<u>Welcome back.</u> We hope you've all had an enjoyable break and that the children are ready for another exciting and busy half term.

<u>Contacting Us</u> If there is anything that you wish to discuss with us, please email us, or contact the office to arrange a mutually convenient time to meet up.

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We will continue to use ClassDojo for general messages and to share photos and work on Class Story. Please note that we may not see messages during teaching time, so anything urgent should be communicated through the office.

Key Dates:

Monday 3rd and Thursday 6th March— Parents' Evening

Thursday 6th March—World Book Day

Tuesday 25th March—visit to Staircase House

Supporting your child at home:

Thank you for your ongoing support with your child's learning at home. Please read regularly with your child each week, focussing not only on fluency, but also comprehension skills.

This half term we will continue with weekly spelling lists to be practised at home and checked weekly in school—more information will follow about this.

For Maths, please encourage your children to complete the tasks set on Mathletics. Also, continuing to practise telling the time up to 5 minute intervals, with analogue and digital clocks, will be very helpful. <u>Creative Curriculum:</u> We look back to the 17th Century this half term, to find out about the Great Fire of London. We will investigate artefacts and secondary sources to understand where, when and how the fire started. We will consider factors that caused the fire to spread so quickly, as well as the way it changed the city. Our Art this half term links to this topic—we will revisit colour mixing to create warm and cool colours, then use a variety of techniques to create a Great Fire of London painting.

English: This term, our writing will be linked to our historical enquiry around the Great Fire of London and will culminate in a diary entry written as Samuel Pepys. We will use drama, reading and research to support our writing.
Our weekly guided reading session will continue to focus on comprehension skills. Spelling practise will take place 4 times a week, continuing to learn the Year 2 spelling rules. There will also be regular handwriting practise, as we begin to join.

Maths: The main focus this half term is multiplication and division. The children will be introduced to multiplication as adding equal groups and to division by grouping and sharing. By the end of the half term, they should be confident multiplying and dividing by 2, 5 and 10. With Miss Matthews on Tuesdays, the children will develop their understanding of length and money. We will use manipulatives and reasoning tasks that allow the children to explain their mathematical thinking. MathsWhizz sessions will also continue in school.

<u>Science & DT:</u> Later in the half term, we will begin our science topic about animals. We will look at a range of lifecycles, including human, matching offspring to adults and thinking about changes as they grow. We will then think about what we need to do to stay healthy, including diet and exercise. We will finish this topic by designing and creating a healthy smoothie!

<u>PSHE:</u> We will begin by looking at recognising hurtful behaviour and different types of bullying. We will then focus on being part of different groups, and our rights and responsibilities within them. We will also think about the purpose and value of the Internet in our daily life.

<u>PE:</u> Indoor PE will take place on a <u>Thursday</u>, with a focus on gymnastics. Outdoor Games sessions with the coaches will be on <u>Mondays</u>. Please make sure your child has the correct kit on those dates, including warm clothes for outdoors, and that it is all clearly labelled.

<u>Computing:</u> We will be using 2Question in Purple Mash to explore data handling using binary trees. We will also use online searches for some of our research for writing.

<u>RE:</u> This half term we will be thinking about how we celebrate special and sacred times. We will be learning about festivals from different religions, including Holi, Eid, Passover and Easter.



Fire