



Year 2: Autumn Term

Our Learning Journey



The start of an exciting new school year sees us jumping back into the past where we will discover and learn about the events of The Great Fire of London in 1666; 358 years ago!

To help us to understand just how disastrous, yet significant this historical event was, we will use drama and role play to explore what it might have been like in 17th Century London, using our senses to describe the smells, sights and sounds of that time.

Exploration of the events leading up to, and including, the four day catastrophe will help us to create a timeline of events. We will explore a range of different sources and use the evidence it provides to suggest how and why the fire started, and why it spread so fast. We will join the London Museum for their Great Fire of London live event where we can ask true historians questions to expand our knowledge further.



Our historical learning will ignite our confidence in our English work as we read and write about the diary of Samuel Pepys (a primary source of evidence). It will help us to understand more about what life was like and how different it was all those years ago.

Learning about the properties of materials in science will support us as we hypothesise about the causes and spread of the fire in 1666. *Why did the fire spread so quickly? Did people learn lessons from the fire? What has changed since then to improve and develop our response to fire emergencies and hazards?*

Additionally, our learning of materials, their uses and their properties will link closely with our first English topic— the traditional tale 'The Three Little Pigs'.

In maths lessons, we will further build on our understanding of place value; counting and ordering numbers to 100, partitioning numbers into tens and ones, and understanding the value of the digits in two digit numbers.

In the second half of the term, we will move on to the addition and subtraction of two digit numbers, learning new methods of calculating after securing our understanding of place value.

After conducting a local area walk to view human and physical features first hand, globes, atlases, floor maps, digital maps and aerial photographs will all be sources of learning as we begin to navigate our way around the world with the help of the four compass points. Using these to guide us, we will describe the locations of different places, beginning to see the UK as part of Europe before looking even more closely at the seven continents and five oceans of the world. At various stages on our journey, we will check our knowledge and understanding by taking part in fun quizzes. Who will be our geographical geniuses? Science lessons will focus on our bodies and teach us how to keep healthy by eating a balanced diet, getting lots of exercise and keeping our bodies clean.



In the second half of the autumn term, we will begin our geographical journey by deepening our understanding of the United Kingdom. This will involve exploring it's countries, capital cities and surrounding seas.

Moving closer to home, we will 'zoom in' to our school grounds by looking at maps and aerial views of the school site. This will enable us to create our own maps before 'zooming out' to look at our school's surrounding area, paying particular attention to the human and physical features observed.

Broadening our horizons, we will use maps, atlases, information and photographs to visit other areas of the United Kingdom to identify and compare the human and physical features of different locations to those found in Mansfield.



PE lessons will develop our ABCs: Agility, Balance, Coordination and Movement. Our indoor and outdoor PE sessions will develop our multi-skills during the first half term. In the second half term we will continue to develop and refine our sending and receiving skills and work on our balances, jumps and rolls in gymnastics.

In Music, Mr Kirkland will teach us to walk, tap and clap the beats of a song to further develop our understanding of beat and rhythm. Science lessons will focus on our bodies in autumn 2, as we discover how we can keep healthy through a balanced diet and regular exercise.

Our values this term are Respect and Responsibility. This is taught through our PSHE curriculum Jigsaw. Our first two jigsaw pieces are 'Being me in my world' and 'Celebrating differences'. This will be time to reflect on our personal feelings, views and relationships both in school and outside of school.



In RE lessons, we will first focus on the notion of 'Belonging', exploring the communities we belong to and how we know we belong. We will be introduced to Judaism and explore the things that some Jewish people do or have to show that they belong to their community. This will move nicely into the theme of Festivals and Celebrations, where we will begin to learn about the Christian and Jewish festivals of light— Hannukah and Christmas.

As we move into the final weeks of the term, we will develop our performance and oracy skills as we take pride in rehearsing for a performance of our version of the Christmas Nativity story. Look out for more details over the coming weeks!

Phew - what a busy, yet fun-packed term we have ahead!

