Year 2
Autumn Term 2
London - Our Capital City

English

Our core text this term is *Vlad and the Great Fire of London* by Kate Cunningham. The children will be developing their composition skills by planning, drafting and editing letters, narratives and poems. They will focus on using subordinating conjunctions, joining ideas with coordinating conjunctions, adding expanded noun phrases and using exclamation marks for emphasis. In Phonics, we will be practicing alternative spellings for various vowel and consonant sounds (such as /ch/, /ear/, /ar/, and /ai/), as well as learning common suffixes like *-ly*

Please continue to read regularly with your child. It really helps them to enjoy books and read with confidence. Your child will have spelling home learning every Friday. This will be set on Google Classroom.

Mathematics

In Maths this term, year 2 will be focusing on Addition and Subtraction and exploring Properties of Shape. We will build our calculation skills with numbers up to 100, learning strategies to add and subtract two-digit numbers using practical tools like Base 10 blocks and place value charts. Children will also practice finding number bonds to 100 and adding three single-digit numbers together. In our geometry unit, we will be identifying, naming and sorting 2D and 3D shapes, counting their sides, edges, and vertices, and spotting vertical lines of symmetry. *You can support your child at home by spotting shapes in your everyday environment and practicing quick recall of number bonds to 10 and 20!*

Religious Education

Our enquiry question for Christianity is *"Why does Christmas matter to Christians?"* The children will learn about the nativity story, explore the concept of the Incarnation and examine how Christians celebrate Jesus' birth through nativity scenes, carols and gift giving.

Science

This half term, our young scientists will explore **Everyday Materials**. They will investigate how easily different materials (such as wood, metal, plastic, glass, and brick) can be squashed, bent, twisted and stretched, linking the physical properties of a material to its real world uses (e.g., why bricks are used for houses).

History - The Great Fire of London

Linking directly to our core English text, children will step back in time to learn about the Great Fire of London. They will explore why the fire started in a bakery, why it spread so quickly through wooden, close-packed houses, and how historical sources like Samuel Pepys' diary help us understand what happened.

Music

Through the Charanga unit *"Let's Keep Singing,"* the children will develop key vocal skills including posture, breathing, pitch accuracy and diction. They will explore dynamics and tempo, while rehearsing and learning their songs for our Nativity performance!

Computing

This half term the children will use a digital device to take a photograph and then use tools to change it. They will also develop their online safety by investigating digital privacy and reflecting on how people may look and act differently online.

Design & Technology

Putting their history and design skills together, the children will create moving pictures based on the Great Fire of London. They will learn how to design, make, and evaluate simple paper and card mechanisms using levers and sliders with split pins and glue.

PSHE – Don't Forget to let Love In

The children will learn how to dial 999 in an emergency, understand how to recognize and address hurtful teasing or bullying, learn how their behavior affects others and explore how exercise keeps our bodies healthy.

Physical Education

Children will be focusing on dance and invasion games. In Dance, the children will learn and create a routine set to their Nativity song, practicing how to copy, repeat, and link movement sequences while keeping time to the music. In invasion games, they will develop their teamwork skills by learning to throw, catch, track and cushion a ball, dribble using hands and feet and defend by staying close to an opponent. PE is on Mondays and Wednesdays.