



'Being Better Every Day'

Friday 6th September 2024

Year 5 Curriculum Newsletter – Term 1

We are excited to share our first curriculum newsletter of the school year! We are looking forward to learning all about World War 2 in Term 1. This week the children have completed some fantastic work and it has been wonderful to witness the children's enthusiasm towards our new unit.

In **Term 1**, our unit title is **'We'll Meet Again'**. There is a big focus on **History** in this unit.

A siren sounds, a building crumbles, a Spitfire zooms overhead. Take cover. It's 1939 and Britain is at war. Journey across the world as we take a look at the countries pivotal to the war and the impact their geographical location and features helped or hindered them throughout the war. Zoom over Europe as we explore the areas key to events such as the Normandy Landings and the D-Day Bombings. Travel overseas and oceans to discover America's position, both geographically and politically, as they enter the war and show how their sheer size supported the war effort. Come with us and explore the world's lands and seas through the eyes of a world war!

During this unit, your child will attempt to answer the concept question:

'How did leadership in World War 2 impact on civilian lives?'

(We have attached a 'Knowledge Organiser' for this unit, providing an overview of the topic; this should be a useful resource for pupils and parents.)

Home Learning Project

For each unit, we will ask your child to complete a home-learning project. We ask that every child has a go at completing a project that can be brought into school. For this unit we have listed possible ideas below. Alternatively, your child may want to do something completely different!

- A sculpture of a memorial of the war.
- Write a letter from a RAF pilot home to his family. What did he see from his journey above? Which oceans has he flown over? What mountain ranges has he passed? Which countries has he seen on his travels through the clouds around the world?
- Write a poem inspired by the blitz and using landmarks from London.
- Produce a piece of art based on a location in WW2 (for example, the D-Day landings).
- Make your own gas mask. You could use everyday household items, like toilet rolls and tissue boxes, to look like the masks used during air raids in WW2.



- Design a meal using items that would have been available during WW2, remember – some items were rationed and hard to get hold of! You might want to make your meal, I'm sure your teacher would love to see pictures of your cooking or even have a taste!

Your child may wish to come up with their own idea for their home learning project. They may wish to complete their project by themselves or need your support in completing their project – either is fine and we look forward to seeing them.

Images

Below are some images to inspire your home-school projects.



We have also included a list of websites you could explore at home to help your child with their learning:

Useful Websites:

BBC Bitesize- WW2: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/ztvckqt>

Imperial war museum: <https://www.iwm.org.uk/events/explore-a-kids-guide-to-iwm-london>

National Geographic: <https://www.natgeokids.com/uk/discover/history/general-history/world-war-two/>

Google maps: <https://www.google.com/maps>

Google Earth: <https://earth.google.com/web/@0,0,0a,22251752.77375655d,35y,0h,0t,0r>

Home learning projects should be completed by the week beginning **Monday 21st October**. If you have any questions about the home learning project, please contact your child's class teacher.

Homework

A grid of homework activities will be sent home each term. When an activity has been completed, your child should hand it in to their teacher.

Reading

Reading is the single most important skill that children will learn, and we expect every child to read at home every day. In Year 5, we expect every child to read with an adult for a minimum of **25 minutes** every day. Reading takes on many forms and can take place just about anywhere, including the reading of labels and signs, and in magazines and comics. Parents and carers should record the daily reading activity in your child's reading record **ready for the children to show their class teacher at school** who will sign it and give merits for continuous effort.

Times Tables

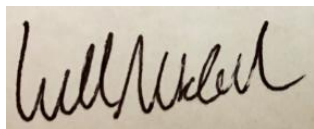
Additionally, we would like the children to be practising their times tables every day for at least **25 minutes**. The children all have an individual account for **Times Table Rock Stars** which they can use to support their learning. The aim is for all children to improve and learn all their times tables facts.

PE

This term, our PE lessons will take place on **Thursday** afternoons. Your child should continue to wear their PE kit to school on this day to maximise lesson time. As our lessons will be outside, please ensure your child has their Oakwood PE kit and trainers for the lessons.

Thank you for all your continued support. We hope your children will enjoy learning about such a fantastic and interesting period of history!

Yours sincerely,



Mr. W. Mitchell
Year 5 Class Teacher



Mr A. Spiers
Year 5 Class Teacher, Phase Lead

KNOWLEDGE – EQUALITY – DETERMINATION – ACHIEVEMENT

