



# The Great Fire of London

Welcome to Year 1 with Mrs Searle, Mrs Shah and Miss Sohotey. This term the children will be learning about The Great Fire of London. The children will be learning about the key events, why and how it happened, London (now and then), firefighting, and about key figures, such as Samuel Pepys. The topic work will be closely linked with Art and DT, Science and Literacy.



## Investigate Seasonal change

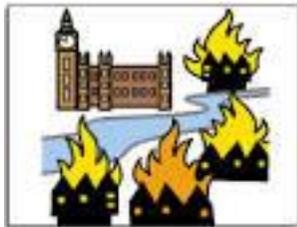
- Sunny facts and Sun movements
- Shadows
- Seasons and months
- Seasonal weather
- Recording weather
- Migration & hibernation
- Seasons through Art and Music

## Big ideas

- Understand the events of the Great Fire of London.
- Why did it happen? When did it happen? How did the fire spread?
- Who was involved in the fire, key figures and records.
- Identify what items I would choose to save if I was there. Link with feelings and emotions
- Learn about the past and how it has shaped the present day.

## Make

- Tudor House models
- Pudding Lane cakes/ biscuits and breads
- Tea paper
- St Paul's Cathedral art
- Fire art and sculptures
- Fire music and traditional rhymes
- Fire stories, poems and dramas



## Discuss

- What do you know about the past/ olden times?
- Ask older family members about what it was like growing up.  
What did they play with?  
What was their house like?  
What technology did they use?
- What do you know about the Fire Service?  
Who can be a Fire Officer?  
What jobs do they do?  
What do they wear?  
How has the fire service changed since the Great Fire?



## This term, as part of their core subjects of study...

**Maths** This term the children will be learning about:

- Counting and sequences
- Mental addition
- Money and time
- Measures and shape
- Addition and subtraction
- Sequences and shapes
- Doubling and halving

### Phonics

Phonics will be taught daily in whole class and smaller group settings. Children will be learning about polysyllabic words, as well as alternative sounds. We will continue to assess your child on a regular basis to ensure that they are in the correct phase for their ability and may at times, send reinforcement work home.

**English** This term the children will be learning about:

- Stories with familiar settings and characters
- Repeating patterns in stories and poems
- Labels, lists and signs
- Non-fiction/ Information texts
- Poetry: Songs and repetitive poems
- Poetry: Pattern and rhyme

The children will have the opportunity to create their own stories and use drama and role play to fully immerse themselves in their learning. Throughout these units the children will be given lots of opportunities to work on their writing skills, learning to recognise when capital letters and full stops are required and to develop the skill of reading their work back in order to make any changes. In handwriting sessions the children will be learning to join two letters together.

**Science** The children will find out facts about the Sun & observe its apparent movement across the sky. They will investigate how shadows change during the day. They will discuss the four seasons & varied day length. They will describe the weather associated with each season & the changes this brings.



We look forward to working with you and your child this year. They are settling well into the routines and expectations of learning in Year 1. Please come and talk to us if you have any problems or just to introduce yourself!  
Kind regards, Nicki Searle (Class teacher)

## As part of their wider, topic related studies...

**P.E.** We will be focusing staying safe, following instructions and a variety of basic skills including balance and co-ordination. Children will need their PE kits in school from Monday to Friday including outdoor wear for colder weather. Please ensure all jewellery including earrings are removed before school and hair is tied back.

### Music

Children will learn a variety of songs with actions, linked with seasonal celebrations. They will also learn about musical instruments, rhythm and pulse.

**R.E** This term the children will be learning about Harvest and who Jesus is. In the second half term we will be exploring the importance of Christmas and looking at some of the parables of Jesus.

### PSHE

In PSHE, the children will be learning about school rules, expectations and routines, getting along with each other, belonging, taking turns, differences and diversity.

### History/Geography

The children will:

- investigate the history of the Great Fire of London
- Learn the events of The Gunpowder plot
- Where Ashford is on a map
- Local and national weather
- Worldwide weather and climates

### Art / Design and Technology

In art, the children will be learning about the artists Henry Moore (Sculptures) and Barbara Hepworth. We will be looking at a variety of historical buildings and monuments and colour/ tones in line with our topic work. We will also be making sculptures and Tudor Houses using recycled materials for our Great Fire of London topic.

### ICT

We will be learning about basic computer skills and paint skills (on age appropriate software) to create E-cards. E-safety will continue to be a big focus.

### Homework and Reading records

Homework goes home on a Friday to be returned by the following Wednesday.

Each child has been allocated a reading book. The children are able to change their books on a daily basis if they have read their book and we can see this through a comment/initial in their yellow reading record book. On the inside cover you will find your child's My Maths log in which you will need for Maths homework. Please check this regularly.

Please can you encourage your child to put their reading books, along with their yellow reading records in their reading folder every day. We will need to see all reading record books on a Monday and a Friday.

### Water Bottles

We encourage the children to bring bottles of water into school to enable them to have regular drinks throughout the day. If your child chooses to do this please can you make sure it is named. We have a tap in the classroom that the children can use to refill their bottles.