

General Reminders

- If your child is absent from school for any reason, please telephone us (01442 252972) on the first day of absence. If you do not notify us the absence will be unauthorised.
- Please make sure that you advise the School Office promptly of any changes of address, telephone numbers, emergency contacts etc.
- Please ensure your child is on the playground at 8.45 a.m. to ensure a prompt start to the school day. KS2 parents should leave the playground at 8.40 a.m. when the bell is rung.
- Pupils should not be absent from school for any reason other than illness. If, however, you need to take your child out of school due to EXCEPTIONAL circumstances, a request form must be completed. These are available from the School Office. Mrs Washford Mower will consider requests on an individual basis on behalf of the Governing Body.
- All children should bring water bottles to school with them each day.
- Remember to check our website for latest news, photographs and other information.
www.nashmills.herts.sch.uk

Nash Mills C of E Primary School



Year 6

Curriculum Newsletter

Spring Term 2019

Teacher: Miss H Jones

Topics

The Blitz - What was life like during World War II?

Our spring topic will focus on life in England during the Second World War. We will learn about evacuation, rationing and The Battle of Britain. We will also look at what life was like in Hemel Hempstead during this time.

In English we will be studying the novels 'Goodnight Mr Tom' by Michelle Magorian and 'Letters From The Lighthouse' by Emma Carroll, as well as looking at extracts from real diaries and writing our own recounts.

We will spend some of the beginning of the Spring Term completing our work on Frozen Kingdoms and towards the end of the Spring term we will be using some afternoon sessions for revision lessons in preparation for the SATS in May.

English

Reading and writing

Our foci this term are:

Non chronological report – based on learning about the Polar Regions

Narrative writing – writing a tale of fear with a focus on setting description and a tale of a quest with a focus on character description.

Recounts – this will be closely linked to our World War 2 topic

Journalistic writing – we will be using a picture book called 'Tuesday' by David Wiesner

Comprehension – with a focus on test marker's expectations in preparation for the end of KS2 SATS in May.

Speaking and listening

Children will comment critically on the language, style and success of examples of non-fiction, such as newspaper reports and information texts.

They will use a range of oral techniques to present persuasive arguments and engaging narratives.

Pupils will make notes when listening for a sustained period and discuss how note-taking varies depending on context and purpose.

Spelling

We will continue to teach spelling using the 'No Nonsense Spelling' programme we started at the beginning of the year. As last term, we will start some of our English lessons with grammar and punctuation activities and some concepts will be taught in discrete lessons.

Children will be encouraged to use a range of appropriate strategies to edit, proof-read and correct spelling in their own work, on paper and on screen. All children should have a dictionary in school to use in our lessons and when proof-reading their homework.

Maths

Number

Divide 4 digit numbers by 2-digit numbers using the formal method of long division (and short division where appropriate) and interpret remainders as whole number remainders, fractions, or by rounding, as appropriate for the context.

Revise methods for multiplication, addition and subtraction.

Generate and describe linear number sequences.

Calculation

Use their knowledge of the order of operations to carry out calculations involving the four calculations.

Use simple formulae

Express problems algebraically

Multiply pairs of proper fractions and give their answer in the simplest form. For example, $\frac{1}{2} \times \frac{1}{4} = \frac{1}{8}$

Divide proper fractions by whole numbers. For example $\frac{1}{3} \div 3 = \frac{1}{9}$

Solve problems involving the relative sizes of two quantities.

Use knowledge of fractions and multiples to solve problems involving unequal sharing and grouping

Solving Problems

Solve multi-step problems and problems involving fractions, decimals and percentages; choose and use appropriate calculation strategies at each stage, including calculator use.

Use a table or chart to organise data in solving a problem. Interpret data which has been presented in tables and charts, including timetables.

Measure, shape and space

Recognise that shapes with the same areas can have different perimeters and areas and vice versa.

Recognise angles where they meet at a point, are on a straight line, or are vertically opposite, and find missing angles.

Compare and classify geometric shapes based on their properties.

Illustrate and name parts of a circle, including radius, diameter, and circumference and to be able to relate the diameter to the radius.

Recognise, describe and build simple 3D shapes.

Draw and translate simple shapes on the coordinate plane, and reflect them in the axis.

Use co-ordinates in all four quadrants. Use given information to find further missing values.

Calculate the volume of shapes.

Handling Data.

Calculate and interpret the mean.

Read and interpret scales on a range of measuring instruments with suitable accuracy.

Compare readings of same unit but using a different scale.

Helping your child at home

The children will be undertaking their SATs in May and this term is going to be a very important one for them.

Research has shown that few children in Years 5 and 6 read aloud to, or with, an adult. **Please do so if you can** and discuss the author's use of language, the meaning of any 'new' vocabulary and the plot. These skills will really help them in the comprehension paper. They need to be able to infer, so if a question asks 'Which words or phrase tells you that the child was frightened?' the text may not contain the word 'frightened' at all, but use ones or phrases like 'The boy stood still, rooted to the spot,' or 'he ran frantically.' When we are writing, we call these sentences 'show but don't tell' because the author is describing the body language or actions of someone who is frightened, rather than making this explicit. Above all, we want children to **enjoy** their reading, so whether you take it in turns to read a page or two each, please show interest in their texts and encourage them to borrow a range of genres from the library.

When your child have completed a piece of writing, discuss their writing and encourage them to edit it - perhaps they can use some 'new' vocabulary they have encountered while reading or try to use an image or phrase that they found powerful.

In class we will often use a technique called DADWAVERS to help the children to improve their writing by varying the types of sentences used. DADWAVERS is a mnemonic and each letter links to a different type of sentence. The following link will explain each letter in more detail:

<http://www.literacyshedblog.com/dadwavers-blog/dadwavers>

The Literacy Shed has recently launched a new app which provides a word bank, over 70 model sentences and a model text for each of the following genres: Adventure, Fairy Tales, Fantasy, Ghostly, Mystery, Myths and Legends and Sci Fi.

Please also encourage your child to be using Mathletics *regularly* to help them revise different maths concepts. Another useful website for revision is <http://www.mathsisfun.com/> and most topic areas have an interactive tutorial and quiz section. Past SATS papers can be downloaded from <http://www.emaths.co.uk/>. You may like to download some and work through the questions together. In these papers the questions get progressively more difficult. I ask that you do not complete papers from 2015 to 2019 as we use these in class in varying ways.

History and Geography

Children will learn about what life was like for children during World War 2. They will examine the themes of evacuees, rationing and air raid shelters.

Religious Education

In the first half of the term we will be focusing on right and wrong. The children will explore how their personal experiences can raise difficult questions about right and wrong and how religious teaching may suggest answers to the issue of how we should behave or respond to situations.

After half term the class will compare and contrast different symbols and styles of language in worship, as expressed in different religions. They will reflect on the power of symbols to express what it means to belong to a faith community and how these convey a sense of identity and commitment.

Physical Education

The children will focus on jumping, throwing and running activities as well as improving performances and working as part of a team through Sports Hall Athletics. They will do some dance linked to our World War 2 topic.

Games skills such as strategies of attack and defence, ball handling and marking will be taught through tag rugby and cricket.

Personal, Social and Health Education

Our initial focus will be on 'Dreams and Goals', discussing strategies to stay motivated even when something is tricky, helping others and having a positive attitude towards achieving their goals. After half term we will focus on 'Healthy Me'. The children will think about the benefits of a healthy diet and keeping physically active as well as how to maintain and enjoy healthy friendships.

Music

We will focus on the artists Benjamin Britten and Carole King. The children will complete a range of activities based on their songs that include finding the pulse, playing instruments and singing and performing.

Key Vocabulary

You can help your child by discussing core vocabulary which will be encountered each term to help build confidence and familiarity, especially for the SATS tests in May.

Literacy

explain
determiners
specific
general
personification
imagery
metaphor
succinct
argue
debate
point
explain
evidence

Maths

divisible	fraction
multiple	proportion
ratio	factor
interpret	symmetry
axes	reflect
unnumbered	divisions
scale	divisibility
protractor	prime
square	sequence
formulae	denominator
numerator	algebra
strategy	justify
inverse	approximation
percentage	estimation
efficient strategy	

Science

variable	predict
conclusion	systematic
factor	reliable
evidence	observation
electricity	components
volts	ammeter
light	shadow
opaque	direction
transparent	translucent
reflection	refraction

Other

propaganda	evacuee
rationing	'Blitz'
campaign	evacuation
siren	soundscape
Bletchley	code
decipher	
artefact	crucifix
salvation	eucharist
murti	aum
ihram	hajj
skull cap	hijab

Science

Our first topic in science will be animals including humans. The children will research the parts and functions of the circulatory system. They will focus on how nutrients are transported around the human body. Children will explore how a healthy lifestyle supports the body to function and how different types of drugs affect the body.

During the second half term we will be looking at the topic of light. The children will learn that light travels from a source, that when it is blocked a shadow is formed, and when it hits a shiny surface, it is reflected. We will also learn that light sources are seen when light from these enters the eyes. Pupils will make careful measurements of shadows and represent these in a line graph.

Design Technology/Art

In technology we will be looking at designing and building marble structures. They will build complex, free standing structures and investigate how to strengthen and reinforce them. Children will gain knowledge and understanding about how to join and shape materials

Our art work will be closely linked to our topics. The children will create propaganda posters and learn how to draw a spitfire. We will also look at the work of Edward Bawden, who served as an official war artist during World War 2.

French

Throughout the term we will continue to practise every day phrases and words that the children are likely to need to use if they visit France. During the first half term the children will be learning about actions. They will learn a selection of common verbs and how to use them with some simple adverbs.

The focus for the second half term will be about activities that they like to do with their friends. They will learn how to invite others to join in with activities and a selection of useful replies that they can use when somebody asks them if they'd like to do something.

Computing

Our first computing unit will be on Scratch. Children will continue to develop skills in writing their own algorithms as well as editing and debugging existing codes. After half term children will be taking a more in-depth look at a variety of online safety issues. They will be introduced to the idea of the internet as a type of media, and how it can shape our ideas about boys and girls through stereotypes. Children will be given ways to deal with online content that they find worrying or even believe to be dangerous.

Useful Websites

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/ks2/>

Although this website is no longer updated there is a facility on this web page to type in a key word and relevant clips will be offered from 3000 programmes!

http://www.bbc.co.uk/schools/primaryhistory/world_war2/

Find out all about World War 2

www.bbc.co.uk/schools/websites/4_11/site/numeracy.shtml

A range of activities for children of all abilities.

<http://www.primaryhomeworkhelp.co.uk/>

A range of subjects and topics

www.poissonrouge.com

A range of activities with lots to explore.

<http://www.mathletics.co.uk/>

Encourage children to use Mathletics at least once a day.

<http://www.nashmills.herts.sch.uk/year-6/>

Keep up to date with our Class news!

