

Year 6 Newsletter

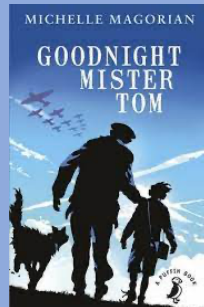
Autumn 1

Our topic/theme this half term is:

Blood, Sweat and Tears!

In this topic, our common theme will be World War II and how this changed the lives of people in Britain and around the world.

Our Key Texts this half term are *'The Silver Sword'* by Ian Serraillier and *'Goodnight Mister Tom'* by Michelle Magorian'.



Our English learning this half term:

Reading:

In Guided Reading this half term, we will be focusing on the following objectives:

- Read aloud and understand the meaning of new words that he/she meets linked to the expectations of year 6 spelling.
- Participate in discussions about books that are read to him/her and those that can be read for himself/herself, building on his/her own and others' ideas and challenging views courteously and with clear reasoning.
- Identify how language, structure and presentation contribute to meaning.
- Discuss and evaluate how authors use language, including figurative language, considering the impact on the reader.

Writing:

In Year 6, we will be developing the following writing skills:

- Identifying the audience for and purpose of the writing, selecting the appropriate form and using other similar writing as models for their own.
- In writing narratives, considering how authors have developed characters and settings in what pupils have read, listened to or seen performed, selecting appropriate grammar and vocabulary, understanding how such choices can change and enhance meaning.
- In narratives, describing settings, characters and atmosphere and integrating dialogue to convey character and advance the action.

We will be writing warning stories, based on 'The Canal'. We will focus on developing the following specific skills:

- Hook the reader in (e.g. by creating a dilemma, a mood, a contrast)
- Use a flashback or forward.
- Linking the opening and ending of a story.

We will be writing letters from the perspective of an evacuee, focused on the following topic-specific skills:

- Convey emotions through different literary techniques.
- Use an appropriately informal tone.
- Use varied punctuation (i.e. semi-colons) to develop sentence structure.
- Include humour or irony in our writing.

In grammar, we will be revising key areas of the earlier grammar curriculum – different conjunctions, comma use – as well as exploring the difference between formal and informal vocabulary and the use of punctuation to demarcate independent clauses.

Our Maths learning this half term:

Place Value

- Read, write, order and compare numbers up to 10,000,000 and determine the value of each digit.
- Round any whole number to a required degree of accuracy.
- Use negative numbers in context and calculate intervals across 0.

Addition and Subtraction

- Consolidate written columnar methods of addition and subtraction.
- Solve addition and subtraction multi-step problems in contexts, deciding which operations and methods to use and why.
- Use estimation to check answers to calculations and determine, in the context of a problem, an appropriate degree of accuracy.

Multiplication and Division

- Multiply multi-digit numbers up to 4 digits by a two-digit whole number using the formal written method of long multiplication.
- Divide numbers up to 4 digits by a two-digit whole number using the formal written method of long division, and interpret remainders as whole number remainders, fractions, or by rounding, as appropriate for the context.
- Divide numbers up to 4 digits by a two-digit number using the formal written method of short division where appropriate, interpreting remainders according to context.
- Perform mental calculations, including with mixed operations and large numbers.
- Identify common factors, common multiples and prime numbers.
- Use knowledge of the order of operations to carry out calculations involving the four operations.
- Solve problems involving multiplication and division.

Our Science and Computing learning this half term:

Science

Our unit of science this half term is focused on the human body. We will be covering the following knowledge areas:

- Identify and name the main parts of the human circulatory system, and describe the functions of the heart, blood vessels and blood
- Recognise the impact of diet, exercise and lifestyle on the way their bodies function
- Describe the ways in which nutrients and water are transported within animals, including humans

We will be developing the following enquiry skills:

- Observing over time by analysing the change in heart rate.
- Decide what observations to make, what to measure and how long for.
- Notice causal relationships in data and identify relationships that refutes or supports that idea.

Computing

Our unit of computing this half term is focused on computer networks and communication. We will cover the following objectives:

- I know what searching the Internet means.
- I can explain why some search results appear higher than others on a search engine.
- I can search for information on the Internet.
- I can work out which search result is the most relevant.
- I can ignore information that isn't relevant.
- I can create advice for others on how to search effectively online for a purpose.

Our digital literacy focus this half term will be on talking safely online. We will also revisit elements of e-safety including information that should and shouldn't be shared online and how to apply online safety knowledge to online activity.

Our Humanities learning this half term:

History:

Our history focus this half term will be on World War II and we will be exploring the following areas:

- How did the Nazis rise to power?
- How did World War II begin?
- Was Dunkirk a success or failure?
- Was the Battle of Britain a turning point in the war?
- How do sources help us understand D-Day?

We will be developing the following historical skills:

- Establish clear narratives within and across periods studied.
- Address and devise historically valid questions about significance.
- Understand how our knowledge of the past is constructed from a range of sources.
- Construct informed responses from a range of sources.
- Develop appropriate use of historical terms.

RE:

We will be exploring some big philosophical questions and developing our abilities to form viewpoints, appreciate other perspectives and participate in reasoned debate. Examples of the questions we will explore include:

- Are words powerful?
- Are there rules for life?
- Why do we celebrate the past?

Spanish:

In Spanish this half term, we will be revising some of our prior Spanish learning. We will explore cities and relevant vocabulary and develop our abilities to describe ourselves.

Our Creative Arts learning this half term:

Art:

- Children start their WWII topic by learning about The Blitz and creating silhouette artwork of the London skyline during the bombing using mixed media.
- They move on to a focus on surrealism in which they develop their sketching skills to sketch planes working towards a final piece in which they place the planes in a surrealist background.

We will develop the following skills:

- Use sketchbooks to collect and record visual information from different sources.
- Draw for a sustained period of time over a number of sessions working on one piece.
- Purposely control the types of marks made and experiment with different effects and textures.

DT:

We will be designing model planes and Anderson shelters, developing the following skills:

- Use research and design criteria to inform design.
- Develop ideas to inform the design of innovative, functional and appealing products by looking at, exploring and analysing real-life examples from the past.
- Generate, develop, model and communicate ideas through discussion, annotated sketches and prototypes.
- Select from a range of tools and equipment to perform their practical task (e.g. cutting, joining, finishing).
- Select and use a wider range of materials and components, according to their functional properties and aesthetic qualities.
- Evaluate their final design against their own, original design criteria and consider the views of others to improve their work.
- Apply understanding of how to strengthen, stiffen and reinforce their models to ensure they are stable.

Music:

Composing

Understand and appraise music using the inter-related dimensions of music. Learning to take apart a piece of music while explaining (and composing) the textures, individually with expression.

Our PE and PSHE learning this half term:

PE:

Our PE units this half term are Health Related Fitness and Tag Rugby.

Health Related Fitness

Further develop the understanding of the importance of health and exercise, and ways in which you can keep fit and healthy by taking part in a variety of activities. Plan own sessions, take heart rate at rest and during exercise identify the differences.

Tag Rugby

Play Tag Rugby competitively, with the scoring system and demonstrate the following skills during a game. Travel with, send, chase, receive, dodge, attack, defend, movement into/out of space. All with control and a good understanding of all the rules used.

PSHE:

Our unit this half term is 'Rights, Rules and Responsibilities'.

We will explore the United Nations Rights of the Child, look at different rights and rules and why they exist, explore the role of Parliament in the UK and develop our abilities to express our viewpoint and respect others.

Key Vocabulary

Key Vocabulary:

Maths

- Factorise/factor pair/prime factor/prime number/common factors
- Integer/positive/negative
- Square/square number/cube/cubing
- Order of operations
- Long multiplication / long division/divisibility
- Consecutive
- Multiples/lowest common multiple.

English

- Word classes including pronoun and determiner
- Formal/informal
- Cohesive devices: Sub-ordinating/co-ordinating conjunctions
- Commas
- Semi-colons

Science

- Circulation/circulatory system
- Atrium
- Valve
- Plasma
- Platelet
- Blood vessels / blood cells
- Oxygenated/de-oxygenated
- Vena cava
- Aorta
- Artery / vein

History

- Axis / allies
- Nazi
- Blitz
- Churchill
- Hitler
- Evacuee
- Rationing