

History

This term children in Year Two will be investigating the Great Fire of London and why London was burning on the 4th September 1666. They will research, identify and order the events of the Great Fire of London. Children will investigate about the key events of the Great Fire of London, and help them develop an understanding of the ways in which we can find out about the past through discussing primary sources. In doing so, this unit also provides an introduction to Samuel Pepys and his infamous diary. The children will have the opportunity to increase their awareness of the past by comparing and contrasting past and present-day London, as well as looking at how life was different in the 17th century. They will conduct their own research and investigate why the Great Fire caused so much damage and why the fire was able to spread so quickly. They will compare the homes of modern London to those that were used during the 1600s. In addition they will investigate the role of Samuel Pepys and Thomas Farriner in the Great Fire of London and present their learning in their own research projects using a wide range of historical resources. The children will have the opportunity to increase their own awareness of the past by comparing and contrasting past and present-day London, as well as looking at how life was different in the 17th century. In addition, they will investigate and research a range of famous historical Arctic explorers such as Captain Scott and Roald Amundsen who competed to be the first explorer to reach the South Pole.



Geography

This term children will be investigating life in the city and shall be investigating the city of London. Children will investigate and label London and other cities on a map of the United Kingdom. Following this, children will research and identify a range of famous landmarks which can be found within London. Furthermore, they will investigate the physical and human features of London and identify these in a series of maps and aerial photographs. In addition, they investigate the London Underground and how it has an impact on the people who live and work in London. Following that, children will investigate the location of countries, continents and oceans of the world in relation to the position of the United Kingdom and children's own locality. Children will develop global awareness by looking in detail at the position of the seven continents and five oceans of the world, understanding that the world is spherical and creating their own journeys across the world. Children continue to build on their map skills developed in Year 1 using atlases, world maps and globes more widely, along with using aerial photographs to recognise human and physical features including landmarks.

Computing

They will practice "Code" completing a range of challenges and activities using an "Hour of Code" and reinforce important computer skills needed for safe and effective computer use and introduce some further skills concerning the use of folders, searching for files and printing when presenting their "Fire Safety" presentations.

Fire and Ice - The BIG Idea

Year 2's adventure of discovery begins with an exciting trip to Aston Hall. They will recreate scenes of everyday life in Pudding Lane, the fire itself, the frantic escape, camping at Moorfields and making decisions about how to rebuild the city. They will learn about significant historical figures including King Charles II, Samuel Pepys and the Lord Mayor of London along the way. The local Fire Brigade will visit along with their fire trucks and describe how they help people and how the children can keep themselves safe. The children will also work as researchers and designers in DT lessons to create new homes to replace the ones which were destroyed by the Great Fire. Children will explore their creative side and imaginative skills will be stimulated through the exploration of colour and texture in art and the composition and performance of sound sequences and leitmotifs in music.

PHSE

Children will discuss "New Beginnings," "Getting on and Falling Out," and "Fighting For Equality." Children will discuss the importance of fire safety and health and safety at home and at school and help other children become aware of the importance of fire safety.

Design Technology

Year Two start the year with a fun filled KS1 Design and Technology 'London Homes!' Year Two will construct their own London homes from 1666 and re-enact their version of the Great Fire of London. They will investigate the features and shapes found within homes before they investigate how shapes can be combined to make structures such as the home that features in London during the 17th century. Children will design and create their own homes from 17th century and modern London. Year Two will become budding architects and create a range of 1666 London homes. In addition, Year Two will investigate a variety of different vehicles before undertaking the fun task of designing, making and evaluating their own fire engine. They will learn all about wheels, axles and chassis and how they are combined to make the framework of the vehicle, as well as how to create an eye-catching body.



Art and Design

Year Two will study a range of iconic "Great Fire" paintings and create their own London's Burning landscapes. This "Fire and Ice" themed unit will teach the class about how to use a range of mediums to produce quality artwork that shows progression in skills. The children will also have the opportunity to explore a range of mediums such as water colours, printing and collage including using materials to produce their own "Fire and Ice" based landscapes. In addition, children will celebrate the Hindu festival of "Diwali" and create their own Diya lamps to celebrate the festival of light. Year Two will learn about the bright colours and bold brushstrokes used by the Impressionists, and other artists, when painting landscapes and cityscapes. Children will use a range of materials creatively to design and make products, in the context of making a range of "Fire and Ice" themed art pieces.

Religious Education

Year Two will investigate the Hindu festival of light "Diwali" and the story of Rama and Sita. Year Two will learn about the importance of light in Christianity, Hinduism and Judaism through learning about Advent, Christmas, Diwali and Hanukkah. Children learn how and why light is important to each festival through participating in lots of practical and creative activities. Children then go on to think about what light and darkness represent and symbolise in each religion. Children will make a range of comparisons between the different religions.

Modern Foreign Languages

Modern Foreign Languages (French) is taught in Key Stage Two.

