



Fire and Flames

CURRICULUM NEWSLETTER YEAR 2: AUTUMN TERM

This newsletter is designed to give parents and carers a taste of the coming topic for Year 2. We have detailed below the main themes that we hope to cover, although there may be changes to respond to the children's ideas and interests. We hope you find this newsletter useful!

STIMULUS: finding out about volcanoes and The Great Fire of London!

Annual Events: Harvest, Remembrance assembly, Operation Christmas Child, Parents' Evening & Christmas events

LITERACY:

In writing we will make up stories linked to volcanoes; in non fiction we will write instructional texts linked to our topic work and information texts about the Great Fire of London.

MATHEMATICS:

The children will be exploring time and dates linked to their work in History. There will also be links to weight in cookery (DT) and repeating patterns with art and printing. Basic mathematics teaching follows the National Curriculum.

DESIGN TECHNOLOGY:

There will be a chance to make and taste bread as well as making salt dough which will be used to make items for role play activities. Children will also be making puppets and developing their techniques and skills with different materials.

SCIENCE:

The key unit are 'Everyday Materials' and 'Animals and People'. The children will recall properties of common materials and investigate changes using bending, twisting and stretching, then heating and cooling and how we use these

in everyday life. There will be close links to PSHE and being healthy and safe.

PSHE:

We are following a units of work based on 'Me and My Friends' and 'Rules and Responsibilities'.

HISTORY:

We will study a special event in British history: The Great Fire of London. We will find out about events leading up to the fire and the changes that the fire instigated in London. Children will also use the diary of Samuel Pepys and find out how eye witness accounts add to our understanding of important events.

MUSIC:

We will be exploring a range of musical elements through topic related and seasonal songs as well as using the new Essex Charangra Music website.

ART:

The children will have opportunities to work with fire colours and silhouettes, decorating clay tiles and drawing historical portraits, pastels and wax resists.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION:

We follow the Essex agreed syllabus for RE. The themes are

'Special Words and Stories' and 'Special People'. We will find out about Christianity and Judaism.

PE:

Games (outside while the weather is fine) is the main unit until half term and then Dance until Christmas.

COMPUTING:

The main units this term are 'What's Brilliant About Me' covering use of email and e-safety, and 'Topical Data' linked to maths, graphs and charts.

N.B. Key ICT skills are taught as part of cross curricular work. In some subjects we will be following schemes of work which are not directly linked to the topic such as reading, spelling, handwriting, grammar, RE and mathematics.

Don't forget you can help at home with daily reading, completing the Word Wizard activity booklets, using 'Espresso', 'Purple Mash' and 'Oxford Owl' websites.

N.B. To log in to 'Espresso' you need to go to <https://home.espresso.co.uk> and log in as student11751 with the password of CM32RP

Please be patient as it takes quite a while to load, but there are loads of resources for the children to explore!