

Autumn Term World War II -Year 5 - How was life different during WW2 compared to now?

English

This term, Year 5 will immerse themselves in the powerful wartime stories *Friend or Foe* and *Letters from the Lighthouse*. Inspired by these texts, pupils will develop their writing skills through a range of genres, including newspaper reports, character and setting descriptions, and more. They will also explore poetry, crafting their own World War II-themed poems, and will research and write a biography of renowned author Michael Morpurgo, deepening their understanding of his life and work.

Maths

This term, children will deepen their understanding of addition and subtraction with four-digit numbers, exploring a range of methods to build confidence and accuracy. They will also learn to multiply four-digit numbers by one- and two-digit numbers, focusing on selecting and applying the most efficient strategies. Throughout the term, pupils will continue to refine their mental arithmetic skills, applying their learning to a variety of problem-solving contexts.

History

This unit explains the origins of World War Two, exploring how empire and rebellion influenced Hitler’s ambitions. Pupils will study key events such as the Battle of Britain, conduct a local history investigation using sources from the West Midlands, and compare urban and rural experiences to understand how Britain achieved victory. Grammarsaurus resources are used to support and enhance children's learning of key historical skills.

Science

Out of this world – children will be learning all about space, and the planets in our Solar System. Pupils will take part in an exciting nationwide collaboration, recreating Eratosthenes’ famous experiment alongside schools from across the country

Material world - we will then be looking at materials and their properties and experimenting with these.

Community concepts

Children will be taught to empathise with persecuted communities, such as the Jewish community.

Children will be taught how people living on the home front, needed to unify as a community to get by.

Enrichment

WWII Day
World Book Day/ Roald Dahl
Local History investigation
Black History Month
World Peace Day
European Day of Languages
Forest School
Arboretum Visit
Recreation Eratosthenes famous experiment

D&T / Art

Children will create a piece of artwork based on the artist Andy Burgess with the Blitz as our context.

Children will also create some Black history artwork and cook a rationed recipe.

Children will take part in an exciting school-wide project to design and create a Christmas decoration, developing their sewing skills through a fun and festive hands-on activity.

French

During Autumn term, we are learning about French colours, numbers and alphabet, my family and me, colours and holidays and celebrations.

P.E

During the autumn term the children will be taking part in Netball, Football, Team building and Tag Rugby

Computing – Purple Mash

Quizzing – Identifying and creating our own quiz

Databases - Children will create their own databases as well as query existing databases.

Geography

In this unit, children explore UK biomes and ecosystems through a case study of the New Forest and local fieldwork. They investigate biodiversity in a nearby woodland, collect and analyse data, and present their findings to an audience.

Music (Sing up)

In this unit, pupils explore the history and purpose of sea shanties through singing, rhythm games, body percussion, and instrumental accompaniments, culminating in a class performance of *What Shall We Do with the Drunken Sailor?*.

R.E/PSHE/RSE

Aiming High – in this unit children will look at challenges people face and barriers to success, then think about strategies that can be used to overcome such obstacles. Stereotypes in the world of work will be addressed, as children are encouraged to consider jobs they would like to do and the skills needed to build these in the future.

Commitments and meanings (Hinduism, Islam & Christianity)