



Great Fire of London

Year 2 - Spring 1



English

- Great Fire of London diaries
- Fairy Tale Riddles
- Goldilocks retell
- Goldilocks adaptation

Our focus this half term is on the Great Fire of London and then we are starting fairy tales.

We will begin by writing questions to find out about the fire and then imagining we are caught in the events of 1666. We will write our own diary entry, describing what we could see and how we felt.

We will be then be focusing on Goldilocks and the Three Bears. We will be writing descriptions of a setting and then writing our own versions of the story.

We will also have a real focus on spelling and handwriting this half term which will be shared with you through Bookshare each week.

History

We will be learning about the Great Fire of London this half term. We will begin by having a drama workshop to experience how the fire started. Then we will be learning about what happened next as well as how and why the fire spread so far. We will have a particular focus on the changes made as a result of the fire.

At home

How about a trip to London where you can visit the Monument which commemorates the Great Fire of London and the rebuilding of the city? You could also visit the Museum of London which regularly has exhibitions on the topic. If you like Minecraft, then the Museum of London have produced some Minecraft maps of the city of London in 1666 which are downloadable from their website.

Closer to home, why not write your own diary entry like Samuel Pepys. Record what you do each day at school or with your friends. You will need to keep it safe just like Mr Pepys!

Science

We will be starting to investigate plants this term. We will be planting seeds and watching how they grow and change. We will also be learning about what plants need to survive.

We will then learning about other living things including different habitats.

At home

Why not take a walk and see what living things you can see. What do plants look like at this kind of year? Maybe you have seeds you can plant as Spring approaches?



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DT

In DT we will then be looking at the joining and construction techniques used in creating buildings.

We will make our own castles in small groups before applying these skills when we design and make our own 17th century house to recreate our own London street from 1666.

We will also be using our jam jars to make our own little Great Fire of London silhouettes.

At home

Can you create your own building using some of the joining techniques we have learned?



RE

This half term we will be learning about what Christians believe about God. We will learn that that the Bible uses names and imagery to give an understanding of Christian beliefs about God. We will be learning how pictures and images can give information about people and objects.

At home

Can you find out why Christians describe God as a Shepherd? Can you find any Bible stories or passages that shows this aspect of God's character?



Maths



This half term we will start by learning about 2d and 3d shapes. We will be starting to describe their properties and sorting them. We will then be exploring money by counting and adding coins and finding change. We will be learning about multiplication and division by counting equal groups and using the multiplication symbol.

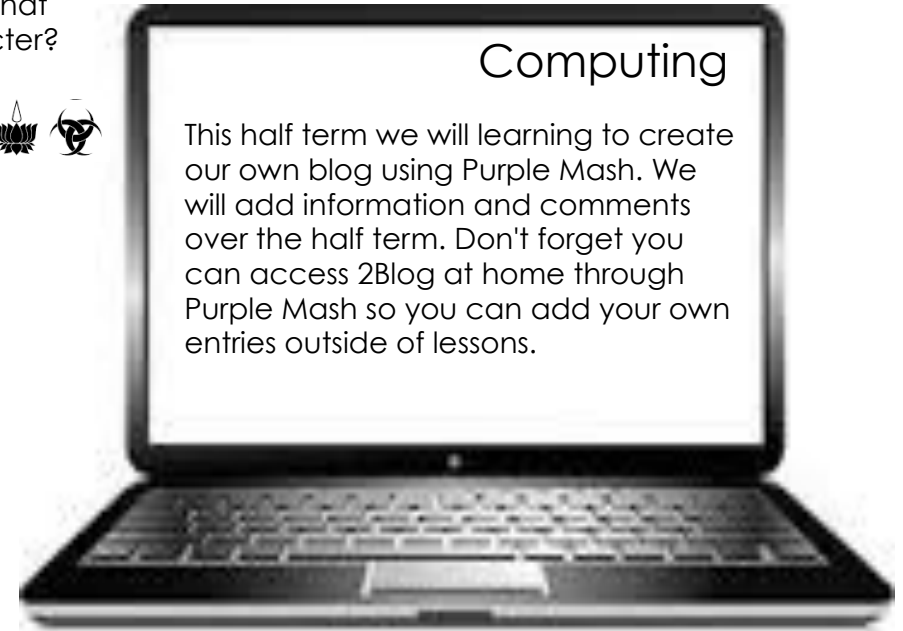
In our Spring maths workshops we will be exploring adding 1 and 2 digit numbers using pictorial representations. Please watch out for the invitation coming soon.

Computing

This half term we will learning to create our own blog using Purple Mash. We will add information and comments over the half term. Don't forget you can access 2Blog at home through Purple Mash so you can add your own entries outside of lessons.

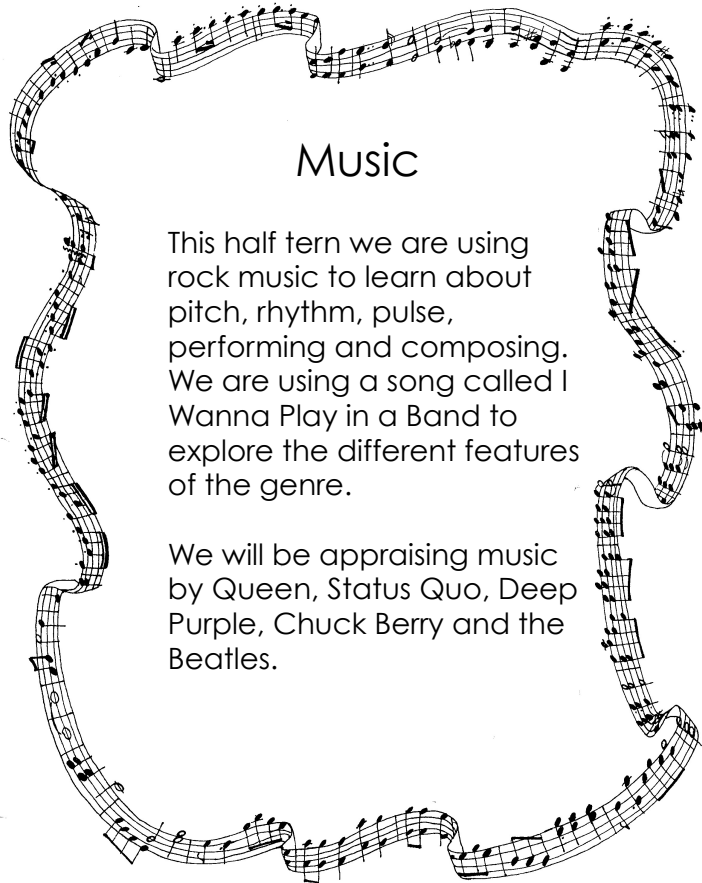
PSHE and Values

We will be starting the term with the Life Base, learning about our feelings and interesting facts about the body. We will also be making our own targets for the year ahead. Our theme this half term is keeping safe and we will be using NSPCC Pants resources the think about personal safety, including knowing about 'Safer Strangers' and 'Safer Buildings' when we are out and about. We will revisit online safety and will continue to learn about how a growth mindset can support our learning.





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Music

This half term we are using rock music to learn about pitch, rhythm, pulse, performing and composing. We are using a song called I Wanna Play in a Band to explore the different features of the genre.

We will be appraising music by Queen, Status Quo, Deep Purple, Chuck Berry and the Beatles.

PE

In PE this term we will be learning hockey skills. The children will learn to hold a hockey stick, pass, dribble and shoot before playing small games.

The children will be working to learn different gymnastic skills in our 'Buildings' unit.

Bridge to Spelling and Handwriting

We are starting the new Little Wandle Spelling Programme this term. We will have daily spelling lessons, focusing on some key features each week.

Week 1

This week we are exploring the questions 'Why do I double letters at the end of words?' and 'Why do I double letters in some longer words ending in -er?'. We will be learning the diagonal join as in *ea*.

Week 2

This week we are thinking about 'Why do some words end in 'k' or 'ck'?' and 'Why do some words end in 'ch' or 'tch'?''. We will be learning to join words with *igh*

Week 3

This week we are thinking about When do I add the suffix -es/-s to words? Why do I double the final letter in some words when I add the suffix -ing? We are joining words with *ng* and *dg*.

Week 4

This week we exploring 'Why do I swap the 'y' for an 'i' when I add the suffix -ed?' and 'Why do I drop the 'e' when I add the suffix -ing?'. In handwriting we are learning the horizontal join in 'oo' and 'oa'.

Week 5

Finally we are exploring 'What do I need to know to think about spelling?' and 'How do I use the Complete the code chart to help me to spell?' as we prepare to teach the full Spelling programme. Our handwriting is focusing on joining words with *wa* and *wo*.