

# Year 5/6 Spring 2: Children of the Blitz

Dear Parents,

We hope you all had a lovely half term and we have had a lovely week welcoming your children back to school. We have started our WW2 theme with a fantastic drama performance from Marcus Dilley where the children learnt a lot about WW2, the Blitz and rationing.

This Newsletter will provide further information about our upcoming theme 'Children in the Blitz'.

For year 6 parents, a letter has gone out regarding leaver's hoodies for this year. Please complete form and return ASAP if you would like to purchase one for your child.

If you have any questions or concerns, please email your child's class teacher.

Thank you for your continued support.

The Year 5/6 Team

## Theme

The purpose of our theme 'Children of the Blitz' is for children to be immersed in the history of WW2 and become confident in discussing the impact of WW2 on our local area. In order to achieve this, they will develop their understanding of the events leading up to the start of WW2 and the impact of the Blitz on our local area. They will learn about how children were evacuated from towns into the country and what life was like for an evacuee. Children will investigate how Portsmouth and Southampton were impacted with regards to evacuation and the locations of countries involved in the War. The learning will culminate with children answering the question: How did the Blitz affect our local area and the children that lived there?

In English, they will use the book 'Letters from the Lighthouse' as a driver text to inspire WW2 based writing. Children will also study the short film 'The Piano' to write a story with flashbacks. In art, children will explore style of war time artist Henri Moore's 'shelter figures' and discuss the effect of featureless figures. Using this for inspiration, children will complete their own clay sculpture.

## Key notices:

- Children should bring their planners in everyday and these will be checked at least once a week by the class teacher.
- Parent's evenings will be held in March- More information to follow on this.
- Term will finish on Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> March as we have an INSET DAY on Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> March.
- **PE days are the following:**  
Rabbits: Tuesday and Thursday  
Hedgehogs: Tuesday and Thursday  
Year 6: Monday and Friday (new day)

Please make sure your child's PE kit is labelled and in school every day. If your child cannot undertake PE for any reason, they should bring a note explaining why.

## English

In English, we will be using the text 'Letters from the Lighthouse' as our driver text and will use this to inspire both non-fiction and narrative writing

## Maths

Year 5: Fractions, decimals and percentages

Year 6: Measure, statistics and shape. Children will begin to revise elements of the maths curriculum in preparation for their upcoming SATs in May

## Reminder

Please can we remind families that we are now in the transitional period for uniform. This means children are able to wear either winter or summer uniform. We are also seeing a rising number of children wearing trainers to school, this is not part of the uniform and children should be wearing appropriate school shoes.

Year 6 revision booklets have arrived in school and hopefully children have started using these at home.

# Year 5/6 Home Learning

If you can help with reading in school and hold a Hampshire Education D.B.S please can you let your class teacher know. It really does help and the children love it.

## Spellings

These will be sent home every Friday and tested the following Friday.

There will be between 8-10 words that follow the rule we are looking at in class.

As part of the test, we will add 2 further words that follow this rule plus 2 words from a previous week's spelling home-learning.

This will help us ascertain if the children fully understand their spelling-learning.

Year 6: During SATs revision children may be sent home with additional words to learn.

## Maths

Maths Home learning will be printed out for homework books on a Friday with the expectation that the task will be completed by the following Friday.

The tasks that are set will be in line with what the children have been learning that week in Maths.

## English

English Home learning will be printed out for homework books on a Friday with the expectation that the task will be completed by the following Friday.

The tasks that are set will be in line with what the children have been learning that week in English.

Year 6 : the children may have an additional piece of reading homework or SPaG homework during their approach to SATs.

**Reading** – This year we are really promoting a love of reading as it underpins all learning.

We expect the children to be reading 5 times a week at home. Please can **three** of these times be to an adult and **this needs to be recorded and signed in the planner every week**. We are happy for you to read to your child, share audio books, take turns in reading pages etc but the most important thing is to talk about what has been read.

**WE WILL BE COLLECTING IN ALL PLANNERS ON A MONDAY TO LOOK AT THE LEARNING THAT HAS HAPPENED AT HOME AND WILL RETURN THESE TO THE CHILDREN ON TUESDAY**

# Helping at Home

Below are some ideas of what you can do with your child over the next half term to support the learning at school

## Practise:

Spelling tests will take place on a Monday. Please support your child by discussing the current week's rules with them and the spellings they are learning. In the back of their planners is a list of words they should be able to spell in KS2.

Please aim for at least 3 sessions on TTRS per week. Please speak to your child's class teacher if your child has forgotten their logon details. Once completed, please can this be ticked off in your child's planner.

Talk and explore (Here are some example questions to generate discussion about what we will be doing at school. Some of these will not be covered at the beginning of the term)

- Which countries were involved in WW2 and what were the different sides?
- Can you describe 'The Blitz'?
- What is an evacuee?
- How did the War impact where we live?
- How do you create a clay sculpture?
- Tell me about some WW2 songs. Can you teach me some of them?

## Play

Children can access the following to develop their WW2 knowledge.

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

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/teach/class-clips-video/history-ks2-world-war-two/zjnyscw>

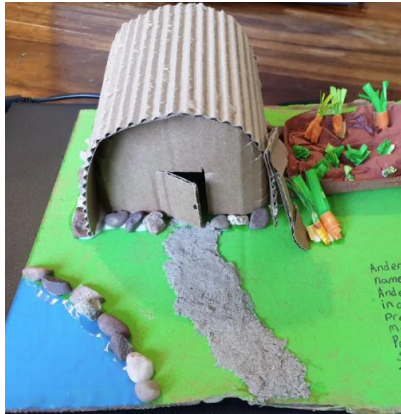
<https://www.bbc.co.uk/teach/school-radio/history-ks2-world-war-2-clips-index/zjc8cqt>

## Read

Please continue to read with your child at home and discuss the characters and the themes in the stories. When reading, please make a note in their planners.

### Art/DT

Create your own Anderson Shelter using materials from around your house



### DT

Make your own WW2 ration recipes



## Year 5/6 – Children of the Blitz

Ideas for Home Learning to Further Support Your Child



### Art

Try and create some silhouette art with a focus on the Blitz



### Geography/History

Why not develop your knowledge of WW2 and other wars by visiting some local museums such as Fort Nelson where there are a range of galleries to visit.



Or perhaps take a trip to the D-day Museum in Portsmouth. The D-Day Story is the liberation of Europe from Nazi Germany occupation. It is told using the personal possessions and words of the people who took part.

