

## PE

### Ball skills

We will be developing our hand-eye coordination by playing lots of games involving throwing, catching, rackets and balls. We will continue to have PE with Mr Butler every Tuesday and Wednesday.

## Computing

We will be continuing with our 'We are Painters' topic. We will learn to use a paint program to produce and edit illustrations, discuss how effective they are and use them to support our writing.

This half-term, we'll be learning about...

# FIRE! FIRE!

## HEDGEHOGS - AUTUMN 2023

## Science

### Healthy living

We will be looking at how we can keep ourselves healthy. We will be looking at different food groups we should include in a balanced diet, and investigating how exercise can keep us strong. We will also be looking at the human body and discovering how different parts of the body work and why they are important to us.

## The Arts

Linked to our history topic we will be using watercolours to create pictures of fire and skylines. In DT, meanwhile, we will be designing and constructing moving vehicles, learning how to use axles to connect wheels and allow them to turn. Over the next few weeks we will be rehearsing our Christmas show, combining singing, dancing and acting.

## Maths

We will begin by focussing on mental addition and subtraction, becoming quicker and more confident in our use of numbers to 100 by building on our knowledge of place value and number bonds. We will then apply these skills to measure and missing number problems.

Later in the term we will move on to working with money, making totals using a variety of different coins and working out change when we are shopping. We will then investigate the language of comparison, using phrases like *difference*, *more*, *less* and *fewer*, before finishing the term by beginning to estimate and measure using different scales.

## English

Our focus for the next half-term will be non-fiction reports. We will be reading reports about people who help us in the local community, such as the police, firefighters and nurses. Having learnt a report about firefighters by heart, we will use the structure and format to support our own writing, in particular focussing on the use of headings, sub-headings and paragraphs. Finally, we will have the opportunity to write our own reports, exploring a career that we have chosen.

Throughout the term, we will continue to work on sentence construction, ensuring that we use full stops and capital letters correctly. We will also work on spelling and phonics every day.

## Humanities

### History

We will continue to learn about the Great Fire of London over the next few weeks. We will explore eye-witness accounts of the Great Fire by reading diary entries, so that we can understand what it would have been like to live in London at the time. We will also discover how the City of London fought the fire and the way that the London Fire Brigade has changed over the last 300 years - which should help us to think of lots of questions to ask when we (hopefully) get to interview real-life firefighters later in the term.

### RE

We will be focussing on the story of Christmas, finding out why it means so much to Christians around the world.



## PE

Keeping fit, happy and healthy is always important. There are links to lots of great resources and workouts to help everyone in the family get active at [www.sportengland.org/jointhemovement](http://www.sportengland.org/jointhemovement)

## Computing

There are loads of paint apps available on every platform, where you can practice the skills we've been using in class. Online, you could try starting out at [kleki.com/](http://kleki.com/) or [www.youidraw.com/apps/painter/](http://www.youidraw.com/apps/painter/)

Ideas for supporting learning at home:

## Science

- Do a little bit of exercise together and talk about the effect it has on your body - can you feel your heart beating a little faster? Can you feel which parts of your body are getting tired or sweaty? Help your child to understand that these are good things (so long as you don't overdo it) and are a sign that your body is working hard.

# FIRE! FIRE!

## HEDGEHOGS - AUTUMN 2023

## English

- Constant practice of reading - and discussion of what's been read - is just about the most valuable thing you can do at home. Our aim is to turn all our children into fluent readers, so they should be able to read the books they're bringing home with speed, accuracy and confidence.
- We continue to use the Read Write Inc scheme for our daily phonics sessions, and there's guidance on supporting this at home available at: [www.ruthmiskin.com/en/find-out-more/parents/](http://www.ruthmiskin.com/en/find-out-more/parents/)
- You can also find advice on supporting spelling at: [www.bedwell.herts.sch.uk/learning/spelling\\_strategies.pdf](http://www.bedwell.herts.sch.uk/learning/spelling_strategies.pdf)

## Maths

- Calculate change using subtraction at the shops - we had £10 when we left home and we've spent £6, so how much should we have left? How much will we need to buy these presents for Nan and Granddad?
- Count down days until Christmas or the holidays - we've just opened door number 5 on the advent calendar, so how many chocolates are left? How many sleeps are there until the Christmas holidays?
- Add up the judges scores on Strictly to work out each couple's score - how far ahead is the leader?
- Use dried pasta, rice or marbles to add groups, make totals or subtract.

## Humanities

- Our history topic this term is the Great Fire of London, which provides lots of opportunities for learning beyond the classroom - try investigating the history, building models, drawing, painting pictures or reading about the lives of people who lived through it. There are loads of resources available through the Oak National Academy: [teachers.thenational.academy/units/the-great-fire-of-london-7a50](https://www.thenational.academy/units/the-great-fire-of-london-7a50)
- In RE, we will be learning about the Christmas story, so as you start getting the decorations out and thinking about presents, talk together about the stories behind our traditions. There are some lovely animated versions available on the BBC website.

## The Arts

Have a go at making your own skyline picture at home. They could be lined to the Great Fire of London, like we're doing in class, or it could be a view from your window, over the roofs of your favourite place or across somewhere imaginary. You could paint it, draw it or try a bit of collage - using chopped up bits of magazines can be really effective.