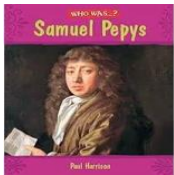


## Year 2 Advent 2 Newsletter

Welcome back! I hope you enjoyed your half term break – super excited to start all of our learning this half term – some very exciting things planned!

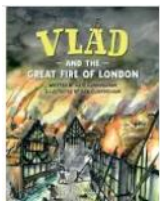
### English



This half term as writers, we will be focusing on:

#### Samuel Pepys -

As part of our Great Fire of London history topic we will be writing diaries like Samuel Pepys and sequencing the events of the great fire.



#### Vlad and the Great Fire of London-

We will be telling part of the story through different characters points of view and then we will be writing some of our own fire poetry.

We are going to be publishing the following genres of text: **Diary Entries, narratives and poetry.**

Alongside our English units, we will also be applying our English skills to our Historic Learning this half term.

We're also going to be visiting Staircase House in Stockport to learn more about the Great Fire of London and to see what houses of the time were like.

### Maths



This half term, as mathematicians, we are going to be focusing on the following:

#### Addition and Subtraction

Before the break, we started our addition and subtraction unit and had been adding two numbers together. But after half term, we will continue to look at related facts, subtracting a 2-digit number from a 2-digit number and start to exchange within this.

#### Shape

After we are confident and fluent with our addition and subtraction skills, we will move on to look at shape.

We will be looking at 2d and 3d shapes, counting sides and vertices, finding lines of symmetry and making patterns with 2d and 3d shapes.

We will be doing some assessments towards the end of November.

At the start of the year, I showed the children how to access Sumdog– something which will help improve their fluency and accuracy when answering maths questions. Homework will be set on Sumdog each week. Please make sure you log in regularly and complete the activities set. The children I will also be giving the children access to Times table Rock stars which will help secure knowledge and speed of times table in a more formal format.

I will only allocated the 2, 5, 10 and 3 times tables to the children on TTRS – these are the ones they needs to be secure and confident in by the end of Year 2.

### RE

This half term is all about signs and symbols (before Advent!) and we will be building on the Y1 learning on recognising and carrying out a baptism. We will be looking at the different symbols that are present in a baptism and what they mean.

After this, we will start learning all about ADVENT! As well as being really busy practicing and rehearsing for the Nativity,



## What was the panic on Pudding Lane?

For our topic learning this half term, we are going to become historians and be completing a deep dive in a momentous event in British History.

Here is an outline of our learning for this half term:

In **week one, as historians**, we will be finding London on a map of the United Kingdom and then comparing a map of the city from 1666 with a map from 2021.

In **week two, as historians**, we will be researching how London has changed. We will work collaboratively and sort artefacts and pictures into 'Past' and 'Present' columns.

In **week three, as historians**, we will find out all about the jobs that were in London during 1666. We will then apply our findings and write job adverts to see if we can entice anyone to apply for one of these roles! Would anybody like to be a rat catcher?!

In **week four, as historians**, we will use eyewitness reports and Samuel Pepys diary to conclude how the great fire started and how it spread across London!

In **week five, as historians**, we will compare sources. Which sources are accurate and which ones would we not 'trust' to learn about this event.

In **week six, as historians**, we'll be researching how London changed after this event. We will begin by looking at how the houses needed to be rebuilt and how many monuments were designed by Christopher Wren. We will then design our own 'house' post fire and see how it compared with what was built.

All our history learning this half term links with the following National Curriculum strands:

- ♣ events beyond living memory that are significant nationally or globally
- ♣ the lives of significant individuals in the past who have contributed to national and international achievements



## Guided Reading

For our Guided Reading this half term, we are going to be developing our fluency and expression when reading aloud. As we become readers, we will answer questions based around retrieval and inference. We use the DERIC approach to Guided Reading (Decode, Explain, Retrieval, Interpret and Choice). To build these skills this half term, we are going to be using *The Owl who was afraid of the dark* by Jill Tomlinson.



After we have completed this story we will be reading *Toby and the Great Fire*.

## Science

Our Enquiry Questions this half term is '**How is it made?**'

During this, we will be learning all about different characteristics of materials. For example looking at which ball is the bounciest and why? What makes a fabric stretchy and what it means to be tough and flexible? We will be using our knowledge to construct a paper bridge to see if our design can hold a car!

I am really excited to see their designs and will enjoy watching their faces as we test them out!



## How can you help?

Over the next half term, homework will be set on seesaw or Sumdog. All log in details are on the front page of their diary-including Sumdog which is a great place to practice fluency in maths. Timetable homework will always be available on TTRS – Reading is still the most important part of your child's learning. By ensuring they are reading, not only their school reading books, but magazines, recipes and other text-based things ensures they are challenged frequently and exposed to a higher level of vocabulary.

Nativity songs and words will also be coming home in the next week or so. Please help your child learn their parts and sing the songs confidently and clearly. We'll be practicing lots at school but all help is welcomed.

As always, if you have any questions, please either catch me on the gate, leave a note in the reading record or contact the office for an appointment. Many thanks,

Mrs Woods