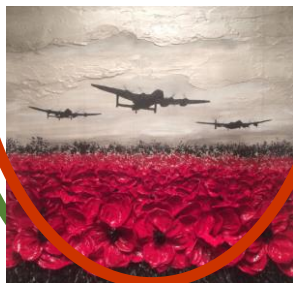


Woeful World War II



A word from us... Hello everyone and welcome back to school to all of the new Year 4 and their families! We hope you had a lovely Summer holiday and we are looking forward to hearing all about it from the children. We are so excited about the new year ahead and are looking forward to starting our new topic 'Woeful World War II' with the children. We are looking forward to our Sparkle day (TBC) which will immerse the children in a range of activities and we are sure will engage them and spark their interest for the rest of the topic. This term **Games with Coach Chris will be on a Tuesday** afternoon and **PE on a Friday** afternoon. **Please ensure that children come to school in their kits on these days.** Children should bring in a fruit snack for morning playtime as well as a filled water bottle everyday please. New homework grids will be uploaded this week and after the success of last year's projects we are excited to see what the children will create this term. Spellings (Monday) and times tables (Friday) will continue to be tested weekly. Our first spellings will be set week commencing 14th September and tested on 28th September. Please practise spellings and times tables with your child regularly as well as reading each night. Once your child has completed their book, please sign to confirm it has been read and record any comments. We encourage children to complete a short book review before changing their book. Due to protective measures and the requirement to place returned books out of use for 72 hours, we will be changing books only on two specific days of the week this term. Books can be changed once a week on **either Tuesdays or Fridays**. Please ensure your child's book and diary are in school to change on one of these days as they will not be able to change their book on other days during the week. If you have any questions about your child's learning please do come and speak to us at the end of the day or send an email - jferretti@birches.staffs.sch.uk / kcain@birches.staffs.sch.uk and we will get back to you as soon as possible.

English

In English this term we will be reading a range of quality texts to develop our comprehension skills. We will assess the children and identify needs and next steps in both reading and writing. During the first half of the Autumn term we will focusing on sentence level skills; spelling, sentence structure, punctuation and word groups to ensure these skills are secure and consistently applied. We will be focusing on a range of texts, carefully selected to support children's emotional literacy, wellbeing and self-esteem.

Arts / Design Technology

As part of our topic, the children will be designing and making gas masks, air raid shelters, harbours and fighter planes! Children will apply the design process to some of these projects. In Art we will be exploring how WWII is represented in Art as well as using a range of techniques, particularly as we create our own 'Blackout Art'.

Music - The children will be introduced to the language of music through exploring and playing the glockenspiel

Computing - Online safety and coding.

MFL (French) - Greetings

Humanities

During this topic the children will learn about the events that led up to Britain declaring war in 1939. Through this topic the children will use their geographical skills to locate countries, oceans and continents and significant landmarks. The topic lends it self to a range of history skills and they will be able to develop a chronologically secure knowledge and understanding of British and World history.

Maths

At the beginning of term we will carry out baseline assessments as we identify and address missed learning/lapsed skills arising from the school closure. Our units of work begin with Place Value, ensuring children have a sound and secure understanding of the concepts of hundreds, tens and ones moving onto thousands. Following this, children will move onto Addition and Subtraction. A reminder that Year 4 children are required to take a timed Multiplication Check during the summer term - please keep practising these skills on TTrackstars!

Science / STEM

The children will be learning about electricity. The children will be constructing simple series electrical circuits, identifying the components. Through investigation and experimentation the children will find out how to lights lamps, identify the use of switches and test conductors and insulators. They will have a go at making and testing their own switches.

Religious Education - Environment - Harvest

PE / Games - PE/Games kit to be worn on a **Tuesday** and a **Friday**. Playground games and dance focus.

PSHE / British Values - Me and My School / Democracy.