

YEAR 4 - SUMMER TERM 2024



WORLD WAR II



Welcome back to another very exciting term. We are all really looking forward to our new topic of World War 2. We have lots planned this term, including the return of class swimming sessions, making torches and cooking scones so please keep an eye on the Newsletters and ParentMail for all up to date information. Also, just as a reminder should you need to contact us, our email addresses are:

mrs.brothers@greattotham.essex.sch.uk and miss.davis@greattotham.essex.sch.uk.

Topic

Our topic this term is WWII. In geography, the children will label the European countries and their capitals that were involved in the war and use 2 figure grid references to identify the areas of the UK heavily affected during the Blitz. In history, the children will use and evaluate primary and secondary sources, together with some of their own research, to build a picture of what happened during the war. They will learn about how the war started, the Battle of Britain and the Blitz. They will also find out about what life was like as an evacuee and how people managed to live with rationing. Finally, they will look at how women's roles changed during this time and how V.E. day was celebrated.



Maths

In Maths, the children will be learning to recognise different angles, identify different shapes, describe their properties and how to calculate the perimeter and area of shapes. After this, they will look at finding lines of symmetry and how to translate shapes by plotting coordinates.

They will also learn how to convert different measurements of length, mass and capacity, as well as continuing to practise the four written calculation methods and applying these through problem solving.

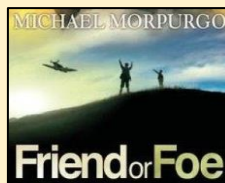
Most children are making good progress with learning their times tables but please encourage children to practise regularly at home so they become fluent.

English

This term we will be reading 'Friend or Foe' by Michael Morpurgo, to inspire writing linked with our World War II topic.

The children will be working on key skills of writing speech, using the possessive apostrophe and using fronted adverbials and different sentence structures to make their writing more interesting to a reader.

They will learn spelling rules for prefixes super-, anti-, auto- and bi- as well as continuing to improve spellings of homophones and the statutory Y3/4 spelling list – please keep practising these regularly at home!



Year 4 Key Dates:

30th April – Swimming starts (every Tuesday)
20th May – Sport's Day (KS2 pm)
w/c 3rd June – Multiplication Tables Check
4th June – Outdoor Learning Day

10th June – Class Photos
12th July – Summer Fete
16th July – Reports out
23rd July – Last day of term

Science and Design & Technology

Digestion & Teeth: Children will learn about the basic parts of the digestive system. They will identify the different types of teeth in humans and investigate the impact diet has on them.

Electricity: They will learn about simple series circuits and conductors then apply this knowledge in our D.T. project to design and create a working torch.



Art

The children will study WWII Commissioned Artist, Henry Moore's work before using it as inspiration, focusing on sketching skills and the sense of proportion and perspective.

Children will also learn how to create an enlargement using a grid technique.

After exploring different printing techniques, children will create their own WWII inspired propaganda poster.

Computing

E-Safety: They will be revisiting the SMART rules to help them stay safe on-line as well as revising how to carry out safe searches.

Flowol: The children will use Flowol to create, review and debug an algorithm using a flow diagram to control a light.

Children will improve their typing skills using the Dance Mat program.

Lifeskills

Drugs & medicines: Children will learn about the role of drugs (medicines, alcohol, tobacco and caffeine) in everyday life, how people use them and how to recognise when this has become harmful.

Puberty: Children will learn the part that puberty plays in the human life cycle and how feelings, emotions and relationships may change during this time. They will also learn that these changes happen at different times for different people.

R.E.

Children will be discussing what holy books are and why they are important to followers of Christianity, Islam and Hinduism. We will be reading stories from each holy book and explore what they are teaching the people reading them.

Music

Musical Appreciation: We will listen to a number of pieces and songs from the WWII era, including Glenn Miller and Vera Lynn. Children will try and identify instruments used and musical elements as well as expressing their opinions.



Recorder: We will be recapping recorder playing skills including how to play notes and read them on sheet music. Children will then learn to sing, play and perform the first verse of the National Anthem.

French

The children will revise greetings, numbers to 100 and types of weather whilst learning new food, drink and money vocabulary.

PE

In athletics, the children will be working on improving their fitness through long distance running. They will also be improving their sprinting, jumping and throwing techniques. In cricket, they will be learning the basic techniques of bowling, batting and fielding.

Tuesday: Athletics then Swimming

Thursday: Athletics, Orienteering or Cricket



Homework

Homework is usually revision of work completed in class; therefore, your child should be able to complete it independently and hand it in by Wednesday each week. A Maths or English task is set alternately every Friday.

We expect children to continue to practise their times tables and to read at least 3-4 days a week to an adult or independently, discussing what they have read.