



**ST. DUNSTAN'S**

**Year 2 Rationale**

**Autumn 1<sup>st</sup> Half Term**

**What caused the Great Fire of London?**



Our learning during the first half of the Autumn term will be based on the Great Fire of London. We will begin thinking about significant events that may have happened in London. Turning our focus to what happened in the fire, we will create a time line of the events of the week of the fire in chronological order.

Developing our skills as historians, we will research how the fire started and consider what contributed to the rapid spread. We will look at various pieces of evidence such as extracts from Samuel Pepys' diary and discuss what an eye witness account is. The children will have an opportunity to find out about housing and conditions of the time; whether the materials used were safe.

The learners will be able to compare the fire-fighting strategies used in 1666 with the resources we use now in modern times. A visit from the education officer from Surrey Fire and Rescue will enable the children to ask questions and make comparisons. This will contrast with our fictional character of Vlad the flea, who escaped the fire. The children will have the chance to compare what happens in the story with historical fact.

Building on concepts taught in the previous year in Maths will provide a base for using their knowledge of place value to solve number problems. Being able to solve maths problems in a variety of ways especially applying what they know about number facts to 20 and counting in 2, 5, 10, to help them.

In their reading the children will discuss the sequencing of events that they have read about. They will check and investigate any new vocabulary and make predictions about what might happen next. When writing they will rehearse, plan and write their sentences incorporating their new vocabulary and use the punctuation.