

Parent and Carer's letter: Year Six Summer 1 2024-25

Our theme for Summer 1 is:

Over The Top!

Our main focuses are:

- To discover the causes of World War One and how the war came to an end.
- To investigate the impact of the 'Great War' on the lives of men, women and technological advances.
- Using our reading skills to analyse the themes in our new novel: Private Peaceful.

Our theme will last for:

6 weeks



French

We will be using the French we have learnt to talk about World War II in our new French topic "Deuxième Guerre Mondiale." This topic will help to reinforce the previous French we have learnt, as well as developing some new skills for conversational French in the future.

No Outsiders in our School

This half-term, we will be looking at the book 'Introducing Teddy' and discussing the themes of acceptance within it.

British Values

Our British Values focus for this half-term will be "Tolerance." Through discussion, we will articulate why tolerance of others, including their faiths and beliefs, is an important British Value.

Behaviour and Safety, and P.S.H.E.

We will be thinking about how we can make sure we are living healthy lives and how our health can be affected by smoking, drugs and alcohol. Furthermore, we will be discussing peer pressure and the impact that it can have on us, as we begin to prepare for our transition to secondary education.

R.E.

During R.E., we will be investigating Buddhism once again and building on our previous knowledge. This half-term, the key focus will be on Buddhist Temples, Buddhist pilgrimages and the Jataka tales. We will also look at how Buddhism and Christianity are similar and different.

P.E.

Athletics will be the focus for the half-term. We will be consolidating our key skills, such as running, jumping and throwing, and also refining these with a focus on different athletic disciplines. Hopefully, this will help us with Sports Day in Summer 2.

All P.E. lessons take place on **Wednesday**. However, if your child could have their P.E. kit in school at all times, this would be useful.



English:

To tie in with our history topic, we will be studying a new novel, 'Private Peaceful.' During this unit, we will be looking at war poetry; writing letters home from the frontline; rewriting chapters from the point of view of different characters and exploring persuasive techniques through speeches and propaganda.

Finally, grammar, punctuation and spelling will be a key focus for us, especially spelling. We will be revising our grammatical knowledge and spelling strategies and using these to improve our writing, as well as in preparation for our SATs exams. It would be extremely beneficial if parents and carers could help their child to embed the learning from school by discussing the grammar they have been taught.

The author of our novel, Michael Morpurgo, was born during World War Two and often writes of the divisions, conflicts and injustices of warfare. His own family was deeply affected by war through the loss of his uncle. If your child is enjoying Private Peaceful, Morpurgo also explores the theme of war in two other novels: War Horse and Adolphus Tipton.



History

This term, we will be looking at the impact of WWI. Pupils will learn about how the 'Great War' began and how the attitude of people quickly changed. We will investigate the idea of propaganda and how this war saw technical developments. The impact of the War on the lives of both men and women will also be investigated.



Geography

Continuing to develop our map skills from last half-term, we will be looking at a range of European maps using different and detailed scales. We will be looking at Ordnance Survey maps of our local area to discover how the area has changed before and after the war. We will also be looking at maps of the countries of Europe, exploring how World War One had a great impact on the European empires and how the war's legacy shaped the countries of Europe in its aftermath.

Shared home learning:

Please encourage your child to read for 20 minutes, as a minimum, every day. This should be logged in their reading journal on a daily basis. Our vocabulary, that we will be practising and looking at over the half-term, will be shared via Seesaw over the coming weeks and these can be discussed, practised and looked at whilst at home. It is always great to ask your child the definitions of the words and see if they can put them into a sentence! Maths and English homework will be set on a weekly basis. A topic project will be set in the coming weeks on Seesaw - for this one you can let your creativity take hold! If your child is having any issues accessing Seesaw, please speak to your child's class teacher as soon as possible. **Spellings will be assessed in class throughout the week, based on the words that come up in English and Topic lessons.**

Important Dates

31st March - Wondernoon
w/c 31st March - Poetry week
2nd April - World Autism day
12th-27th April - Easter holidays
w/c 28th April - First Aid week
2nd May - First Aid workshops

5th May - Bank Holiday
w/c 6th May - Teacher appreciation week
w/c 12th May - KS2 SATS
w/c 19th May - Map skills week
20th May - Suffragette workshop
22nd May - School photographs

Mathematics

In the final lessons before exams, we will be revising all the areas of Maths. that we have looked at this year, possibly including:

- Written methods for addition, subtraction, multiplication and division. These are the building blocks to Maths. and any extra practise at these would be beneficial.
- Looking at money problems and thinking about decimals. It would be great to discuss this when you are out and about shopping.
- Area and perimeter of shapes. Pupils could practise this at home by thinking about how much carpet they would need for a room in the house, or how much lawn feed they would need for the grass.
- Recapping our understanding of the properties of 2D and 3D shapes, including lines of symmetry and reflection.
- We will also be recapping our understanding of graphs, coordinates and data collection.

We will be focusing on different areas depending on the strengths and areas for development in each class. Arithmetic will continue to play a key role in our mathematics activities and children should be able to recall their times tables and associated division facts quickly and accurately.

This half-term is also see the end of our formal AET Maths. units, therefore we will be using our creativity to looks at Maths. in a variety of contexts, including Mathematics in nature and Mathematics in the real world.

Art and Design Technology

While we are studying the trenches, we will design and create a trench to illustrate how the war was fought. We will be using old milk cartons and Paper Maché. Pupils will also be learning about propaganda art and using inspiration from Abram Games to create their own artwork in the style of these posters.



Music

In our Music sessions, we will be continuing to work on our skills and rhythm whilst practising with the steel pans. Also, we are going to start to rehearse longer pieces of music. Hopefully we can share some of these with you soon.

Computing

Throughout the half-term, we will be using our Computing skills to support our work across the curriculum, especially through research.



To tie in with our novel, we will be creating a stop motion clip about life in the trenches. We may also use our computing skills to analyse data on spreadsheets, with a specific focus on the size of the military armies who fought during World War One.

