

The Great Fire of London

London's story

We begin our journey, stepping back in time and travelling along a timeline, moving further into the past than we have been before. As we travel, we use words like decade and century to help us understand the concept of time. We stop at the year of the Great Fire of London and discover when it happened, who the King was and how long ago it was. Because no one alive can remember this event, we as historians, search for clues from the past to discover what changed in London after the fire.

After this, we put our historian skills into action. We look closely at the past and the present to spot similarities and differences. Using maps and photographs, we explore what London was like before the Great Fire of London and compare it to London today. We observe changes we can see both in physical and human features, helping us understand how the capital city has changed over time.

What changed in London because of the Great Fire of London?

Waddington Primary School
Spring in Year 2

History

We open and explore old pictures, paintings and newspaper reports and suddenly the past feels closer. The flames of the Great Fire of London seem to flicker before our eyes. We ask questions like real historians, wondering how the fire began and why it spread so fast. Piece by piece, we uncover clues about cause and consequence, discovering the reasons the fire grew so powerful, spread so quickly and learning which causes were perhaps most significant. Now we dive deeper into the past and study our sources more carefully. We compare them to help us build a clear picture of the Great Fire of London. We read diary accounts from people who were there, including Samuel Pepys, and listen to their words as they describe what they saw. We also explore artefacts and images, using them to imagine what was happening at the time. As historians, we think hard and ask an important question: Could more have been done to stop the fire?

As the smoke clears, we look closely at what changed and what continued and stayed the same after the Great Fire of London. We watch London slowly rise again, rebuilt stone by stone. We follow the consequences of the fire and discover how people learned from this event. One change shines brighter than the rest — the changes and advancements in firefighting. At the end of our journey, we gather all our knowledge and understand why the Great Fire of London is so important, seeing how its short-term and long-term effects still shape our lives today.

We will be showcasing our irresistible learning through a class assembly.

Waddington Primary School Spring in Year 2

English

We have an exciting term planned for our writing as authors. Using a variety of books as inspiration and linked to other areas of the curriculum we will be writing diaries, explanation texts, non-chronological reports, persuasive speech and descriptive writing.

To help develop our writing skills further, we will continue to focus on our presentation, learn different grammar skills and spelling techniques to enable us to write both ambitiously and creatively.

Poetry

Throughout the term, we will explore a variety poems in our shared love of reading. Linked to the Great Fire of London, we will also create our own colour poem.

Maths

As mathematicians, Year 2 will continue to enhance our knowledge of multiplication to support us to calculate equations. We will then begin looking at division and the relationship between doubles and halves. We will also deepen our mastery recall skills.

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Our love of reading

Each fortnight we have visits from our Year 4 reading buddies to share our love of reading. In addition, we share class texts, take part in a weekly reading challenges and share a beautiful array of books.

Early Reading

In Year 2 we continue the Little Wandle learning via phonics and spelling. The children are taught daily and read texts that are aligned to their phonics knowledge three times a week to build their fluency, prosody and comprehension.

Science

Plants, living things and their habitats

As scientists, we will begin by experimenting, observing and recording what plants need to grow and stay healthy in different environments over time.

As we move into Spring 2, we will be explore a variety of habitats throughout the world and investigate how both flora and fauna adapt to thrive in those environments.



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PSHE

We will be recognising feelings, understanding how to deal with them and considering the impact of our decisions.

Commando Joe

Samuel Pepys based missions:

Through different challenges we will use and develop the following skills in:

- Resilience
- Empathy
- Teamwork
- Communication
- Positivity

Art

Textiles: We will be looking at the textile artists Carol Naylor and Ana Teresa and use their work as inspiration to create a Great Fire of London weaving outcome.

DT

Mechanisms: We will be designing and learning how to make and create a moving mechanism to solve a class problem.

Computing

To design our own algorithms we will be exploring codes and how they effect the outcome of a program. Then we will move onto reading pictograms and representing data using a technology.

PE

- Dance
- Net/wall games
- Sending and receiving
- Target games

RE

We will be looking into what the Qur'an says about how Muslim's should treat others and live their lives.

Music

As part of our music curriculum we will explore musical story telling and perform our own musical composition.

Experience Days

- Great Fire of London experience - 12th January
- Atikier Patel- RE visit- 26th January
- Online safety workshop - 21st January
- Healthy relationships workshop- 12th February
- World book day - 5th March
- PE competition - 6th March
- British Science Week - WC 9th March