

# Engage, Enquire, Excel at Millfield

## Year 1

### Welcome back!

Hello and welcome back to Year 1! We hope you all had a good rest over half-term and it is lovely to see you back. We wanted to thank you again for your support and cooperation during the first half-term.

### Engagement and Enquiry through our Learning Challenge

This half-term, our learning challenge topic is 'Fire' and much of our learning will be directly linked to this. This learning challenge has a History focus. We have started this topic by learning all about bonfire night and The Gunpowder Plot. Moving forwards, our main focus will move towards the Great Fire of London, led by the children's interests. We will be learning about the significance of this event and using it to make comparisons between now and the past. The children will be using a range of sources, such as images and stories, to investigate this. We will also be exploring the importance of fire-fighters and how fire-fighting has evolved throughout time. We will be transforming our environment to support the children's enquiry throughout the topic. The children's interests will also be used to guide the exploration of this topic.

### English and Maths

As we are working as a unit providing continuous provision for the children to explore and learn, there will be opportunities for the children to engage with english and maths throughout the day. As well as these opportunities for maths and writing the children will take part in daily number and phonics sessions where they will be split into smaller groups. During the phonics sessions the children will be taught new sounds while recapping ones they have already been taught. In addition to this, the children now complete a directed writing task fortnightly in a teacher-led guided group. During the number sessions they will be focusing on place value, addition and subtraction and 2D and 3D shape.

### The wider curriculum linked to our Learning Challenge: ‘

Although our learning challenge has a History focus, we will be covering other areas of the curriculum throughout our 'Fire' topic. We will think about how to construct Tudor houses using different materials. The children will be encouraged to design, make and evaluate these. We will also be looking at artists, such as Theodore Butler, who are known for their paintings and drawings in the impressionist style.

### Other subjects within the wider curriculum

**Music** - During the second half of the Autumn Term Year 1 will be focusing on Reggae and Hip Hop style music and continuing to explore Pulse, Rhythm, Pitch, Dynamics, Tempo, Texture, Singing and Rapping. They will be finding/moving to the pulse and will reinforce the fact that it is the heartbeat of the music. They will be clapping, copying, playing and creating rhythms using body percussion and percussion instruments. They will be discussing song structure and will have the opportunity to sing a song linked to 'Fire' in small groups and in a round. They will continue to explore pitch by listening to/singing/playing high and low sounds and will develop confidence when improvising, composing and performing.

We have two PE sessions a week. One will be taught by specialist PE coaches whose focus for this period will be keeping fit. In the other PE session, we will be focusing on dance, linking this in with our History topics.

We will be having weekly circle times to explore the PSHE curriculum. Our focus for this period will be friendship.

### Useful Information

Home Learning: The children will receive weekly spelling, reading books (when they are ready) and sometimes we will set challenges on Tapestry.

PE Kit: Please have this in school all week as there are times when we may need to change the day PE takes place on.

### Useful websites- for both children and parents

<https://www.phonicsplay.co.uk/>

<https://www.booksfortopics.com/fire-of-london>