



During this half term our enquiry is:

Who is George Stephenson and why is he important to Darlington?

During the first week of Autumn 2 we will be focusing on our mini topic **'Was Guy Fawkes right or wrong?'** They will be following clues to figure out our important event, The Gunpowder Plot and learning about why people celebrate by having Bonfire Night. At school we will have our own fire pit experience. Over the week they will be sequencing the events of the Gunpowder Plot and discussing right and wrong in PSHE leading to their final debate.

Our main topic will begin during our visit to Head of Steam in Darlington and Shildon Railway Museum where we will learn about George Stephenson's childhood, his adult life and achievements. The children will explore artefacts from the past and compare with the present day to help them imagine what life would have been like for George. We will go back in time to discover how people travelled in the past and how Stephenson had an impact on the lives of people not only in the North East but also worldwide with his Darlington to Stockton railway. In Music they will continue to explore trains, reading and performing poetry using beat and rhythm. They will create a PowerPoint presentation in Computing to show their learning. Towards the end of the half term we will learn about mechanisms in DT and in groups the children will design, make and evaluate their own vehicle which will be raced at the West Park Trials.

Subject	Activities / areas to be covered in school	Possible learning at home
English	Our class text is The Great Kapok Tree Through this we will be writing a persuasive pieces and description. Skills that we will be developing are: conjunctions (if, because, that, but). Writing descriptions: improving adjectives and verbs, exploring adverbs. For our text: Footprints in the Snow we will be developing our reading skills of skim, scan, read closely, making predictions, using the skills of inference	When reading ask children if they can spot the verb or adjective in the text. Begin word banking powerful adjectives and verbs. Watch link: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JeognSU6wFU
Maths	In Maths we will be focussing on money – counting pounds and pence, making the same amount in different ways, adding to find the total, finding the difference and subtracting to find change. We will also be developing our skills in multiplication and division – making/counting equal groups, 2, 5 and 10 times tables.	Practise 2, 5 and 10 times tables and learn them fluently, not just in order.
Science	In Science we will be exploring how to investigate like a scientist. We will be carrying out different experiments and recording results.	Have races using skateboard, bike, scooter, roller skates etc. Which is the quickest? Why do they think that?
Computing	Learning to log on and off. Exploring the keys on a keyboard.	Explore Power Point presentation at home. Have a go at creating a presentation on a chosen topic (we would love to see these!)

Year 2

Autumn 2 Overview



	Creating a power point presentation-adding text, new slides, adding pictures and saving work.	
Physical Education	Dance- working on their own, in pairs and as a class to produce a dance. Games- Basketball developing ball handling skills and developing agility	Listen to and respond to music at home, thinking about different levels (high, medium and low). Throwing and catching a ball.
PSHCE	Anti-bullying Week Same and different Playing cooperatively	https://www.courtneywestlake.com/10-great-childrens-books-that-celebrate/ A link with possible books exploring same and different.
DT	In DT we will be looking at wheels and axles- how they work and the jobs that they do. We will then be making moving vehicles that contain wheels and axles.	Looking at things around the house that might use a wheel and axle. Use building kits. Take toy cars apart to explore.
History	Understanding past and present and comparing our lives to those from the past. Exploring how people travelled in the past. Understanding the impact of a significant local person (George Stephenson) on Darlington. We will also be exploring why we celebrate Bonfire Night through the events of the Gunpowder Plot.	Visit Sainsbury's- upstairs near the escalator and look at what is on the rails. Visit the Brick Train near Morton Park. Visit Head of Steam and Shildon Railway museum after our trip to gather further facts. Grandparents/ Great grandparents to share what Darlington was like when they were a child- how has it changed?
Art	In art we will be developing our skills as painters. Brush skills – creating different lines using the tip and side of a paint brush Colour mixing – mixing primary colours to create secondary colours and making them lighter and darker (shades and tones)	Looking at any art and looking at how it has been produced. What art do they like best?
RE	In this term leading up to Christmas we will be exploring The Nativity and the meaning of Christmas to Christians.	Talk about the meaning of Christmas. https://www.topmarks.co.uk/christmas/nativitystory.aspx https://www.bbc.co.uk/cbeebies/stories/lets-celebrate-christmas-story