



ST. DUNSTAN'S

Year 2 Rationale

Autumn 1st 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. Focusing on the causes and events of the fire, we will also look at the devastating effects on people such as rendering most of London's population homeless and the huge loss of livelihoods.

The children will compare London of 1666 to London today, looking at change that occurred as a result of the fire and how we have benefitted. For example, after the fire London was rebuilt using brick and stone and legislation was introduced permitting buildings from jutting out over the ground below.

The children 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. They will also have the chance to compare what happens in the story with historical fact.

The theme of suitable building materials continues into science in which the children look at a variety of materials and their properties. They will investigate the suitability of different materials for purposes and make links to the world around them. For example, buildings are made of brick or stone as these are durable, natural and not susceptible to fire or pests.