of information texts. The children will read a range of texts relating to a variety of curriculum areas including our topic of The Great Fire of London. They will gain new skills in reading in order to extract information. The children will then have an opportunity to use the features of information texts (e.g. headings, sub headings etc) to produce writing of their own including diary entries.

You could support this at home by asking your child if there is a particular topic they would like to find out about, preferably something they don't know much about already. You could then visit your local library to locate books on their chosen topic. We would love to share all the information and what they have found out about in school.

There will be additional opportunities for writing fiction and non-fiction pieces in both history and RE lessons. These will take the form of narrative, descriptive writing using pictures as a stimulus. We will also continue to work on developing our sentences so that they contain greater detail (more adjectives/adverbs) and are extended by the use of conjunctions such as, because, then, meanwhile, afterwards, next, until etc.

You could support your child by encouraging them to write a new story about a character they are particularly keen on. Perhaps for a sibling, friend or relative.

In numeracy the children will be working on multiplication and division and how various different models and images can be used to support them when answering questions. We will continue to work on place value and to look at the number system. Children will continue their work on the unstructured number line (*children will need to be able to count in tens and multiples of tens from any given number – this is something that could be practised at home*). The children will also be looking at various scales so that they can measure weight/mass correctly. They will also continue telling time to the nearest five minute interval and practising their 2, 5 and 10 times tables. The children will also be practising answering mixed operation problems mentally and by applying taught methods.

Our topic for this half term is 'Fire Fire!' which will involve work across the curriculum. The history element of our topic is about the Great Fire of London. The children will find out about what life was like at that time, how and where the fire started and why it spread so quickly. They will also learn about what was done following the fire to make sure it wouldn't happen again.

In **science** this half term, the children will be using the local environment to explore and answer questions about plants growing in their habitat. We will be learning the common names of flowers, looking at examples of deciduous and evergreen trees and plant structures. The children will be working scientifically by: observing closely and comparing and contrasting familiar plants.

You could look at plants and trees whilst you are out and about. What is changing on the trees at the moment? Can they name the different types of trees and common plants that they see on their way to school?

Our RE topic of 'Welcoming' includes learning about how Christians welcomed Jesus on Palm Sunday. We will also be thinking about how we can make others feel welcome.

Perhaps you could discuss with your child how people are made to feel welcome when they come to visit your home.

The children will also be reading the Easter story from the Bible and will learn why the Easter period is significant to Christians.

In **PE** this half term the children will be producing a dance based on the Great Fire of London.

In music the children will continue their music lessons this half term and will be learning to play the bamboo tambou, a percussion instrument which originates from the Caribbean islands of Trinidad and Tobago and was the precursor to steel pans. We are certain that the children will enjoy these sessions and perform to the impressive standard they reached when playing the keyboard last half term.

We look forward to welcoming the Fire Service in to school again this year and we will be learning from them how to stay safe in the event of a fire. We will also be creating a fire scene using moving pictures as part of our design technology project.

Homework Challenge – *To create a piece of work linked the Great Fire of London (this could include writing, drawings or a fire safety poster or models). Last year the children brought in some brilliant 'Great Fire of London' street scenes, posters and lots of other terrific work. We are sure that your children will rise to the challenge!!*