



Head Teacher : Mrs D Reynolds - BSc Hons QTS NPQH

*Aim High*

*Never Give Up*

*Follow Your Dream*

*Lead By Example*

October 2013

Dear Parents/Carers,

The children in my class have settled in brilliantly and are striving to 'step up' to the responsibility of being 'top of the school' in Year 6. I am very pleased and proud, and thank you for your continued support. Years 4, 5 and 6 will be continuing their learning theme of 'World War 2'. This theme will be linked across our literacy, guided reading and science work and will incorporate a main focus on history. The topic will also include links to National Curriculum subjects Geography; Music; Art and Religious Education.

### **MAIN LEARNING THEME – 'World War 2'**

#### **Areas of study for the second half of the autumn term will include:**

- Life on the home front
- Rationing
- Evacuees
- Make do and mend
- The Blitz

#### **KEY VOCABULARY FOR LEARNING THEME:**

primary; secondary; sources; evidence; reliability; Britain; Germany; volunteer; rations; trenches; blackout; evacuee; war time; air raid; invasion; Chamberlain; Churchill; make do and mend; gas mask; rural and city life; Anderson shelters; safety

#### **LEARNING SKILLS – Developing Independence and Responsibility:**

The main focus will be based on these statements:

- I can plan the sequence of my activities with confidence, allocating time and resources as necessary.
- I can frame complex questions and answer open ended questions to further my understanding.
- I can contribute my ideas to the planning of an activity and carry out my part independently.
- I can plan an exercise programme and set goals for myself.

#### **NUMERACY**

The main objectives are as follows: number work, calculations, problem solving, shape, measures and data handling. We will also be focussing on mental maths and times tables.

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#### **LITERACY**

We will continue to study Literacy using the National Literacy Framework. During next half-term we will be covering the literacy areas of: **Non-fiction –Autobiography and Biography**; **Fiction: Suspense Narrative and Narrative Flashback**. These units will be linked to our topic of World War 2 and the children will write in role as people from this era. We will also continue to have regular grammar and spelling sessions to further support children's writing progress.



## **ICT**

Children will access the class set of Netbooks to support and develop their learning across the curriculum. Children will look at using a variety of ICT programs such as Word; PowerPoint and publisher. Children will regularly access the Internet as a source of information and to develop their skills of scanning and retrieving key information; taking notes and recording information in their own words. Children will also utilise E-Learning programmes to practise and apply skills learnt across the curriculum and continue to have access to 'Sumdog' to improve their mental maths.

## **PE**

Children will partake in two hours of PE each week, one indoor and one outdoor. Our PE days (at the moment) are **Monday** and **Friday**. There has been a vast improvement this year for children remembering their PE kit and I hope this continues. It is their responsibility to bring their full PE kit into school on a Monday, and I recommend they leave it in school all week then take it home to be washed on a Friday. This way, if we choose to do extra PE, the children will have their kit in school. Can we remind you that school rules state that for the safety of your child, earrings need to be removed for PE (which needs to be done independently) or plasters (provided by home) need to cover the earrings. Children with long hair will also be asked to ensure that it is tied back.

## **READING**

It is imperative that your child reads regularly at home as it is crucial to support their progression with reading comprehension tests and has a vital impact on their own writing across the curriculum. Your child should be encouraged to read a wide variety of texts, including stories, non-fiction texts, magazines, comics, children's newspapers, internet web pages and poetry. The children have the opportunity to visit the library at lunchtime and throughout the week as a class where they can change their library book. There will also be extra provision for some children on a Wednesday to have reading time with an adult. Year 6 children should be able to choose a book that is both suitable and interesting for them, which they finish in its entirety.

## **HOME LEARNING**

Your child will receive a weekly activity in their Learning Logs, this will be given out on a Wednesday and should be returned on a Tuesday. Every Tuesday, one Learning Log per class is chosen to be shared in the whole school assembly on Thursday. Your child will also be awarded House Points for the work produced in their Learning Logs. The way in which the work is presented is entirely up to the child. In addition, I will continue to set key skills literacy and/or numeracy homework.

Home learning is expected to be completed each week at home and handed in on time by Tuesday. If children do not meet this requirement then they will complete the home learning during break time. Please ensure that your child completes their home learning each week. If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact the class teacher.

In addition to this, your child can choose to undertake a half-term home learning project to do with the learning theme 'World War 2', which could be the focus of their homework for the beginning of the term. This project is not compulsory, but is a fantastic way to involve family and friends in their learning. This can involve the whole family and should be linked to our topic theme; the more creative the better!

**After an excellent start to the Autumn term, we look forward to continuing the excellent attitude to learning and striving to be the best.**

Yours sincerely

Mr Robertson  
Class Teacher

Mrs Frost  
Teaching Assistant

Mrs Locke  
Higher Level Teaching Assistant

Mrs Reynolds  
Head Teacher

