



Welcome back! We hope you all had a wonderful summer break and are as excited as we are about the start of a brand-new school year. Year 2 is an exciting time as children become the 'role models' in Key Stage 1 and start to develop their independence whilst embarking on an exciting learning journey. We can't wait to see what they are all ready to achieve.

Discover Project – Should we be forgiven for the mistakes we make?

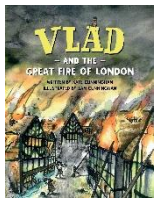
This term we will be focussing on history and will start by stepping back in time to 1666 to explore a big 'mistake' which was started by Thomas Farriner in a bakery on Pudding Lane – The Great Fire of London! We will start by exploring the concept of what it means to make a mistake and when we believe that mistakes should be forgiven. We will explore what happened during the Great Fire of London including when and how the fire started, why it spread so far and differences between life during 1666 and today.



We will look at the lives of significant individuals, such as Samuel Pepys and Christopher Wren. Throughout the term, we will also be reading a range of books from the 'Little People, Big Dreams' series and the impact that people have had on our world over the past century. To finish our project, we will be exploring significant individuals from our very own local area of Nottinghamshire!

More information can be found in this term's project placemat which can be found on the [Year 2 class page](#) on the school website.

English



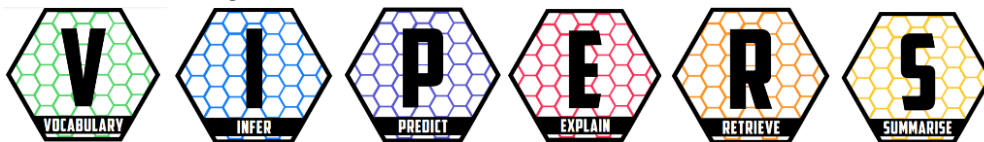
To support our project, we will begin the term by diving into the story 'Vlad and the Great Fire of London' by Kate and Sam Cunningham. Children will be immersed in the story before writing their own narrative in role as one of the characters. We will explore diaries written by Samuel Pepys and other characters and of course be reading lots of different non-fiction texts about the project. We will read different texts in the 'Little People, Big Dreams' series to research and write about significant people throughout history.

Throughout the autumn term, there will be a big focus on revisiting and recapping our phonics, handwriting and letter formation skills. Please support us by encouraging your child to practise their handwriting at home!

Reading

We will be sending new reading books home soon and there will be an opportunity each week for children to change their books. Your child's reading book will be carefully selected to ensure they can read at least 90% accurately without adult support. The aim is for children to read fluently and confidently and build up their ability to read words by sight. Please encourage your child to re-read texts to build confidence, fluency, comprehension and sight reading. Please also ensure that you read as often as possible at home – at least 3 times per week – and record this in your child's reading diary.

In Year 2 there is also a big focus on reading comprehension which takes place during Whole Class Reading sessions, in which we focus on the following areas:



We will also visit Ravenshead Library each half term. Please watch out for the dates for this and let us know if you are able to help.

Maths

In maths, we will be following the White Rose programme of work. We start by exploring our knowledge of place value before moving onto addition and subtraction. We will also be exploring what we know about 2D and 3D shapes. In addition, there will be an ongoing focus on our times tables throughout the year. By the end of Year 2, children should know their 2s, 5s and 10s confidently and be able to count in 3s. You can support your child at home by encouraging them to practise these.

Other Curriculum Areas

- Science: Living Things and their Habitats
- DT: Structures – Baby bear's chair and Santa's sleigh!

- Computing: Presenting Media and Online Safety
- PE: Gymnastics/Multiskills
- RE: What makes some people inspiring to others?
- Music: Pulse, Rhythm and Pitch

Talking Points / RSHE

RSHE lessons will be taught through a range of 'Talking Points' picture books, a list of which you can find on the RSHE page on our school website. We start with questions such as 'Why should I exercise?', 'What if I don't like vegetables?' and 'Are medicines always good?'. [Click here to see the Y2 texts.](#)

PE

PE will take place on Mondays and Wednesdays and children should come into school in their PE kits on these days.. Please also ensure that long hair is tied back on these days and that children are not wearing any jewellery (especially earrings).



Phonics and Spellings

In phonics/spelling sessions, we will start the first half term by revisiting and recapping our Phase 5 phonics skills (both in reading and writing). After half term, our learning will be focussed around the words/spelling rules within the Y2 National Curriculum.

Each half term, we will share some examples of words that you could use to support your children at home. These are not to be learnt for a spelling test as such, but to embed our learning in class. Please encourage your children to practise these words at home. If they need an extra challenge, they could practise writing them in a sentence or hunt for other words with the same spelling rule – they could even set up their own spelling journal to use at home!

All of these spellings will be [available here on the Y2 Class Page.](#)

Homework

Information on homework will be discussed at the Year 2 Parents' Information Evening. For now, homework is as follows:

- Reading – 10-20 mins, at least 3x per week
- Spellings – Practise the spelling lists each week - [available here on the Y2 Class Page.](#)
- Sticky questions – to be discussed every Monday in class
- [Numbots](#) and/or [TT Rock Stars](#) – log on at least once per week. Both of these websites use the same login details.
- Aim High Homework – Watch out for more information about this creative homework opportunity coming later in the term!

Home Time

At the end of the day, please do give us a wave when your child is ready to be handed over! Please also remember to let us know if you have made any different arrangements for your child to be collected (e.g. a different parent or after-school club). In order to ensure the children's safety, we will not let children leave unless we have been notified by parents beforehand. You can do this by emailing or calling the school office or by letting us know at the start of the school day.

Enrichment

In order to provide a range of enrichment activities, we would greatly appreciate parent donations to our enrichment fund. We ask for a voluntary donation of £2 per term (or £6 for the year). Donations can be made via the school gateway. We thank you in advance for your support.

CAN YOU HELP?

Are you able to help with any of the topics above? Do you have any skills/talents linked to the things we are learning? Perhaps you know somebody who has a History-based career who might be able to come in and inspire us...please let us know! We would love to invite you in.

We look forward to a very exciting first term with Year 2! Please don't hesitate to ask if you have any questions.

YEAR 2 TEAM