Year 6 Advent 2 Newsletter

Welcome back to school Year Six! Wow, that was a busy and packed first half term. We hope you had a relaxing, well-deserved break with your family and enjoyed any holidays you may have had. We hope you are ready for the busy, but exciting learning experiences that we have planned for you this half term.

English

This half term as writers, we will be focusing on:

Poetry

We will consolidate our poetry knowledge and understanding by focusing on the trenches in World War II and producing poetry containing, personification and a range of figurative language (MAPSO). We will also create our own blackout poem, which is created by taking written pieces of text from other mediums like: books, newspapers, magazines, to create our own poetry. Blackout poetry is a form of found poetry meaning that you select the words that catch your interest from the other texts, making sure they make sense and then design a new poem. After you have done with that, usually with a black marker, colour over the words you won't need. That's it, your poem should just jump out of the text and a brand-new story should be created.

Diary

To support our diary writing, we will be looking at Anne Frank and using extracts from her original diary – this will help give us a deeper understanding and appreciation of her incredible character. We will look at Anne's family life and how years in hiding from the Nazis has affected millions of people. In the first part of the book, we meet Anne as a young child, who was growing up with her family in Germany. Then we follow their flight to Holland, to escape the Nazis, the German invasion and the gradual isolation, then the outright persecution of the Jewish population. This forced the family into hiding, hiding for years in a tiny Secret Annex and her last heart-breaking journey. We will analyse some of the extracts from her diary and then produce our own, in the role of Anne Frank.

Narrative

We will recap the features of a Narrative story and highlight some of the features that are used. Using the book 'The boy in the Striped Pyjamas', as a guide to help us write our narrative, we will write our own narrative to this story. This piece of writing will help the children to improve their description of setting or characters and encourage them to use the best possible vocabulary.

Maths

In Maths, this half term we will be using White Rose. As mathematicians, we will be focusing on:

- Fractions (1) We will revisit our learning from last year and focus on simplifying fractions, compare and order them, adding and subtracting fractions (with different denominators) and problem-solving involving fractions.

- Fractions (2) During our second fraction unit, we will focus on multiplying a fraction by a whole number and by another fraction, dividing fraction by a whole number and by another fraction, calculating fractions of amounts and problem-solving.

- Converting Measurements. During this unit, we will be converting metric and imperial measures. We will be using our knowledge of multiplying and dividing by 10, 100 and 1000. We will be also converting from miles to kilometres and looking at the formula to do this.

RE

Branch Two – Prophecy and Promise

In this unit, we will explore the stories of some of the prominent women in the Old Testament, we will need to understand the context in which the stories take place, historically and culturally. The people who will become the nation of Israel exist in a patriarchal world where women are seen as somehow less than men. The stories of the people of Israel often feature battles and warring factions which excluded women. The women listed feature at different points in the formation of Israel and subvert the expectations of their time. For Christians, a parallel exists between these women and Mary, who will change the course of history by her 'yes' to God. We will compare that annunciation to Mary in the gospel of St Luke with the Annunciation to Joseph in St Matthew. St Luke sets the tone for his gospel by focusing on Mary, the humble girl from Nazareth. Mary stands in a tradition of women who show that they are not passive onlookers in the history of salvation.

How did WWII affect the people of Britain?

Our topic this term will focus on History, in particular World War II and the effect it had on the people living in Britain during this time. Throughout this topic, we will explore the countries involved in the war, what life was like for the families and how our local area was impacted.

Here is an outline of our learning for this half term;

I**n week one, as historians,** we will learn about WW, why Britian went to war 2 and how the conflict involved virtually every part of the world during the years 1939-45. We will then locate the countries involved in WW2 using atlases. We will then learn which countries worked together and which countries battled against each other during this time to for the allies.

In week two, as historians, we will look at the key events which occurred during WW2 and place these on a timeline. We will also look at the main turning points during the war such as: The Battle of Britain, The German Invasion of Russia, The Bombing of Pearl Harbour, The Dam buster's Raid and the Normandy Landing. We will also look at when Hitler invaded Poland, when rationing began and the impact this had on people living in Britain during this time.

In week three, as historians, we look at what life was like for evacuees during the war. We will consider how and why our local area would have been used for evacuation during the war and the impact this had on families and children.

In week four, as historians, we will research how World War Two impacted and effected our local area.

In week five, as historians, we will consider what impact rationing had, why it was introduced, what were families entitled to, how did they survive and what meals they may have made using their rations. We will then create our own WW" rationed meal and taste it.

In week six, as historians, we will learn about what life was like for Jewish people during the war and how they were affected and treated during this harrowing time.

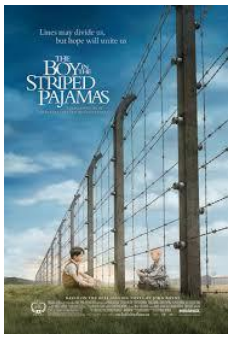






Guided Reading

Our Guided Reading text for this half term is The Boy in the Striped Pyjamas by John Boyne. As readers, we will be reading this text as a class and answering a range of different questions relating to this text. We will be paying particular attention to retrieval questions and considering the authors choice to support our understanding of the text. During World War II, 8-year-old Bruno and his family leave Berlin to take up residence near the concentration camp where his father has just become commandant. Unhappy and lonely, he wanders out behind his house one day and finds Shmuel a Jewish boy of his age. Though the barbed-wire fence of the camp separates them, the boys begin a forbidden friendship, oblivious to the real nature of their surroundings.



How can you help?

Weekly Homework

- Homework will be set on a Friday and will need to be completed by the following Thursday. If you have any trouble accessing homework online or would prefer a paper copy, please come and see me and I can arrange this for you.

- Every week your child will receive spellings. The spelling test will take place on a Friday morning. Please practise these spellings with your child at home!

- Spelling Shed – please ensure your child is accessing this regularly at home, there are certificates and rewards for children who access this! If your child has misplaced their login, please let me know.

- TT Rockstars – please ensure your child is accessing this regularly at home too, it is extremely important that they regularly practice and apply their multiplication and division knowledge.

- Remember to read every night with your child and sign their diary too!

Thank you for your continued support and if you have any questions about your child's learning or progress, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Mr Robinshaw and Miss McGrail.